Please be sure to check out the Events and Career Opportunities section below and here on our website. Several interesting new webinars coming up!

**NY-GEO Board Expands** - The New York Geothermal Energy Organization is expanding the board of directors to reload its stock of expertise and energy at a time when the electrification of buildings is becoming a key priority in New York’s greenhouse gas reduction strategies. The new board members are:

- **Kathy Hannun** is President and Cofounder of Dandelion Energy, a leading geothermal heat pump installer.
- **Venetia Lannon** is Vice President – Environmental Health and Safety at Con Edison. She was formerly the Deputy Secretary for the Environment under Governor Cuomo from 2016 to 2019, and was the New York City Regional Director of the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) from 2011 to 2016.
- **Amanda Schneck** is the Senior Territory Manager at WaterFurnace International for New York and the New England States. She provides WaterFurnace Dealers with sales, marketing, and training support.

![Kathy Hannun, Venetia Lannon, Amanda Schneck](image)

**CAC: NY Climate Emissions from Buildings and Transportation are “Co-equal”, as are Emissions from Gas and Fuel Oil** – On July 22nd the NY Climate Action Council, heard a presentation from the team working up the Council’s “integration analysis”. NYSERDA’s Carl Mas presented the impacts of the NY law (the Climate Leaderships & Community Protection Act-CLCPA) that defines the climate impact of various greenhouse gases. The first screen shot below is from a chart that was presented to the Council and shows their calculation that the climate impact of burning natural gas (215 lbs. CO2e/MMBTU) and fuel oil (219 lbs. CO2e/MMBTU) are essentially equal. Please note the tiny asterisked footnote, that puts gas emissions ahead of fuel oil at 235 lbs. when in-state gas infrastructure is included. The second chart shows that the Building (aka Heating) sector is now “co-equal” (Mas’ words) to the Transportation sector in its climate impact.
$4 Million Awarded in Community Heat Pump Initiative – 23 Winning Projects to Explore Clean Energy Options at 600 Buildings with Two-Thirds of Funding Directed to Projects that Support Disadvantaged Communities  Quote from the press release with a listing of the 23 projects: "Community thermal networks create the opportunity to scale up building electrification by providing healthier places to live and work to communities across the State," Governor Cuomo said. “These projects showcase how we can pair new, clean energy infrastructure in our communities while also delivering long-term energy savings for residents, including those in low income and disadvantaged communities.”  Click here for the ongoing NYSERDA Public Opportunity Notice (PON 4614) under which these projects are being funded.  Stay tuned for NYS-
GEO’s August 3rd webinar on this initiative. An Albany Times Union article and an Oneonta Daily Star article highlight a couple of the local projects.

NY State: $12,500 Per Unit for All Electric Multifamily Projects - In an intermediate step to eliminating fossil fuel HVAC systems, stoves and clothes dryers, NYS Homes and Community Renewal (HCR) is offering a $12,500 per unit incentive for all-electric new construction and substantial rehabilitation projects. See slide #47 (shown below) from the webinar on this page. (see minute 46:11). The HCR incentive is in addition to https://saveenergy.ny.gov/NYScleanheat/assets/pdf/NYS-Clean-Heat-Program-Manual.pdf of energy saved.
Geothermal Inquiry – A home owner in Mooers, NY (Clinton County in North Eastern, NY) has reached out to NY-GEO for help with a malfunctioning system. We encourage you to reach out to Eric Trotman at 201-838-4220 or W.unison@gmail.com if you might be able to help with the repairs.

Would Eric Adams Continue NY City’s Climate Initiatives? From Inside Climate News By Delger Erdenesanaa July 19, 2021 - Local advocates worry about the probable next mayor’s ties to real estate developers and their opposition to the city’s ambitious green building law. Full article here. (from 2021 07 21 – City & State First Read)
Lawsuit Brought Over National Grid Pipeline – Quote from the press release on the SANE Energy website: “Greenpoint, Brooklyn, July 23, 2021- Two community organizations representing thousands living near National Grid’s massive fracked gas storage depot on Newtown Creek filed a lawsuit for an injunction and Temporary Restraining Order to halt construction of the Company’s Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) Truck Load/Unload Station…”

  - Prioritize Investments in Vulnerable Communities
  - Accelerate Investments in Non-Pipeline Solutions
  - Reform the Regulatory Environment
On 2021 08 13 there will be a Webinar on the report and a summary Blog Post can be found here.
ConEd RFP: Retire Gas Mains Through Electrification – “This specific RFP (request for proposals) seeks to address projects that would be designed for strategic abandonment of leak prone pipe through electrification, where most effective, while maintaining system reliability. Proposed solutions should provide fully electric alternatives for natural gas usage in targeted buildings and customer segments. They should also support system reliability and be cost effective for Con Edison’s customers.” See the Events section below for a July 27th webinar on the RFP. Thanks to Noah Shaw from the Foley Hoag LLP: Law Firm for this tip.

Yorktown, NY Volunteers Advocate for Net Zero by 2040 - Yorktown 100’s mission statement: “Yorktown100 is an all-volunteer community-based organization that seeks to reduce Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions in Yorktown, NY, to net zero by 2040. Our goal is 5% reduction per year from 2020 to 2040. We will reach this goal through a combination of advocacy, education and campaigns to help Yorktown residents choose a lifestyle with zero or lower emissions.” Yorktown 100s geothermal heat pump web page is here. The group has recently joined CURE 100 (Communities United to Reduce Emissions 100%) a consortium of communities that share a carbon reduction mission. Westchester County is at the forefront of climate policy change as a result of the current gas moratorium.
Tompkins County Climate Protection Initiative (TCCPI) – The TCCPI has released their 2020 Annual Report, which details an impressive listing of environmental initiatives including work to “codify the Ithaca Energy Code Supplement which will mandate reduced GHG emissions in new construction.” Thanks to Peter Bardaglio from TCCPI for this tip.

Greenland Stops Oil Exploration – “Greenland has ended a fifty-year government policy of searching for oil, and stopped the granting of new permits for exploration. ’It is a decision where climate considerations, environmental considerations and economic common sense go hand in hand,’ a minister said. ‘Suspending the current oil strategy is the right choice,’ she added—even though, by some estimates, the island may sit on top of many billions of barrels of oil.” From Bill McKibben’s weekly New Yorker Climate Crisis Column

Greenland Flag
Why is California Still Building Natural Gas Infrastructure? Decarbonization advocates are fighting ratepayer subsidies that incentivize the growth of an increasingly obsolete gas system. Canary Media Elizabeth McCarthy — 12021 07 14 . 9 min read. This a good analysis of how issues we’re facing in New York are playing out in California. “‘We have to stop digging the climate hole deeper,’ said Panama Bartholomy, executive director of the Building Decarbonization Coalition. The coalition’s 60 members hail from the building industry, utilities, local governments and environmental organizations…Adding gas connections to new California homes costs ratepayers at least $100 million a year, said Merrian Borgeson, a senior scientist at the Natural Resources Defense Council. Gridworks estimated that the yearly cost for PG&E, SDG&E and SoCalGas ratepayers is closer to $150 million. “ Read the full article here.

“UK County Identifies Simple Yet Brilliant Way To Get Butts In EV Seats • The UK county of Kent is trialing a brilliant program, offering small businesses two-month trials of electric vans. Kent is starting with a fleet of 24 electric vans from Renault, twenty Kangoo E-Tech vans and four ZOE Vans (a version of Renault’s popular ZOE electric car). [CleanTechnica]” (from 2021 07 24 Green Energy Times)

Climate Updates

There are many reasons our customers prefer geothermal heat pumps – saving money, superior comfort, health and safety. Their impact in totally eliminating greenhouse gas
emissions is also a key benefit for many customers, and a key reason New York State is providing incentives and attempting to rev up the heat pump market. **Just In!** provides a limited number of important climate updates most weeks to keep you in the know on this crucial topic that is important to so many New Yorkers.

**CA-GEO Leader Threatened by Dixie Fire** – From an email from Bill Martin, President of California GEO. “I was on a brief trip to northern Utah and returned in a hurry (yesterday) because of the increased threat by the Dixie Fire... From today, much depends on forest fuel density and prevailing winds and wind speeds. This is not your grandfather’s (or even your father’s) forest fire. Fuels are the driest they’ve ever been and daytime relative humidities are down in the low teens—just what a fire needs to make its own weather. We’ve had fire caused pyro-cumulus clouds from both the Dixie and Beckwourth Fires that have discharged their own lightning—igniting more spot fires. I wouldn’t want the nation to stop working to reduce, limit, or abandon the use of carbon fuels, but we must honestly realize that the climate change already on us is releasing massive quantities of formerly stored carbon from these forest fires that continue increases in size, speed, and intensity…” [InciWeb Link to the Dixie Fire](#). Note that Bill’s home in Quincy is near the edge of recommended (yellow) evacuations.

**“Scientists Are Worried By How Fast The Climate Crisis Has Amplified Extreme Weather”** • Until recently, climate change had been talked about as a future threat. Its frontlines were portrayed as remote places like the Arctic, where polar bears are running out of sea ice to hunt from. But in the past month, it’s been the developed world on the frontline. ” [CNN](#) (from 2021 07 21 Green Energy Times)

**“Western Wildfire Smoke Is Contributing To New York City’s Worst Air Quality In 15 Years”** • Extreme heat and dry conditions are fueling raging wildfires in the western
US, charring over a million acres, causing evacuations and creating smoky conditions visible from space. Smoke stretched all the way to the East Coast, making air bad in New York City. [CNN] " (from 2021 07 22 Green Energy Times)

“Drought In The Southwest Could Be Making Monsoon Flooding Worse • Monsoon rains brought extreme flash floods to the Southwest this week, with scenes of vehicles bobbing down neighborhood roads like rafts on class three rapids. Experts say the historic Western drought is to blame, making the soil less like a sponge and more like pavement. [CNN]” (from 2021 07 17 Green Energy Times)