



Federation of Dutchess County Fish and Game Clubs, Inc.

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To Delegates and Club Presidents:

The New York State Conservation Council is circulating a DRAFT Memorandum of Support for two bills introduced in the NYS Senate and Assembly dealing with wind energy: S06314/A07756.

If passed, the legislation would "establish a moratorium on the building or placing of any permanent or semi-permanent wind turbine on freshwater bodies located within New York State."

I strongly advise AGAINST Dutchess County supporting such a moratorium. While that may seem counter-intuitive to conservation and sporting interests, I believe that taking a broader view would be in our collective best interest.

Almost three (3) months ago, I contacted Congressman Antonio Delgado's office and asked for a copy of this country's National Energy Plan. I subsequently received a call from his Washington, D.C. Office. His staff member talked to me, but in the final analysis, he provided no information of substance even when I suggested he provide me with an executive summary of the plan. However, he did assure me that "more information" would be forthcoming. I'm still waiting.

Please Note: An estimated 80 percent of the member organizations of our Federation are in the Congressman's district, as is about 40 percent of the Dutchess County population.

I advise against endorsing the moratorium because of the following observations:

- The nation's power grid is failing and vulnerable on multiple fronts
- Texas lost its power grid from a mid-winter freeze this year (more than 100 people died)
- On April 30, 2021, the last reactor at Indian Point Nuclear Power Plant in Buchanan
- When the new Administration came on board in January, one of the first attacks on fossil fuel was the shutdown of the Keystone Pipeline
- Control systems supporting the Colonial Pipeline were hacked on May 7, 2021 and resulted in a \$4.4 Million payment to the ransomware hackers
- Inflation is already rearing its ugly head, construction materials, housing, fuel/energy, prices at the supermarket and rising, and rising fast
- New York is already dealing with a population exodus; a February 25, 2021, report from the Empire Center says New York State has lost 1.4 million residents since 2010. And the U.S. Census Bureau says an additional 126,000 have left between 2019 and 2020. Those leaving say it is because of the cost of living, poor job growth, increased crime due to bail reform, and the biggest reason of all, taxes.
- Legislation backed by 23 members of the state Senate could result in a 26% increase in natural gas heating costs and a 55 cent-a-gallon increase in gasoline taxes.

The Climate And Community Investment Act (S.4264A) was introduced in early February and assigned to the Senate's Environmental Conservation Committee. The bill would impose a carbon tax of \$55 per ton of fossil fuel

emissions from all sources, including schools, factories and on the use of gasoline. The cost of gasoline would be pumped up an additional 55 cents per gallon.

It will be a broader hit than just the price at the pump. School taxes, medicals costs, every product you buy, including food, clothing, the cost of heating/cooling your home, will be going up; they already are.

At every turn, pipelines, transmission lines, wind farms, solar farms are blocked from construction or existing facilities are being de-commissioned. With not clean plan or timetable for energy development.

The impact of Covid 19 is not going away anytime soon. You cannot rebuild an economy without the energy supplies it needs to get restarted and sustained into the future.

It is not rational to curtail energy development when you are already facing energy issues that not being managed. I strongly advise that we notify the NYSCC that Dutchess County will not be endorsing the moratorium on wind energy development until such time as a viable energy plan is delivered to the people of New York State.

(Original signed by)
Bill Conners
Legislative Vice-President