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New York Climate Action Plan Comment

The New York Climate Action Plan’s goals include 40% decrease in GHG emissions by 2030 and by 85% by 2050. In addition, there is a goal of zero emissions across all sectors of the economy by 2050. The plan repeatedly focuses on disadvantaged communities and how they should receive more support as they are most affected by climate change. This is great as it aims to help people that most need it. There was also a focus on helping those who currently work in energy that uses fossil fuels. This is important because without helping them to transfer to clean jobs, there would be backlash that can disrupt the plan. These were the best aspects of the plan. Overall, there is a lot of detail on reducing emissions in several sectors such as agriculture, waste, and transportation. The plan is so big, however, that it can be overwhelming. Climate change does need to be addressed as soon as possible, but perhaps it would be best to solely concentrate on sectors that cause the most emissions for now. As of 2019, transportation (28%), buildings (32%), and electricity (13%) cause the most emissions. These sectors can be focused on more and immediately compared to the other sectors. The agriculture and waste sectors could be added on as the other sectors emission goals are met. In the transportation sector, there is discussion about making it harder for cars by limiting parking and increasing prices. I understand it, but some people may need to transport via car if they have mental or physical disabilities. Subways are not easy for the disabled to use. For the disabled in disadvantaged communities, it could be even harder for them to travel. These people need to be considered when it comes to driving penalties.