



September 4, 2026

Honorable Kathy Hochul
Governor
NYS State Capitol Building
Albany, NY 12224

Dear Governor Hochul,

On behalf of the undersigned organizations, thank you for championing the \$2 billion Sustainable Future Program (SFP) in the Fiscal Year 2026 and 2027 State Budgets. These investments will deliver cleaner air, union jobs, improved public health, energy bill savings, and benefits in disadvantaged communities.

The timely deployment of these investments couldn't be more important. Communities around New York are experiencing the devastating effects of climate impacts this summer – from extreme flooding to smoke-filled air – while funding for clean energy and climate efforts is under attack at the federal level. At the same time, amendments to the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act passed in May delay the implementation of cap and invest, which, once in place, will both cut climate pollution and provide significant ongoing investments in clean, affordable energy.

Our organizations therefore respectfully request that your administration prioritize the timely spending of Sustainable Future Program investments to deliver cleaner air, union jobs, and energy bill savings over the next year and prioritize the widespread communication of the benefits of SFP and other climate and clean energy investments.

As part of such an effort, we recommend the following specific actions:

1. Announce the next round of funding during New York Climate Week this September and communicate the impact of these investments through examples of existing programs that are already benefiting communities and will be supported by SFP investments (e.g., EmPower+, Clean Green Schools, Charge Ready, NY-SUN)
2. Direct NYSERDA to launch a public dashboard to track SFP investments and investment benefits. Include in the dashboard:

- a. Information about which Disadvantaged Communities are benefiting from SFP investments and how much is being invested
 - b. Information about the number and types of jobs created by SFP investments
 - c. Information on how these investments advance energy affordability
 - d. Information about the climate and public health benefits of SFP-funded projects
3. Establish near-term milestones or benchmarks for spending by agencies to ensure investments are serving struggling New York families as soon as possible.
4. Allocate funding to NYSERDA or other agencies for a coordinated communications campaign on climate investments. Consider consistent naming and branding across all major climate and clean energy investment portfolios.

A climate week announcement and sustained communications present an opportunity to translate this substantial funding source – alongside other climate and clean energy investments – into visible, tangible benefits for New Yorkers, including:

- Lower and more stable energy bills – not dependent on prices set in global fossil fuel markets – and more energy-efficient homes
- Healthier, safer schools and public buildings
- Cleaner air and improved public health from moving away from fuel combustion
- Well-paying union jobs in clean energy and building upgrades
- More resilient communities and infrastructure
- Benefits that reach disadvantaged communities and households facing the highest energy burdens

Our organizations remain committed to similarly communicating these benefits and working with you and your administration to ensure the Sustainable Future Program investments are robustly helping everyday New Yorkers as soon as possible.

Signed,

Alliance for Clean Energy New York
American Lung Association - New York
Brightcore Energy LLC
Building Decarbonization Coalition
Citizens Campaign for the Environment
Climate Jobs New York
Economy + Environment
Environmental Advocates NY
Environmental Defense Fund
Natural Resources Defense Council
New York League of Conservation Voters
New Yorkers for Clean Power
NY-GEO

Regional Plan Association
Save the Sound
Sierra Club
The Nature Conservancy in New York
Tompkins County Climate Protection
Initiative
Urban Green Council
WE ACT for Environmental Justice