

STATEMENT : APRIL 2019

ONONDAGA COUNTY BUSINESS LEADER STATEMENT

**IN SUPPORT OF IN-STATE
CLEAN ENERGY PRODUCTION**



BUSINESSFORWARD
FOUNDATION

**ONANDAGA COUNTY BUSINESS LEADERS
TO ALBANY AND THEIR NEXT GOVERNOR:**

**LET'S STOP IMPORTING \$50 BILLION
IN OIL, GAS, AND COAL EACH YEAR.**

Business Forward has organized hundreds of briefings across the country on clean energy, climate change, and energy security. These briefings have included two Secretaries of Energy, two EPA Administrators, dozens of U.S. Senators and Congressmen, and hundreds of other officials.

Over the past several months, we have asked business leaders in New York to sign the following letter in support of efforts to produce more clean energy in state. Over 1,500 business leaders, representing 58 of New York's 64 counties, responded. 63 of those leaders are from Onandaga County (including 27 from Syracuse).



TO THE GOVERNOR AND STATE LEGISLATURE:

1. Keep Our Money Here.

New York spends \$50 billion each year importing coal, gas, and oil. That \$50 billion pays for jobs, schools and road repairs in places like Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Louisiana, and Texas. By switching to solar and wind, we can keep more of that spending here, creating jobs and fixing infrastructure across New York.

2. Everyone Benefits.

No matter where in the state we produce this power, all New Yorkers will benefit. Taxes paid by wind turbine operators in Oswego will help fund roads in New Rochelle. Grid upgrades in Syracuse will help reduce rates in Utica.

3. Jobs Where We Need Them, Environmental Justice.

Clean energy economies favor many counties that deserve a break. Mill towns and farm-land upstate enjoy some of the region's steadiest and strongest winds, and new financing models for solar create business opportunities in urban areas. A New York energy boom could create jobs where we need them most.

4. If Not Clean Energy, What?

Few industries are as big, as local or as jobs-intensive as energy. Let's bring some of that \$50 billion back.

INSIGHT:

This transformative clean energy program can be accomplished at little to no cost to consumers. This is because the average cost of delivering a given supply of electricity from clean renewable sources will be roughly equal to, if not cheaper than, virtually all fossil-fuel based technologies.

Source: Clean Energy Investments for New York State, R. Pollin, H. Garrett-Peltier, J. Wicks-Lin, University of Massachusetts, November 2017

FACT:

**ONLY 3 PERCENT
OF THE ENERGY
NEW YORK
PRODUCES IS
RENEWABLE**

FACT:

**EXTREME WEATHER
COSTS NEW YORK
\$10+ BILLION/YEAR**

**DUE TO COASTAL FLOODING,
AGRICULTURAL DISRUPTION,
AND HIGHER ELECTRICITY
COSTS (HEAT WAVES).**

**BURNING OIL, COAL, AND
GAS CAUSES ANOTHER \$33
BILLION IN PUBLIC HEALTH
COSTS EACH YEAR.**

FACT:

**NEW YORK COULD
CREATE 145,000 TO
160,000 NEW JOBS
PER YEAR**

**IF INVESTMENTS ARE
MADE TO ACHIEVE A
50 PERCENT EMISSIONS
REDUCTION BY 2030.**

SIGNATORIES

Anthony Tartaro, Syracuse
Chris Curinga, Brewerton
Christopher Grener, Syracuse
Connie Pazaras, Syracuse
David Amrod, Baldwinsville
Debra Desocio, Fayetteville
Debra L. Marks, Syracuse
Denise Stathatos, Clay
Eileen Taveniere, Manlius
Evelyn Pendall, Syracuse
Gale Bowens, Syracuse
Gary Kelley, Syracuse
Gary Pelkey, Syracuse
George Dygert, Syracuse
Janet Atkinson, Syracuse
Joan Littlehale, Fabius
Joann Smith, Syracuse
Julie Larson, Syracuse
Kathryn Palomino, Jamesville
Laura Ivers, Syracuse
Lois Gridley, Syracuse
Loretta Johnson, Jordan
Margaret Jones, Syracuse
Mark Gustafson, Jordan
Michelle Marais, Marcellus
Naomi Bailey, Minoa
Rasheedah Sutton, Syracuse
Richard Bebla, Syracuse
Rona Rich, Syracuse
Roseann Demaria, Marietta
Ruth Fitzgerald, Syracuse
Samisha Gallo, Syracuse
Sarah Mahaney, Syracuse
Sheila Murphy, Jamesville
Shri Ramakrishnan, Syracuse
Susan Savion, Syracuse
Thomas Madonna, Syracuse
Toni Gionella, Cicero
Wilton George, Syracuse

“

New York State should be a leader in clean energy production and delivery. This will benefit our communities, current and future and generations to come.

”

- DEBRA DESOCIO
FAYETTEVILLE

“

Investing in clean energy is the right thing to do, at the right time.

”

- ANTHONY TARTARO
SYRACUSE

“

We need to discount the price of solar panels for residents and businesses. When we can offer low cost clean energy, everybody benefits.

”

- DENISE STATHATOS
CLAY

“ [New York should incentivize the] use of solar panels for residential homeowners. ”

- GALE BOWENS
SYRACUSE

“ More wind energy. ”

- JANET ATKINSON
SYRACUSE

“ [Invest in] clean energy for a cleaner future. ”

- NAOMI BAILEY
MINOA

“ New York State should definitely work to bring solar, wind, and other renewable resources to New York State. If our federal government is going to drop the ball, it is imperative that the states begin to move forward in the interest of slowing climate change. This will also bring good paying jobs to New York State. It's a win-win for our communities. ”

- LORETTA JOHNSON
JORDAN

“ Bringing wind, solar and creating education program for people here in New York state for these jobs, such as on-the-job training. ”

- JOANN SMITH
SYRACUSE

“ Go green! ”

- JOAN LITTLEHALE
FABIUS

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