

Energy Policy
Investing in
Western New York
Communities
Community Support



DEAR

Neighbors:



GOVERNING IN THE REAL WORLD

Western New York was built by people who work hard, pay their bills, and expect common sense from their government. Our communities believe in responsibility, affordability, and opportunity. Those same principles should guide the decisions made in Albany.

Sweeping mandates^{1,7} may sound good on paper, but when they collide with rising costs², strained infrastructure¹, and the realities of everyday life, families and small businesses are left to carry the burden.

That's why my focus remains on practical results: protecting affordable and reliable energy, securing infrastructure investment, strengthening recreation and tourism, and ensuring families have access to the resources they need to succeed.

Government works best when it recognizes reality. That means aligning policy with what our infrastructure can actually support, protecting taxpayers and ratepayers from unnecessary costs, and ensuring Western New York communities have a voice when major decisions are made.

It is an honor to represent you in the New York State Assembly. I remain committed to listening, advocating, and delivering results that strengthen our region and protect the hardworking people who call it home.

Thank you for the trust you place in me.
I will continue working every day to earn it.

1. 2025 Power Trends Report

2. <https://www.nyiso.com/documents/d/guest/costs-behind-rising-electricity-prices-whitepaper>



ENERGY POLICY UPDATE

ENERGY POLICY AND YOUR BILLS

When families open their utility bills, they know something isn't working. Over the past several years, I have heard from homeowners, small business owners, builders, and energy workers across Western New York who warned that Albany's climate mandates would drive up the cost of energy. A recently circulated memo from the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA)³ confirms those concerns.

The memo states that if the state fully implements regulations required under the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA), gasoline prices could rise by about \$2 per gallon, while households that rely on natural gas or heating oil could face roughly \$4,000 in energy costs. The memo also acknowledges the state may not yet have enough energy supply to meet future demand.³

The CLCPA, passed in 2019 and described as “one of the most ambitious climate laws in the nation,”⁴ sets aggressive mandates that are already reshaping New York's energy system. These policies include the All-Electric Buildings Act (now paused), the Electric School Bus Act (delayed 5 years), Cap-and-Invest, restrictions on expanding natural gas service under the 100-Foot Rule, the 2025 Building Code, and the continued ban on hydraulic fracturing, along with mandates requiring 70% renewable electricity by 2030 and 100% zero-emission electricity by 2040. In the FY 2026–27 State Budget, Albany modified and delayed implementation timelines for several CLCPA-related mandates, including major electrification requirements, while maintaining the law's underlying emissions mandates and long-term targets.

These policies are not theoretical. Some are already law.^{4,7} Today, 38% of New York's electricity is still generated using natural gas,⁶ yet state policy is actively working to eliminate that energy source while simultaneously mandating more electrification of homes, buildings, and vehicles.⁴

When government restricts reliable energy supply while forcing demand higher, costs go up. That's basic economics. Policies that raise costs for homeowners, workers, and small businesses must be reconsidered before they place even greater financial pressure on the people who pay the bills.

Because of my continued advocacy fighting against these mandates and policies, I was recently appointed to serve on the New York State Assembly Energy Committee. I intend to use that position to fight for reliable, affordable energy and ensure Western New York has a strong voice in decisions that directly affect your utility bills and cost of living.

INVESTMENTS IN WESTERN NY COMMUNITIES

Working for WNY also means bringing resources home



Eastern Hills Mall Redevelopment & Sewer Infrastructure

Governor Kathy Hochul recently awarded \$30 million to support the redevelopment of the Eastern Hills Mall into a mixed-use town center.⁸

This investment ensures the infrastructure is in place to responsibly redevelop this site, strengthening Clarence's tax base, creating long-term economic opportunity, and preparing the community for smart growth.

Community Recreation & Accessibility Upgrades

In Clarence, \$80,000 has been allocated to the Clarence Lions Club All-Inclusive Playground Project. This funding supports the development of a fully accessible playground designed to accommodate children of all abilities, including specialized equipment, inclusive play surfaces, and features that ensure a safe, welcoming environment for families to gather and connect.

Additionally, \$50,000 has been directed toward upgrades at the Somerset Pickleball Courts. These funds will support court improvements and related enhancements aimed at expanding access to one of the fastest-growing recreational activities, improving playing conditions, and creating a more enjoyable experience for both casual and competitive players.

Lockport Flight of Five

Thanks to local leaders, \$1,000,000 for the historic Flight of Five Locks in Lockport was granted.⁹

Preserving this iconic Erie Canal landmark supports tourism, protects our region's heritage, and drives economic activity for local businesses.



Local Library Upgrades

I've helped secure \$90,000 for upgrades¹⁰ to local libraries throughout the district, ensuring they remain accessible community anchors for education, technology access, and lifelong learning.



Supporting Our Community: Winter Coat & Clothing Drive

This winter, we were proud to donate and distribute hundreds of coats and winter clothing items to families in need through The Salvation Army in Lockport and with the First Baptist Church in Newfane.

The photo featured here was taken at the First Baptist Church in Newfane, where these donations were distributed directly to community members.

Western New York takes care of its own, and I'm grateful to everyone who helped make this effort possible.

8. www.wkbw.com/news/local-news/erie-county-to-receive-30m-toward-redevelopment-of-eastern-hills-mall-transit-road

9. www.publicnow.com/view/EEB5BE31C6184B26CA3649C54FCBDD5557220A42

10. E.820 of 2025

A NEWSLETTER UPDATE

*Fighting for
Western New York!*



PAUL
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- ✓ **Energy Policy**
- ✓ **Investing in Western New York Communities**
- ✓ **Community Support**

LEARN MORE INSIDE!

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