

Dear Climate Action Council,

I'm Laura Faulk and I live in Saratoga Springs. I'm gravely concerned about the increasing disruption to our life sustaining climate system, which is why I am taking the time to give input to the Climate Action Council on its critical work to develop a Scoping Plan for the CLCPA..

I have the following recommendations for this section:

- There must be support and leverage of public procurement to promote low-carbon materials; demand-side changes may be made to reduce materials waste.
- Industrial heat should be electrified wherever feasible. Reliance on green hydrogen must be limited, especially where hydrogen combustion would overburden disadvantaged communities. We need data collection and reporting requirements to accurately show how industrial facilities impact these communities.
- A word about Bitcoin and other proof-of-work cryptocurrency mining:
 - The final plan should call for a permanent moratorium on proof-of-work cryptocurrency mining—an enormously energy-intensive industry that threatens our climate goals and does not serve the public good..
 - Even if such mining operations use renewable energy, they undermine our climate goals because this renewable energy could be used to displace carbon-intensive energy for other productive sectors of our economy.
 - The state is already struggling to build out enough renewables to meet the zero emissions electricity goals mandated by the CLCPA. Use of renewable energy facilities by POW cryptocurrency mining operations, such as the hydro operation in Mechanicville, suck up clean energy that could be put onto the grid.
 - POW cryptocurrency markets are highly volatile and unregulated. Until the proof-of-work cryptocurrency bubble bursts completely, it has the potential to destabilize electric grids and raise consumers' electricity costs, in addition to contributing to GHG emissions.
 - Power stations as well as data centers require methodical and expensive decommissioning. Unchecked proliferation of power stations and data centers for mining cryptocurrency risks leaving taxpayers liable for the decommissioning and disposal costs if and when the owners of these facilities become insolvent during an inevitable downturn in the cryptocurrency market.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Laura Faulk