



**Climate Action Council Draft Scoping Plan Public Hearing**  
**Jobs to Move America Comments**  
**May 3, 2022**

Thank you for this opportunity to speak on the Climate Action Council’s draft scoping plan. My name is Mo-Yain Tham and I am the NY Senior Researcher with Jobs to Move America. We are a strategic policy organization focused on making sure our public investments do the most public good -- creating quality jobs and healthier communities.

While we appreciate the draft scoping plan discussing a just transition for impacted workers and communities, JMA is concerned about the lack of funding to accomplish these goals. New York must establish a dedicated funding mechanism—by legislation if necessary—to ensure reductions of greenhouse gas emissions while addressing the concerns of transitioning from a fossil-fuel based economy. With this dedicated funding, the state can achieve this large-scale transition to an equitable renewable energy economy.

In addition, this dedicated funding could create a **Worker and Community Assurance Fund** to provide direct support to fossil fuel-dependent workers across sectors, including wage replacement and pension support for displaced workers. This would also address the loss of these fossil fuel facilities in communities dependent on them as a tax base.

JMA also supports the usage of a “best value” procurement process to make sure this dedicated funding grows a green economy with strong labor standards. This process would incentivize manufacturers to “compete up” through their bidding process with commitment to good wages, benefits, training and retraining opportunities as well as the creation of joint labor-management apprenticeship programs.

Community empowerment and worker empowerment must come first! This means prioritizing the jobs, health and welfare of communities at the frontlines of the climate crisis. When it comes to creating the inclusive green economy of New York's future, the plan must include strong labor standards and dedicated funding. We want to make sure this transition to a green economy creates community-sustaining wages and benefits with equitable hiring and training practices that benefits all aspects of our communities.