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**STATEMENT FROM NYPIRG, NYCC, WE ACT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE
ON PATHWAYS TO CARBON-NEUTRAL NYC REPORT**

**REPORT DEMONSTRATES NEED FOR NYC TO BAN GAS FOR NEW
CONSTRUCTION STARTING IN 2022**

(*New York, N.Y.*) The NYC Mayor's Office of Sustainability commissioned and released [a study](#) to reach carbon neutrality, "Pathways to Carbon-Neutral NYC: Modernize, Reimagine, Reach." The report offers three emissions reductions pathways, including a high-electrification pathway. This pathway relies heavily on electrifying buildings, which bolsters the case for New York City to adopt policies that mandate electrification of new construction.

Last week, alongside members of the City Council, environmental justice, community, and advocacy groups [announced a campaign](#) to pass legislation banning fossil fuel hookups in new construction and gut renovations in New York City. A gas ban would lead to more energy-efficient, all-electric construction, reducing air pollution and creating jobs in clean energy. Additionally, it would help New York City achieve carbon neutrality.

The following statements can be attributed to NYPIRG, NYCC, and WE ACT for Environmental Justice:

Liz Moran, Environmental Policy Director for NYPIRG, said, "New York City's new Pathways report makes the strong case for banning gas hookups for new construction and major renovations by 2022. According to the world's leading climate scientists, the world must rapidly move off of fossil fuels to avert climate catastrophe. The key to doing this is through electrification and greening the grid. As a city on the frontlines of the climate crisis, New York City must lead the charge on climate action by banning gas hookups for new construction - the State, and the world, is watching."

Pete Sikora, Climate & Inequality Campaigns Director for New York Communities for Change, said, "Mayor de Blasio is right to call for a gas ban on new construction and gut renovations, and this report helps make the case. It's time for the Council to build clean energy jobs and slash air pollution by enacting a gas ban."

"The Pathways to Carbon-Neutral NYC underscores the urgency for passing legislation banning natural gas hookups for new construction and major renovations in New York City," said **Sonal Jessel, Director of Policy at WE ACT for Environmental Justice**. "Greenhouse gas emissions are driving the climate crisis, and that is hitting low-income communities and communities of color the hardest. The City Council needs to continue its best-in-nation climate leadership and pass this legislation in the coming months."