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

NYC Environmental Protection Committee Holds Hearing on Gas Ban Bill- On November 17th, James Gennaro, head of the NY City Council Environmental Protection Committee, chaired a 5 hour+ hearing on Councilmember Alicka Ampry-Samuel’s bill that would essentially ban fossil fuels in new construction. The hearing featured both pro and con panelists, with the overwhelming testimony in support of the bill. NY-GEO Board member Zachary Fink and staffers John Rath and Bill Nowak testified.
Your Most Enthusiastic Customers - NY-GEO is working with Renewable Heat Now (RHN) and many local organizations across NY State to set up lobbying visits on RHN's legislative package, which includes the 25% GSHP tax credit and sales tax exemption bills. For the installers reading these brief’s: Can you think of any of your customers who would make good local advocates for the technology in the legislative visits? If so, please let us know at nygeoinfo@gmail.com.

NYSERDA - $5 Million for Cooperative Advertising and Training – Last Tuesday, November 16th, the NY-GEO Electrify with Heat Pumps series spotlighted NYSERDA’s heat pump marketing resources. On a first-come, first-served basis, incentives up to 80 percent of the total cost of approved activities and promotions will be available to eligible partners. Partners can include: manufacturers, distributors, and contractors/installers. Questions and Answers and a recording of this session are available here. Slides from the session are here. NYSERDA's cooperative advertising program summary can be found here.
Geothermal Pioneer’s Life is Celebrated – “It is with heartfelt condolences that we announce... the passing of Dr. Jim Bose, the founder of IGSHPA. He will be missed by his many friends and colleagues in our industry and at Oklahoma State University OSU. We will be thinking of his family during this difficult time. Many don’t realize the rich history that was afforded IGSHPA because of Dr. Bose’s passion for geothermal. As far back as 1974, Oklahoma State University started research on ground source heat pumps. The International Ground Source Heat Pump Association was founded in 1987 at OSU and quickly became the “go to” resource for the industry... IGSHPA has a strong foundation because of Dr. Bose’s efforts and commitment to our industry.”


"Con Edison is expanding its green energy commitments, vowing to reach net-zero emissions from all its facilities by 2040 and deliver 100% clean power to its customers by that year, NY1 reports." – From Con Edison’s press release: “Buildings are the largest source of New York City's carbon emissions. Meeting the nation's climate goals requires shifting from natural gas for heating and cooking to technologies that run on cleaner electricity, many of them cost-effective today. Con Edison plans to invest billions of dollars enabling the decarbonization of buildings, from deep energy-efficiency upgrades to electrifying space and/or water heating for more than 150,000 buildings by 2030.... Bill Nowak, Executive Director, New York Geothermal Energy Organization:"NY-GEO is happy to partner with Con Edison in electrifying most building heating systems by 2050, including those of those of low and moderate income New Yorkers. We welcome the utility adding their voice to ours to promote net-zero building policies for new construction. Heating systems in new buildings, which may last 20 to 30 years, can no longer be fossil fueled in the face of New York's aggressive carbon reduction mandates designed to meet the challenge of the climate crisis."
House Passes Build Back Better Bill – The Geothermal Heat Pump tax provisions remain intact in this bill – including upgrading both the residential and commercial tax credits to 30%, extending them to 10 years, and making the credit refundable or a direct payment! See the joint statement signed by NY-GEO and issued with 14 other organizations including the national Geothermal Exchange Organization (GEO), the Sierra Club, Bloc Power and others. Now the bill goes to the Senate where it could be passed by a simple majority under the Reconciliation Procedure. The Natural Resources Defense Council has provided an easy link to send a message of support to the Senate on the bill.

California Considers Ending Free Gas Line Extensions - The California Public Utility Commission has announced a new phase to their building decarbonization proceeding. They are going to consider ending or modifying line subsidies for new gas connections. NRDC blog on this initiative here. California’s current policy is similar to New York’s, which requires utilities to supply ratepayer subsidized free pipes and other infrastructure for new gas customers within 100 feet of a gas main. This subsidy forces New York’s utilities to expand their gas infrastructure in contradiction to the State’s commitment to reduce climate destabilizing greenhouse gas emissions.
Congress Members Announce Bicameral Electrification Caucus – On November 16th, Martin Heinrich (D-N.M.) and Tina Smith (D-Minn.) and U.S. Representatives Paul Tonko (D-N.Y.) and Kathy Castor (D-Fla.) announced the first-ever Electrification Caucus. The new, bicameral caucus will work to advance policies to accelerate widespread electrification. The lawmakers released...(a) statement highlighting the benefits of making electrification more accessible, including lowering energy bills, improving air quality and public health, addressing the climate crisis, and creating jobs: See the press release here.

Public Service Commission Adopts Central Hudson Rate Case Settlement – from the PSC press release - “The New York State Public Service Commission... today approved a three-year rate plan for Central Hudson Gas & Electric Corp...customers that is dramatically lower than what the company initially requested. The Commission adopted a joint proposal signed by the company, Department staff, and environmental and business groups, that, among other things contains provisions to promote energy efficiency, demand response, geothermal deployment, and electrification options to meet customers’ energy needs while working to lower natural gas demand and further minimize the need for additional gas infrastructure.” NY-GEO was one of the signers of the Joint Proposal.

Eugene, Oregon is Making Moves to Ban Natural Gas in New Homes and Buildings - By Nick Cunningham – DeSmog – 3 minute read - The Eugene city council has broken off negotiations with a major gas utility that has resisted greenhouse gas reduction targets, and has instead opted to go the route of banning new gas hookups. Full article here.
Report: Efficient Electric Water Heating Could Slash Multifamily Buildings’ Carbon Emissions – “Heating water efficiently is critical because in multifamily buildings with five or more units water heating uses more energy than space heating, cooling, or lighting. The new analysis shows that converting gas-fired water heaters to advanced technology—electric heat pump water heaters (HPWHs)—would cut the greenhouse gas emissions the equipment is responsible for by an average of 58%. If powered entirely by clean sources, HPWHs cause zero emissions, making them a critical tool for decarbonizing the economy.” Report from the American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy (ACEEE) and the New Buildings Institute (NBI) here. Unfortunately, as is too often the case in many short-sighted clean energy documents, a search for “ground source” or “geothermal” in the report came up empty. We note the report here for its general thrust of replacing fossil fuel water heating with heat pumps.

“Germany Suspends Approval For Nord Stream 2 Gas Pipeline• Germany suspended its approval process for the controversial Nord Stream 2 gas pipeline, which would double its reliance on Russian gas following growing geopolitical pressure to scrap the project. It is a big setback to Kremlin-backed Gazprom’s plans to extend Russian gas dominance. [The Guardian]” (from 2021 11 17 Green Energy Times)
AWESome EarthKind Podcast - Three Environmental Entrepreneurs (E2) members share their experiences and perspectives from the Glasgow COP26 Climate Conference. **Chris Bentley** is a Clean Energy Activist and CEO of Good Energy Guild. **Marilyn Waite** is the Climate and Clean Energy Finance Program Officer of the Hewlett Foundation. **Laura Berland-Shane** is the Vice President of Blue Planet Systems. They tell the bad and the sad fact of a world in turmoil and a widespread lack of government leadership. But in addition to the stark realities, the E2 members also share their inspirations and the hope that people throughout the United States and all over the world can work together to create the healthy, clean, prosperous and just civilization that we all want and our children so desperately need and deserve. Listen via your favorite podcast playing app (Apple, Spotify, Google Podcast) [https://awesomeearthkind.com/podcasts/e2xcop26](https://awesomeearthkind.com/podcasts/e2xcop26)


(from 2021 11 23 Green Energy Times)
(from 2021 11 21 – City & State First Read)
(2021 11 09 POLITICO Weekly NY & NJ Energy email)
From Bill McKibben’s weekly New Yorker *Climate Crisis* Column
Full article from Canary Media here.
Thanks to NY-GEO member Bob Wyman for this tip.
(From Sage Welch at the National Building Electrification Network and Sunstone Strategies)
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.

The Top 10 Climate Commitments From COP26 – from Canary Media - Julia Pyper, host of the Political Climate podcast, attended the COP26 climate summit in Glasgow, Scotland. Here, she discusses highlights and takeaways from the gathering.

Frequent Sources for Just In!:
- Green Energy Times
- City & State First Read
- POLITICO Weekly NY & NJ Energy email
- Bill McKibben’s weekly New Yorker Climate Crisis Column
- Canary Media
- Sage Welch - National Building Electrification Network & Sunstone Strategies
- The Guardian