



National Grid's Joint Proposal with the State of NY and The City of NY is a shocking refusal of our government to respond appropriately to the threats to our environment and health and economic harms to our most vulnerable communities

Right now, the New York State Assembly can pass the NY HEAT ACT to prevent this deadly cycle and the Public Service Commission must follow our climate law and deny this proposal.

The investor-owned, multinational corporate utility National Grid has released a [joint proposal](#) with the State of New York and The City of New York. This proposal to raise monthly bills \$30 for the average customer to expand fossil fuel infrastructure is not just another bureaucratic policy decision it's a shocking refusal of our government to respond appropriately to the threats to our environment and health and economic harms to our most vulnerable communities. The National Grid joint proposal is yet another case of disastrous consequences resulting from our public servants neglecting climate policy.

We hold the State of New York and the City of New York responsible for putting this proposal forward to the Commission that is an affront to climate justice and our state law.

We additionally hold the NYS Assembly accountable to any rate increases that would come about from this proposal for ignoring the NY HEAT ACT, one of the strongest pieces of climate and economic justice legislation that has been on the table for the past two legislative sessions.

Kim Fraczek, Director of Sane Energy Project, said "New Yorkers continue to raise the alarm on the urgent need for clean, reliable, and affordable energy, which is why we are pushing to pass the entire NY HEAT Act. National Grid's proposed bill increase, funding fossil fuel expansion on 120 toxic acres in a flood plain in our neighborhood, epitomizes the prioritization of corporate profits over public health and climate goals and magnifies the dire need for the NY HEAT Act. Governor Hochul and the Public Service Commission must stop approving fossil fuel rate hikes or risk undermining New York's commitment to a sustainable future."

Granting National Grid massive rate increases and unnecessary expansion of its gas system violates New York's commitment, mandated by law, to combat climate change. The proposal for \$3.8 billion for fossil fuel expansion, including the controversial LNG facility at

287 Maspeth Avenue, directly conflicts with New York's climate law mandates and ignores the urgent need to transition away from dirty energy sources. It illustrates the disgraceful neglect by the state regulators and city agencies of their responsibility to protect the public, our future, our environment, and affordable, safe, and reliable utilities.

The joint proposal perpetuates the systemic environmental and economic injustices faced by Disadvantaged Communities (DACs). This is not just unacceptable, it's an outrage. Approval by the Public Service Commission (PSC) would only intensify these communities' burden. The Department of Public Service's (DPS) negotiating staff demonstrated a lack of leadership, vision, and responsibility, and a commitment only to business as usual. Disadvantaged communities upstate are also at risk: National Grid is pushing to expand gas pressure in a 40-year-old pipeline by doubling the size of two compressor stations in Athens, NY, and Dover, NY, which are both DACs. This "Iroquois pipeline should be retired, instead of being used to add unneeded and unwanted toxins to the downstate supply. Even National Grid itself offered a cheaper and cleaner "non-infrastructure option" during the Williams NESE pipeline scandal in 2019. It is disappointing to see the DPS supporting this Iroquois expansion by compression (EXC) and advocating for it to the NYS DEC during this rate case.

Legislators must act.

The NY HEAT Act, if passed, will limit and gradually reduce the use of gas and the rate hikes demanded by the utilities. The NYS Assembly failed to pass the NYHEAT Act in 2023, and this allowed National Grid to claim that the proposed rate hike in 2024 is necessary. If the legislature and Governor fail again to pass NY HEAT this session, we can anticipate a relentless cycle of such devastating developments.

We hold accountable those legislators who have not demonstrated the commitment to ensuring the passage of NY HEAT and securing vital affordability measures for their constituents. They are derelict in their service to their constituents. We must demand better from our elected officials and appointed regulators, and advocate for policies prioritizing New Yorkers' well-being and economic survival.