Bill Introduced to Transition NY Heating Sector Off Gas - By Nick Reisman – State of Politics – “Democratic state lawmakers on Thursday proposed legislation meant to further shift New York to renewable and cleaner forms of energy in the coming years by ending statutory requirements and ratepayer subsidies for the expansion of the gas system. The changes, backed by Sens. Liz Krueger and Rachel May as well as Assemblywoman Pat Fahy, would also require regulators at the Public Service Commission to adopt rule changes for a statewide gas service transition plan. ‘At this point there is no question that the transition off of fossil gas and on to clean and renewable systems for heating and cooling our homes is coming, but we are woefully behind in preparing for the transition,’” Krueger said. Full Article here. Bill text here S8198.
Aggarwala to Lead NYC Climate Initiatives – "New York City Mayor Eric Adams has appointed Rohit Aggarwala, a former adviser to Mayor Mike Bloomberg to lead New York City’s climate change initiatives as well as the Department of Environmental Protection….‘It is evident to anyone who opens their eyes that we are in the midst of a climate crisis in this city, and around the world, so it’s time to think outside the box and determine how we can handle the crisis before it's too late,’ Adams said, in a prepared statement. ‘This past year alone,’ he added, ‘we’ve experienced extreme weather anomalies and rising sea levels, which have endangered New Yorkers’ lives, their homes, and their livelihoods.’, Gothamist reports. (from 2022 01 31 – City & State First Read)
NY-GEO Members Advocating for Geothermal Tax Parity in the NYS Budget NY-
This past week NY-GEO member Heather Deese (Dandelion Energy) and Executive
Director Bill Nowak encouraged New York State legislature committees to include the
Fossil-Free Heating Tax Credit and Sales Tax Exemption bills in the Senate and
Assembly budget packages. Inclusion in each branches’ “One House” budget gives
these bills a greater chance of passing. Heather spoke to the Westchester Assembly
Members delegation and Bill spoke at the Senate Environmental Conservation hearing..
“If you are interested in helping get important legislation passed, contact “JR” Rath or
Bill Nowak” See Heather’s testimony here and Bill’s here.

Heather Deese, Director of Policy and Regulatory Affairs at Dandelion Energy
Deadline Extended on Greenpoint Gas Production – “The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and the multinational energy company National Grid mutually agreed to extend the deadline for a final decision on a permit that could expand natural gas production at the Greenpoint Energy Center. The request for extension was filed Friday, the day after residents, local activists and two Congresswomen called on Gov. Kathy Hochul to reconsider the air permit that would allow the energy facility to process more liquid natural gas, and by extension, potentially leak more airborne pollutants.” (from 2022 01 12 – City & State First Read) [Full article from the Gothamist here.]

Local environmental activists and elected leaders held a rally on the banks of Newtown Creek across from the Greenpoint Energy Center to call on Gov. Kathy Hochul to reject the facility’s permit application for an expansion, January 27th, 2022.

ROSEMARY MISDARY
Weekly Nugget from NY’s Climate Action Draft Scoping Plan:
New York’s nation-leading Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA) requires a 40% reduction in greenhouse gas reductions by 2030 and an 85% reduction by 2050. The (CLCPA) set up a Climate Action Council to develop a Draft Scoping Plan to meet these mandated targets. The Council released its draft of the plan on 12/30/21. It will now be subject to hearings across the state before adoption and enactment of final recommendations slated for the end of 2022 and the beginning of 2023. NY-GEO will be running pertinent quotes from the plan weekly in **Just In!**

**Benefits Outweigh Costs By ~$100 B** - The Plan outlines three paths forward and estimates that the monetary value of the health and climate benefits of the paths outweigh the costs of implementing them by p between $90-$129 Billion dollars.

**Figure 12. Summary of Benefits and Costs (Net Present Value Relative to Reference Case)**

From Page 191 of the [Climate Action Council’s Draft Scoping Plan](#).
The European Space Agency launched an instrument three years ago, called the TROPOspheric Monitoring Instrument (TROPOMI), that can measure the methane in any 12-square-mile block of the atmosphere, day by day. TROPOMI detected methane releases that the official estimates did not foresee. "No one expects that pipelines are sometimes wide open, pouring gas into the atmosphere," (said researcher Thomas Lauvaux). Yet they were. Over the course of two years, during 2019 and 2020, the researchers counted more than 1800 large bursts of methane, often releasing several tons of methane per hour. Lauvaux and his colleagues published their findings this week in the journal Science. Thanks to NY-GEO member Joanne Coons for this tip.
Colorado Studies Decarbonization Affordability - The Colorado Energy Office has released a new report on energy affordability authored by researchers at PSE Healthy Energy and the Institute for Energy and Environmental Research. The report shows that integrating energy affordability within state decarbonization pathways can help advance climate goals and accelerate the clean energy transition. “…installation of geothermal heat pumps in new homes is more economical. In the colder regions of Colorado (say, 6,000 degree-days of heating per year or more), using geothermal heat pumps as the standard for new construction would help obviate or reduce the cost of managing winter electricity demand peaks once a majority of homes are electrified. There is thus a general public economic interest in providing suitable rebates that correspond to the likely significant avoided costs, especially in the colder regions.” Thanks to Irene Weiser, coordinator of Fossil Free Tompkins for this tip.

Some International Heat Pump Statistics: - from HeatPumpingTechnologies.org at the International Energy Agency – “Over the last decade, the global heat pump market has grown steadily…Aggregated industry expert opinion hints at a market increase of more than 25% and a total sales volume exceeding 2 million units by the end of the year…According to the Market Report, 2021 written by Jussi Hirvonen, Executive Director of the Finnish Heat Pump Association…he sales of all types of heat pumps increased last year. 130,000 heat pumps were installed last year… In addition to single-
family houses, GSHP’s were increasingly installed in large units such as apartment buildings and service buildings but also for the production of the district and block heating and cooling….According to the Cooling Post, the latest figures from the German heat pump association...show a total of 127,000 air-to-water heat pumps sales, with 27,000 ground-source systems sold in 2021.

ACEEE Report on Electrification Programs - The American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy (ACEEE) has released a 103 page report on programs across the nation that support the electrification of buildings. The report gives a broad breakdown of programs as they currently exist. The chart below from the report details the numbers of programs incentivizing various electrification technologies, and shows ground source heat pumps incentivized by relatively few programs. [Full report here.]

**Targeted End Uses**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>End Uses receiving electrification incentives</th>
<th>Number of Programs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Space heating</td>
<td>38 All space heating types</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>21 Ductless air source</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9 Ground source ducted air source</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4 Cold climate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water heating</td>
<td>30 All water heating types</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cooking</td>
<td>13 Induction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other end uses</td>
<td>8 Solar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>EV charging 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Battery 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Forklifts 2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

“Natural Gas Spikes 16% Ahead Of Winter Storm • Natural gas futures rose 16% on Wednesday as energy markets brace for a powerful winter storm that threatens to derail production just as demand rises. Natural gas futures closed at $5.50 per million BTUs. That’s a rise of 55% since the price sank to $3.56 on December 30. [CNN]” (from 2022 02 03 Green Energy News)
Offshore wind is booming in New York — and the U.S. — by Maria Gallucci from Canary Media — “New York’s first offshore wind farm is set to start construction this month, kicking off what state and federal officials hope will be a boom in offshore wind development after years of delays. Onshore construction work for the 132-megawatt South Fork Wind farm will begin in early February, starting with a new electrical substation on the east end of Long Island, according to the project’s developers. A subsea cable will later connect the 12 turbines standing in federal waters to Long Island’s grid, supplying enough power for roughly 70,000 typical homes every year. Once completed, potentially by late 2023, the $2 billion project will be only the third of its kind in the United States — which trails far behind countries in Europe and Asia when it comes to offshore wind.” Full article here.
Minerals and the Clean Energy Transition – “Minerals are key to making cleantech like batteries, but they’re often mined in problematic ways. This is a challenge, but not a deal-breaker.” By Dave Roberts in Canary Media - In New York’s recent Legislature budget hearings some legislators challenged NY’s Clean Energy plans for electricity generation on the basis of how some minerals are mined. The challenge as stated wasn’t related to heat pumps, but since heat pumps require clean electricity to get to net zero, it can be helpful to understand the issues. This article is an in depth look at the issues and opportunities.
Contractor’s Corner:
NATE Training Academy - is designed to provide technicians a way to train for NATE certification exams online at their own pace. The comprehensive online courses are all available on-demand and can be taken at any time. The interactive and immersive online courses powered by Interplay Learning’s leading skilled trades training platform include “field-like” 3D and VR simulations, videos, and knowledge checks. For more information, see the NATE Training Academy webpage or contact NATE’s Marketing Manager, Daisy Weill at dweill@natex.org.

Geo Inquiry from Bayside, NY - “I have a rental property next to my primary residence that I have scheduled for a renovation. I am located in Bayside, Queens NY and currently have a natural gas burning boiler with cast iron radiators (steam, open loop) that heats the structure. I am looking to install a geothermal heating system with radiant heat in the floor. I am also interested in sizing the system to possibly service multiple single family structures and possibly install a radiant system under the driveway and sidewalk to keep them clear of snow and ice. If you can help, feel free to reach out at any time to my cell phone or email. Thanks for your help and hope to hear from you soon.” - Jimmy Sicilian - 347-781-5677 - jimmydlock@yahoo.com

Geo Inquiry from Otsego County – “Seeking consultation regarding installation of a geothermal heating system for an existing farmhouse in Otsego County (town of Springfield). The structure is approximately 3,700 square feet and is heated by a propane-fueled boiler tied to baseboard hot-water radiators. The property includes ample space for a horizontal array and has a pond near the house.” John Membrino - johnmembrino@verizon.net

NYSERDA Clean Energy Internship Changes – “Revisions have been made to the New York State Clean Energy Internship Program (PON 4000), which provides funding to eligible clean energy businesses, organizations, and local municipalities hiring interns to perform meaningful work in the clean energy sector. Both clean energy businesses and interns can apply to participate in the program. Accepted businesses will select, interview, and hire interns, and NYSERDA provides reimbursement on a percentage of the interns’ wages. The revised PON 4000 Summary outlines the current program procedures and eligibility requirements.”
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.

“Federal Judge Cites Climate Crisis In Decision To Cancel Oil And Gas Leases In Gulf Of Mexico • A federal judge invalidated a massive oil and gas lease sale for 80 million acres in the Gulf of Mexico after a coalition of environmental groups sued the Biden administration to stop it. The ruling cancels 1.7 million acres of oil and gas leases from that sale. [CNN] ” (from 2022 01 28 Green Energy News)

Oil drilling platform (Gary Levens, CC-BY-SA 2.0)
You’ve Got to Be Kidding:
Thanks to Grace Delano for this tip.

Do I cough it up Here Papa?
No no son. Never on the bare floor. Always the rug, the bed, clean folded clothes, and heating vents.

And thus the next generation of cats is taught the ancient ways of its people.

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
National Building Electrification Network & Sunstone Strategies
The Guardian