

## **Climate Action Council Draft Scoping Plan, Public Comment Catherine Skopic, June 26, 2022**

Thank you for this opportunity to present public comment on the CAC Draft Scoping Plan. And thank you for all the opportunities you provided for us to do so in person at locations throughout the state. You have been very comprehensive.

Thank you to those who gave us the CLCPA and to the members of the Climate Action Council who so diligently worked on this Draft Scoping Plan. We know we are in dire need of a plan to halt and reverse this existential climate crisis threat. We have the technology, resources, and person-power to be able to do so - here is a plan to organize and mobilize to get us there - we haven't a moment to lose!

I applaud you and support your plan. I would just like to see it happen sooner, but I think you have chosen a more realistic timeline - as long as we keep to it! I'm also not so sure about green hydrogen and we need more Indigenous involvement.

My name is Catherine Skopic. I'm Chair of Sierra Club New York City Group and Delegate to the Atlantic Chapter Sierra Club. I've taught 35 years on all levels, in public school and Long Island University, C.W. Post Campus. I served as Rep. to the United Nations for several years and attended the UN Climate Conferences 2012, Rio de Janeiro-the 20th Anniversary of the First Global Climate Conference; 2014 in Lima, Peru and 2015 in Paris France. Although I'm not an expert, I've been working to stop this Climate Crisis for several decades in varying contexts.

We live in Tribeca, New York City, downtown Manhattan west side in Zone B, going south, on the border with Zone A - the Flooding Zone designations. We don't talk about it often, but unless we have major reductions in burning fossil fuels and methane, in our state, country and world-wide, the fast-melting polar ice will cause the sea level to rise by 10' before we know it and we won't be able to stop it.

It's essential we have just transitions for union and all workers in these out-dated energy industries that served us in the past but are now causing the destruction of our atmosphere and our planet and its life. We have already lost thousands of species. The Maldives and Small Island States are losing land more rapidly, their people no where to go. Our North West Indigenous are losing their homes due to permafrost melt that produces enormous amounts of methane. We've had more floods, draughts, forest fires, hurricanes and hottest years on record in the last decade than ever before. It IS a matter of LIFE and DEATH. We must do this!