

## Press Release

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# Sustainable Energy Comes to Westchester, Eliminating the Need for More Gas Pipelines

*Heat Pumps and Solar Power Help Builders  
Save Money and Avoid the Uncertainty of Fossil Fuels*

(Tarrytown, NY) Hundreds of Westchester builders, developers, architects, engineers and municipal officials packed the Tarrytown Hilton DoubleTree hotel ballroom on Wednesday to hear experts from around the country describe how modern commercial and residential projects are being constructed to provide year round comfort and cost-savings while completely eliminating the use of fossil fuels.

"We don't need any more pipelines coming into Westchester County carrying fossil fuels to burn," says Doug Wood, one of the organizers of the New York Sustainable Energy Conference which took place yesterday. "Manufacturers and engineers have proven that there are efficient, cost-effective and adaptable solutions available in the market right now that don't require the old polluting energy sources of the past."

Ironically, just as the conference began, Con Edison announced that it had reached a tentative agreement with the owners of an existing natural gas pipeline to provide additional natural gas capacity to Westchester County. Con Edison claims this will now provide the capacity needed to lift the current moratorium on new gas hookups.

"We want Westchester County to be a leader in helping New York State achieve its accelerated goals for renewable energy," says Westchester County Majority Leader Catherine Parker. "Even Con Edison is working in partnership with companies that specialize in using renewable energy for heating and cooling. Let's hope they focus their attention with developers more on encouraging renewable energy as a cost effective option as opposed to building additional infrastructure for natural gas. The technology is available now. All we need is the will to do it."

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*About the Conference*

*The New York Sustainable Energy Conference is the largest sustainable energy event in Westchester, bringing together purveyors of air-source heat pumps, ground-source heat pumps, solar energy power systems and sustainable building products. The event was co-sponsored by the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) and Westchester County, and produced by Grassroots Environmental Education, a non-profit organization.*