



Liberty
33 Stearns Street
Massena, NY 13662

July 1, 2022

New York Climate Action Council
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
625 Broadway
Albany, New York
12233-001

Comments on Climate Action Council Draft Scoping Plan

Dear Climate Action Council Members:

Thank you for your important work charting a path to deep decarbonization for the state of New York, and for your consideration of public input on this complex and crucial task. I write today to offer comments on the Climate Action Council's Draft Scoping Plan on behalf of Liberty Utilities (St. Lawrence Gas) Corp. (Liberty), a subsidiary of Algonquin Power & Utilities Corp. (AQN). Liberty is a natural gas distribution utility serving approximately 16,000 customers across St. Lawrence, Jefferson, and Lewis Counties in New York's North Country. AQN has set a goal to achieve net-zero greenhouse gas (GHG) scope 1 and scope 2 emissions across its business operations by 2050. As a part of AQN, a company that is an industry leader on sustainability and a solutions-provider in the transition to a low-carbon economy, Liberty is proud to bring our experience and commitment to sustainability to bear on the unique challenges facing the North Country communities we serve on the road to a decarbonized future.

The North Country faces unique challenges which will require tailored strategies to enable deep decarbonization, especially in the building sector. Liberty finds that the Final Scoping Plan should include greater consideration of the unique challenges of decarbonizing building heat and other sectors in the North Country, and the important role gas utilities like Liberty can play to enable economy-wide decarbonization. Liberty intends to share more detailed comments and recommendations directly with the Gas System Transition, Alternative Fuels, and Economywide Policies subgroups to support a just and equitable energy transition for the North Country communities we serve.

Thank you for your consideration. We look forward to working closely with policymakers, regulators, and stakeholders to help work towards achieving a path forward on deep decarbonization in the North Country.

Sincerely,

Mark Saltsman
Vice President and General Manager
Liberty New York Gas