

**350Brooklyn, All Our Energy, Capital District Zero Waste Group, Elected Officials to Protect America, Environmental Advocates NY, Food & Water Watch, Fridays for the Future Capital District and New York City, GELF, Grassroots Environmental Education, Interfaith Climate Justice Community, Long Island Progressive Coalition, Mothers Out Front, NRDC, NYCAP, NYPIRG, NYRenews, PAUSE, Rivers & Mountains GreenFaith, SHARE, Sierra Club Atlantic Chapter, Sisters of Mercy, Surfrider Foundation NYC, Third Act Upstate New York, United University Professions**

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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## **100 TOWN, CITY AND COUNTY ELECTED OFFICIALS AND 180 YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS URGE GOVERNOR TO INCLUDE THE CLIMATE CHANGE SUPERFUND ACT IN HER BUDGET, JOINING 250 OTHER ORGANIZATIONS**

**2023 “TAXPAYER TALLY” OF CLIMATE COSTS IS \$2.1 BILLION OR \$272 PER HOUSEHOLD; TAXPAYERS ARE ONLY REVENUE SOURCE FOR SOARING CLIMATE EXPENSES AS BIG OIL RACKED UP \$750 BILLION IN PROFITS SINCE 2021**

### **NEW NATIONAL POLL FINDS OVERWHELMING MAJORITY OF AMERICANS SUPPORT MAKING BIG OIL PAY INTO A CLIMATE SUPERFUND**

(Albany, N.Y.) Governor Hochul today received two letters from 280 local elected officials in Elected Officials to Protect America (EOPA) and youth groups such as Fridays for the Future, urging her to include the Climate Change Superfund Act in her Executive Budget next month. Their letters joined growing public support for the legislation, ([S.2129/A.3351A](#)), including another letter to the governor from [250](#) civic, environmental, labor, public health, and religious organizations, including 350Brooklyn, ALIGN, Climate Reality Project, District Council 37, EOPA, Environmental Advocates NY, Food & Water Watch, Fridays for the Future Capital District and NYC, NYPIRG, NRDC, NY Renews, NYS Council of Churches, NYS Nurses Association, Sierra Club Atlantic Chapter, Third Act Upstate New York, and UAW Region 9A.

In EOPA’s [letter](#) to the governor, more than 100 mayors and local elected officials stated there is no need for taxpayers to be severely burdened with the total climate bill, stating, “Our communities are on the front lines of the climate crisis, bearing the full weight of its impacts. We need the state to act now to hold the biggest polluters accountable. We need the Climate Change Superfund Act.” [Albany Mayor Kathy Sheehan, Albany Council President Corey Ellis and New York City Comptroller Brad Lander](#) are some of the co-signers on the letter. <https://protectingamerica.net/ny/new-york-supporting-climate-change-superfund-act/>

The [letter](#) from 180 youth organizations stated: “New York State’s growing climate burden will grow from billions now to tens of billions by our middle age. Currently, New York taxpayers are footing the entire bill resulting from climate damages – rising sea levels, more intense storms, hotter temperatures, more pollution, etc. That is not fair to anyone today and nor is it fair to future generations who will bear those mushrooming costs. Instead, those responsible – most notably the largest oil companies – should be held financially accountable.”

A recent national [poll](#) by Data for Progress finds an overwhelming majority of American voters support making oil and gas Companies pay a share of climate costs caused by pollution.

NYPIRG released an analysis showing that NYS taxpayers were heavily burdened by over \$2 billion in climate costs from December 2022 to December 2023, or \$272 per household. (See page 4.)The analysis shows that without a revenue source for climate programs, by default the costs have been placed on the backs of state taxpayers while Big Oil companies have made a whopping \$750 billion in [profits](#) since 2021. The groups called on Governor Hochul to put fiscal fairness and environmental justice front and center by including the Climate Change Superfund Act in her FY 2024/25 Executive Budget, which passed the Senate during the 2023 legislative session. The bill would require Big Oil companies responsible for the release of large amounts of greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) to pay apportioned fees totaling \$3 billion a year. It is based

on the highly successful Federal Superfund “polluter pays” law created 43 years ago that has cleaned up thousands of toxic dumps.

The groups’ call came weeks after [deadly](#) storms rocked the state; with serious [flooding](#) upstate, the Adirondacks getting [pummeled](#), Long Island took a big hit [also](#), and New York City got [soaked](#). There can be no doubt that as the climate warms, storms will [worsen](#). As the governor develops her state budget, the groups argued, are New York taxpayers going to bear the burden alone? So far, the answer has been yes. The governor has so far refused to embrace [legislation](#) that would make the largest oil companies pay their share of those costs. That legislation builds in protections so these costs wouldn’t fall back on consumers, according to [an analysis](#) from the prestigious Institute for Policy Integrity at NYU School of Law.

And those costs are expected to skyrocket. It is estimated that Long Island faces up to [\\$100 billion](#) in climate costs. A [study from NYS Comptroller DiNapoli](#) found that over a ten-year period (the last five and next five years), 55% of New York localities’ municipal spending outside of NYC was or will be related to climate change. New York City [estimates](#) as much as [\\$100 billion](#) will be needed to upgrade its sewers for more intense storms. And those costs are on top of the [\\$52 billion](#) that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has estimated is needed to protect New York Harbor from rising sea levels. Those costs – like the temperature of the planet – are expected to keep increasing. New Yorkers could see those costs rise to as much as [\\$10 billion](#) annually. New York taxpayers shouldn’t have to bear that burden alone.

The groups argued that the biggest oil companies should pick up the tab. The groups stated that it was the world’s largest oil companies that had conducted the cutting-edge [research](#) in the 1970s that concluded with precise accuracy what would happen if fossil fuels continued to be combusted. Moreover, the groups argued that the oil lobby spent big bucks on public relations and lobbying campaigns to undermine independent science and block public health initiatives. Had those reforms been embraced years ago, the groups argued, the world would not be facing the climate crisis it is today. The groups also cited that the oil industry has been raking in record-setting [profits](#) over the past few years.

“New York taxpayers are in a ‘perfect storm’ situation created by the devastating impacts of the escalating climate crisis and the huge costs faced to mount a response” said **Blair Horner, NYPIRG Executive Director**. “A growing number of New Yorkers expect Governor Hochul to ease the climate burden by making sure that the largest climate polluters pick up a substantial portion of those costs and to do so in a manner that prohibits the companies from passing those costs onto the public, by including the Climate Change Superfund Act in her upcoming Executive Budget. It’s a lesson we all learned as kids: you make a mess; you clean it up. Big Oil should be on the financial hook.”

“In our farming town, we were hit by two 100-year storms in 5 years, causing millions of dollars in damages. Roads and bridges were washed out. Farmers couldn’t bring produce to the market. Our taxpayers can’t afford this year after year,” said **Dominic Frongillo, former Councilmember and Deputy Supervisor of Caroline, NY and co-founder of Elected Officials to Protect America**. “Big Oil must pay. That’s why 100 mayors and local elected officials from every region of the state are urging Governor Hochul to include the Climate Superfund Act in her budget.”

**Assemblyman Jeffrey Dinowitz**, the prime sponsor of the Climate Superfund Act, said: “More and more people are realizing what my colleagues in government from around the state, youth and environmental organizations already know: Big Oil and its products are the primary reason we are facing the current climate crisis. While the oil companies continue to make astronomical profits, the astronomical costs to adapt to the impacts of climate change are very real, with the estimated climate expenditures for New York City alone topping \$163 billion. Including the Climate Change Superfund Act in next year’s budget will ensure our constituents won’t shoulder the entire costs of combating this climate disaster. It is time for us to act with due haste to ensure that Big Oil, who made this mess, is required to help clean it up.”

“Notwithstanding the agitprop of conspiracy theorists, that climate change is a hoax; Al Roker, the meteorologist points out that 2023 was the hottest year ever on earth,” said **Merton D. Simpson, Albany County Legislator, District 2 and Co-Chair, of the Sheridan Hollow Alliance for Renewable Energy (SHARE)**. “In June of 2023, NYC had the distinction of having the worst air quality in the world. When SHARE held a December 2023 press conference at the Capitol for the Renewable Capitol Act the temperature was over 50 degrees with intense rain; for most of my 69 years this would have been snow. Sheridan Hollow in my district has been polluted since 1911 with coal, oil, trash and now fracked natural gas which is used to fuel the 98-acre Empire State Plaza and surrounding buildings; it must be converted to green energy. It is essential that Big Oil polluters pay for their past and ongoing pollution. In the present existential climate crisis Governor

Hochul must include the Climate Change Superfund Act in her budget if the goals of the CLCPA are to be met and our grandchildren and future generations will have a sustainable planet.”

“Municipalities are stuck footing the bill for climate-related damage and resilience project costs,” said **Michael Hofmann, City of Hudson Mayoral Aide and Hudson Valley Flood Resilience Network Advisory Committee member**. “Communities of all sizes across the state are directly impacted by climate change, but smaller towns, villages, and cities like Hudson are hit even harder because of our limited resources and an already overburdened tax base. It is beyond time for fiscal fairness: Big Oil companies should pay their fair share. We urge the Governor to include the Climate Superfund Act in the Executive Budget.”

**Michael Richardson of Third Act Upstate New York**, stated, “While the United Nations and leading climate scientists issue severe climate warnings on a regular basis, the Governor and the NYS Assembly have failed year after year to sufficiently fund our landmark NYS Climate Act. Given the immense cost of mitigating climate disruption, what has been done so far is too little and too late. Including the Climate Change Superfund Act in the Governor’s Budget will provide substantial annual payments toward funding repairs for climate-related damages and damage repairs and build new infrastructure to mitigate against future storms.”

“As we confront the escalating climate crisis, let's be clear: the Climate Change Superfund Act is not just a bill; it's a powerful climate change solution, " said **Vanessa Fajans-Turner, Executive Director, Environmental Advocates NY**. “It's a call for fairness and accountability from the polluters who profit as our disaster burden continues to rise. Oil companies actively lobby against our efforts to mitigate and defend ourselves from climate change, then turn a blind eye to the communities across New York State that are already bearing the brunt of its soaring costs. It's time for the oil companies doing business in New York to step up and contribute to the very solutions they've blocked for far too long. Governor Hochul, including the Climate Change Superfund Act in the Executive Budget is a crucial step towards an equitable, safe, sustainable, and affordable New York.”

“In September, 75,000 people of all generations, faiths, and backgrounds took to the streets of Manhattan calling for an end of the fossil fuel era,” said **Keanu Arpels-Josiah, age 18, on behalf of Fridays For the Future NYC**. “Fossil fuel companies have polluted our communities, well-being, and future: it's time to make polluters pay. Governor Hochul and the legislature must include the Climate Change Superfund Act in the next fiscal budget.

“Over four decades ago, more than 700 Niagara Falls residents were trapped in the Love Canal neighborhood,” said **Roger Cook and Sister Eileen O’Connor, Co-conveners, Interfaith Climate Justice Community of Western New York**. “They were exposed to a dump filled with over 22,000 tons of the most toxic chemicals known to humankind. Hooker Chemical, which buried the wastes there, refused to accept responsibility. Local governments didn’t have the will or resources to move the residents or to remediate the site. Thanks to the activism of the Love Canal homeowners and to Congressman John LaFalce, Congress passed, and President Carter signed the Federal Superfund Act. Hooker Chemical and chemical companies around the country were held financially responsible for relocating residents and cleaning up the mess they had created. Governor Hochul should include the Climate Change Superfund Act in her state budget. Requiring the fossil fuel companies to pay for the mess they’ve made by dumping billions of tons of greenhouse gases into the atmosphere. The “polluters pay” principle that was adopted at Love Canal should also apply to the Big Oil giants. They are making record profits while the superstorms they’ve caused are destroying our public facilities such as our drinking and wastewater plants, harbors, roads, bridges and highways. We respectfully ask the Governor to join us in ensuring that those most responsible for the damages done to our communities, pay their fair share to repair and make more resilient our public infrastructure across the state.”

“The climate disasters that we are witnessing today aren’t natural disasters; these are premeditated crimes. The oil and gas industry knew decades ago that their products cause grave harm and chose to spend billions of dollars to lie to the public and lobby the politicians to block climate action – a practice that the industry continues unabated to date,” said **Anshul Gupta, Policy & Research Director at New Yorkers for Clean Power**. “The Climate Change Superfund Act would hold the largest historic climate polluters accountable and would require them to help partly shield New York taxpayers from the tens of billions of dollars that the state will end up spending in the coming years to fund disaster recovery, remediation and resilience.”

“With extreme weather breaking out across the planet in 2023, the UN Secretary-General has declared that the lack of climate action by governments has opened the gates to hell. New York needs to dramatically accelerate its actions to combat global warming, and that starts with making polluters pay to help address the damage they cause,” said **Mark Dunlea, convener of People of Albany United for Safe Energy (PAUSE), the Capital District 350.org affiliate.** “The Climate Superfund Act needs to be one of several critical climate measures that Governor Hochul includes in her 2024-25 proposed Executive Budget.”

**\$2.1 BILLION IN TAXPAYERS’ MONEY PLEDGED FOR  
CLIMATE DAMAGE, PROTECTION AND RESILIENCY PROJECTS  
DECEMBER 2022 – DECEMBER 2023  
ACCORDING TO GOVERNOR HOCHUL NEWS RELEASE ANNOUNCEMENTS**

<b>Announcement Date</b>	<b>Pledge Amount</b>	<b>Link to News Release Announcement</b>
12/2/2022	\$6.3 million	<a href="#">Governor Hochul Announces Start of Construction on Series of Flood Resiliency Projects in City of Ogdensburg, St. Lawrence County</a>
12/29/2022	\$11.6 million	<a href="#">Governor Hochul Announces More Than \$11.6 Million Awarded to Municipalities for Climate Smart Communities Projects</a>
2/8/2023	\$100 million	<a href="#">Governor Hochul Announces \$100 Million to Repave Roads Impacted by Extreme Weather   Governor Kathy Hochul (ny.gov)</a>
2/27/2023	\$3.663 million	<a href="#">Governor Hochul Announces Completion of Construction of Series of Flood Resiliency Projects in Fair Haven, Cayuga County   Governor Kathy Hochul (ny.gov)</a>
4/5/2023	\$70 million	<a href="#">Governor Hochul Announces Over \$70 Million Investment in Critical Water Infrastructure Projects Across New York State   Governor Kathy Hochul (ny.gov)</a>
4/6/2023	\$26.7 million	<a href="#">Governor Hochul Announces Start of \$26.7 Million Project to Rehabilitate Interstate 390 in Livingston County   Governor Kathy Hochul (ny.gov)</a>
4/21/2023	\$61.8 million	<a href="#">Governor Hochul Announces Start of \$61.8 Million Pavement Improvement and Bridge Rehabilitation Project on I-95 in the Bronx and Westchester County   Governor Kathy Hochul (ny.gov)</a>
4/24/2023	\$15 million	<a href="#">Governor Hochul Announces \$15 Million in Cooling Assistance for Vulnerable New Yorkers   Governor Kathy Hochul (ny.gov)</a>
5/5/2023	\$2.1 million	<a href="#">Governor Hochul Announces \$2.1 Million in Grants Now Available for Air Quality Monitoring in Disadvantaged Communities   Governor Kathy Hochul (ny.gov)</a>
5/11/2023	\$3 million	<a href="#">Governor Hochul Celebrates Year of Progress Addressing Longstanding Water Infrastructure Challenges in Mount Vernon</a>
5/16/2023	\$8 million	<a href="#">Governor Hochul Announces \$8 Million Now Available for New Climate Smart Community Projects   Governor Kathy Hochul (ny.gov)</a>
7/5/2023	\$516 million	<a href="#">Governor Hochul Announces More Than \$516 Million in Bridge NY Funding to Rehabilitate and Replace Local Bridges and Culverts</a>
7/12/2023	\$12.2 million	<a href="#">Governor Hochul Announces Start of \$12.2 Million Project to Improve Resiliency Along State Route 54A in Steuben County</a>
7/17/2023	\$500 million	<a href="#">After Devastating Flooding, Governor Hochul Extends Application Deadline for More Than \$500 Million in Resiliency-Related Grants</a>
7/18/2023	\$3 million	<a href="#">Video, Audio, Photos &amp; Rush Transcript: Governor Hochul Announces \$3 Million in Recovery Funds Available to Orange County Homeowners</a>
8/9/2023	\$3 million	<a href="#">Governor Hochul Pledges Additional \$3 Million in Emergency Assistance for Homeowners in Hudson Valley, North Country, and Finger Lakes Regions Impacted by Recent Flooding   Governor Kathy Hochul (ny.gov)</a>
8/16/2023	\$44 million	<a href="#">Governor Hochul, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and Montauk Historical Society Announce Completion of Montauk Point Coastal Resiliency Project and Historic Lighthouse Restoration   Governor Kathy Hochul (ny.gov)</a>
8/16/2023	\$9.5 million	<a href="#">Governor Hochul Announces Completion of \$9.5 Million Resiliency Project in the City of Oswego   Governor Kathy Hochul (ny.gov)</a>
8/22/2023	\$20 million	<a href="#">Video, Audio, Photos &amp; Rush Transcript: Governor Hochul Announces \$20 Million in Water Infrastructure Upgrades for Erie County Water Authority   Governor Kathy Hochul (ny.gov)</a>
8/30/2023	\$4.8 million	<a href="#">Governor Hochul Celebrates Construction Start of \$4.8 Million Sanitary Sewer Project in the Town of Oswego   Governor Kathy Hochul (ny.gov)</a>
8/31/2023	\$20 million	<a href="#">Governor Hochul Announces \$20 Million Now Available for Hudson Valley and Long Island Communities Impacted by Hurricane Ida Ahead of Storm's Second Anniversary   Governor Kathy Hochul (ny.gov)</a>
9/22/2023	\$7.4 million	<a href="#">Governor Hochul Announces \$7.4 Million in Federal Funding to Support Local Emergency Planning and Response Efforts   Governor Kathy Hochul (ny.gov)</a>

9/11/2023	\$20 million	<a href="#">Governor Hochul Announces \$20 Million Financing Fund for Decarbonization Projects in Disadvantaged Communities   Governor Kathy Hochul (ny.gov)</a>
9/14/2023	\$50 million	<a href="#">Governor Hochul Announces Six Leading Real Estate Groups Selected in Round Two of Empire Buildings Challenge to Advance Climate-Friendly Buildings in New York State   Governor Kathy Hochul (ny.gov)</a>
9/20/2023	\$13.8 million	<a href="#">During Climate Week, Governor Hochul Announces Over \$13.8 Million to Protect Clean Water and Support New York Farmers in the Fight Against Climate Change   Governor Kathy Hochul (ny.gov)</a>
9/21/2023	\$6 million	<a href="#">Governor Hochul Announces More Than \$6 Million Awarded to Conserve Over 2,000 Acres of New York Farmland During Climate Week   Governor Kathy Hochul (ny.gov)</a>
9/29/2023	\$165 million	<a href="#">Governor Hochul Announces \$165 Million in Available Funds for Environmentally Sustainable Transportation Projects Across New York State   Governor Kathy Hochul (ny.gov)</a>
10/13/2023	\$8.3 million	<a href="#">Governor Hochul Announces Completion of Series of Flood Resiliency Projects in City of Ogdensburg, St. Lawrence County</a>
10/11/2023	\$10 million	<a href="#">Governor Hochul Announces Launch of \$10 Million Empire Technology Prize to Advance Tall Building Low Carbon Heating System Retrofits</a>
10/18/2023	\$2.5 million	<a href="#">Governor Hochul Celebrates Groundbreaking for PUSH Buffalo’s New Sustainability Workforce Training Center to Prepare Western New Yorkers for the Green Jobs of</a>
10/24/2023	\$10.4 million	<a href="#">Governor Hochul Announces Construction Complete for Series of \$10.4 Million Resiliency Projects in Monroe County</a>
10/25/2023	\$25 million	<a href="#">Governor Hochul Announces \$55 Million in State Funding to Enhance Emergency Communications</a>
10/27/2023	\$7 million	<a href="#">Governor Hochul Announces Completion of a Series of Flood Resiliency Projects in Jefferson County</a>
10/27/2023	\$14 million	<a href="#">Governor Hochul Announces Over \$14 Million Awarded to Improve Air Quality and Reduce Emissions in Under-Resourced School Districts</a>
10/30/2023	\$12 million	<a href="#">Governor Hochul Announces \$12 Million Heat Recovery Program to Modernize Buildings in New York State</a>
11/1/2023	\$8.6 million	<a href="#">Governor Hochul Announces Completion of \$8.6 Million Flood Resiliency Construction Projects in Village of Clayton</a>
11/2/2023	\$17 million	<a href="#">Governor Hochul Announces Nearly \$90 Million Awarded Across the State Through Fast NY Program to Development Shovel-ready Sites</a>
11/2/2023	\$2.4 million	<a href="#">Governor Hochul Announces Fourth Round of Office of Strategic Workforce Development Grant Awards Totaling More Than \$12 Million</a>
11/2/2023	\$66.5 million	<a href="#">Governor Hochul Highlights Over \$108.8 Million for Local Water Infrastructure Projects Across New York State</a>
11/13/2023	\$11 million	<a href="#">Governor Hochul Announces More Than \$57 Million Awarded Through Round XIII of the Regional Economic Development Council Initiative</a>
11/14/2023	\$16 million	<a href="#">Governor Hochul Announces Nearly \$16 Million to Help New York Farms Address Impacts of Climate Change</a>
11/21/2023	\$950,000	<a href="#">Governor Hochul Announces More Than \$23 Million for Key Community Economic Development Programs</a>
11/21/2023	\$2.2 million	<a href="#">Governor Hochul Announces \$23 Million to Boost Community Planning, Infrastructure, and Public Facilities</a>
11/27/2023	\$100 million	<a href="#">As State Prepares for Extreme Winter Weather Governor Hochul Announces \$100 Million Investment for Roadway Repaving and Resiliency Enhancements</a>
12/5/2023	\$6.2 million	<a href="#">Governor Hochul Announces Reopening of the Carpenter’s Flats Bridge Over the Ausable River in Clinton County</a>
12/7/2023	\$1.5 million	<a href="#">Governor Hochul Announces \$164 Million for Local Water Infrastructure Projects</a>
12/12/2023	\$45 million	<a href="#">Governor Hochul Announces New \$45 Million Apprenticeship and Pre-Apprenticeship Clean Energy Training Initiative</a>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$2.1 Billion</b>	<b>December 2022 to December 2023 Time Period</b> <b>Average of \$272 per NYS Household</b> <a href="https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/NY">https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/NY</a>



## Supporting Climate Change Superfund Act

Dear Governor Hochul,

**As elected representatives of villages, towns, counties, and cities across New York State, we write to urge you to include the Climate Change Superfund Act (S.2129A/A.3351A) in your Executive Budget for the upcoming fiscal year.** Our communities are on the front lines of the climate crisis, bearing the full weight of its impacts – from the deadly blizzard that struck Buffalo last winter to the unprecedented 1,000-year flooding that submerged parts of the Hudson Valley this summer; from destruction wrought by Superstorm Sandy on Long Island to increasingly frequent catastrophic rainfall in NYC; from choking wildfire smoke that shut down schools in June to scorching heat waves that shut down schools in September.

Our constituents feel this looming risk year after year, through all four seasons. Between 2011 and 2021, New York State endured 16 major disaster declarations, sparing no region of the state. During this period, FEMA allocated over \$17 billion in assistance to New York State.<sup>1</sup> This staggering sum is more than just a number, it represents countless New York families who lost their homes or livelihoods. Our local governments see the impact of this growing threat in our budgets, as we struggle to both repair and rebuild from previous extreme weather events and invest in measures to adapt and become more resilient in the face of the climate emergency. A recent study from the State Comptroller found that from 2018 to 2028, 55% of New York localities' municipal spending outside of New York City was or will be related to the climate emergency.<sup>2</sup>

It seems like year after year a new record is set, whether it's for heat, or rainfall, or snow. Despite efforts to slash greenhouse gas emissions, it's clear that the challenges posed by the climate emergency are going to get much worse before they get better. In the coming decades we need to invest in a series of high-stakes and costly infrastructure projects. These include significant coastal protections, including restoring coastal wetlands; elevating or buying-out threatened homes; improving storm water drainage and sewer systems; responding to toxic algal blooms; protecting our roads and utility infrastructure; retrofitting schools and other public buildings; and many other vitally important projects. We know that these projects are non-negotiable necessities. The major question is who will pay for them. The Chairman of the Long Island Regional Planning Council recently estimated the cost of climate-adaptive infrastructure improvements for Long Island at between \$75 and \$100 billion.<sup>3</sup> Upgrading New York City's sewer system is estimated to cost \$100 billion,<sup>4</sup> and a single project to protect New York Harbor from rising seas is estimated at \$52 billion.<sup>5</sup> For us on the local level, that means asking our residents to pay more in property taxes, fees, and other costs. **Fortunately, there is another option to reduce this burden on local governments and taxpayers. Instead of asking New Yorkers to dig into their own pockets for the entire cost of climate adaptation, we can make the multinational fossil fuel companies that are responsible for and profiting from the climate emergency pay their fair share. That's why we're asking you to support the Climate Change Superfund Act.**

Under the Climate Change Superfund Act, thirty to forty of the largest multinational oil, gas, and coal companies would be required to pay \$75 billion over 25 years to New York State for damages arising from their past activities, money that would be earmarked to help localities like ours pay for climate-adaptive infrastructure. Companies deemed responsible for the emission of over one billion tons of greenhouse gases since the year 2000 will pay a portion of the total amount based on their share of the total emissions of all responsible companies. That means companies like Exxon and Saudi Aramco, who have made record-breaking profits in the last several years, will pay a portion of the bill, rather than our residents and local businesses. And, critically, the Superfund is designed as an assessment of damages for past behavior that cannot be passed on to consumers.<sup>6</sup> **The cost of living across New York is already too high – we simply cannot afford to place the cost of adapting to the climate emergency solely on the backs of our constituents. We need the state to act now to hold the biggest polluters accountable. We need the Climate Change Superfund Act.**

Sincerely,

Mayor Kathy Sheehan, City of Albany, Albany County  
County Executive Daniel McCoy, Albany County  
County Legislator Merton Simpson, Albany County  
Council President Corey Ellis, Albany, Albany County  
County Legislator Sam Fein, Albany County  
Councilmember Sergio Adams, City of Albany, Ward 7, Albany County  
Councilmember Joyce Love, City of Albany, Albany County  
Mayor Kamal Johnson, City of Hudson, Columbia County  
Mayor Nicola Armacost, Village of Hastings-on-Hudson, Westchester County  
Trustee Nicole Asquith, Pleasantville, Westchester County  
Councilmember Alexa Aviles, New York City, Kings County  
Councilmember Jacqueline Berger, Town of Amherst, Erie County  
Councilmember John Bouvier, Town of Southampton, Suffolk County  
County Legislator Travis Brooks, District 1, Tompkins County  
Councilmember Tiffany Cabán, New York City  
Supervisor Ellen Calves, Town of Bedford, Westchester County  
Supervisor Ann Carvill, Town of Potsdam, St. Lawrence County  
Supervisor Michael Chameides, City of Hudson, Columbia County  
County Legislator Terry Clements, District 11, Westchester County  
Councilmember Lisa Copeland, City of Mount Vernon, Westchester County  
Councilmember Christine Corrado, Town of Brighton, Monroe County  
Supervisor Claire Cousin, Columbia County  
Trustee Ben Darfler, Village of Trumansburg, Tompkins County  
Legislator Deborah Dawson, Tompkins County  
Town Supervisor John Deer, Town of Manlius, Onondaga County  
Trustee Anthony Del Plato, Village of Interlaken, Seneca County  
Council President Thomas DePietro, City of Hudson, Columbia County  
Councilmember Eric Dinowitz, New York City, Bronx County  
County Legislator Cynthia Doran, Rensselaer County  
Trustee Tom Drake, Hastings-on-Hudson, Westchester County  
Councilmember Christina Dravis, Town of Dryden, Tompkins County  
County Legislator Jeffrey Elder, Niagara County  
Supervisor Paul Feiner, Town of Greenburgh, Westchester County  
Town Supervisor Elizabeth Feldman, Town of Ossining, Westchester County  
Trustee Morgen Fleisig, Village of Hastings-on-Hudson, Westchester County  
Fmr. Councilmember Dominic Frongillo, Town of Caroline, Tompkins County  
Town Supervisor Joel Gagnon, Town of Danby, Tompkins County  
Trustee Jessica Galen, Dobbs Ferry, Westchester County  
Councilmember Jim Gennaro, New York City  
Trustee Debra Gitterman, Village of Philmont, Columbia County  
Town Board Member Bill Goodman, Town of Ithaca, Tompkins County  
County Legislator Manna Jo Greene, Ulster County  
Councilmember DuWayne Gregory, Town of Babylon, Suffolk County  
Councilmember Jennifer Gutiérrez, New York City, Queens and Kings counties  
Councilmember Shahana Hanif, New York City  
Mayor Ronny Hardaway, Village of Lansing, Tompkins County  
Legislator Susan Hughes-Smith, Monroe County  
Legislator David Imamura, Westchester County  
Mayor Nancy Kaboolian, Ardsley, Westchester County  
Town Councilor Katelyn Kriesel, Town of Manlius, Onondaga County  
Councilmember Shekar Krishnan, New York City, Queens  
Aldersperson Tiffany Kumar, City of Ithaca, Ward 4, Tompkins County  
Deputy Supervisor Dan Lamb, Town of Dryden, Tompkins County  
Trustee Mary Lambert, Village of Hastings-on-Hudson, Westchester County  
Comptroller Brad Lander, New York City  
Town Supervisor Jason Leifer, Town of Dryden, Tompkins County  
Mayor Rika Levin, Village of Ossining, Westchester County  
Trustee Georgia Lopez, Village of Hastings-on-Hudson, Westchester County

Councilmember Natalie Luczkowiak, City of Dunkirk, Chautauqua County  
Council Vice President Mary Lupien, City of Rochester, Monroe County  
Councilmember Christopher Marte, New York City, New York County  
School Board Trustee Theresa McCaffrey, Village of Hastings-on-Hudson, Westchester County  
Town Councilmember Heather McCarty, Town of Newfield, Tompkins County  
Trustee Susan McGraw-Keber, Town of East Hampton, Suffolk County  
Ulster County Executive Jen Metzger, Ulster County  
Legislator Matthew Miller, Albany County  
Mayor Pro Tem Ramona Monteverde, City of Newburgh, Orange County  
Mayor Chance Mullen, Pelham, Westchester County  
Councilmember Tim Murray, Town of Caroline, Tompkins County  
Councilmember Sarah Nappa, Town of Southold, Suffolk County  
Councilmember Mercedes Narcisse, New York City  
Mayor Michael Newhard, Village of Warwick, Orange County  
County Legislator Nina Nichols, Rensselaer County  
Mayor Steve Noble, City of Kingston, Ulster County  
Councilmember Sandy Nurse, New York City, Kings County  
County Legislator Joseph O'Brien, Albany County  
Mayor Gina Picinich, Mt. Kisco, Westchester County  
Trustee Klaus Proemm, Village of Canton, St. Lawrence County  
Town Supervisor Stephanie Redmond, Town of Enfield, Tompkins County  
Legislator William Reinhardt, Albany County  
Mayor Thomas Roach, City of White Plains, Westchester County  
Trustee Jared Rodriguez, Sleepy Hollow, Westchester County  
Councilmember Cate Rogers, Town of East Hampton, Suffolk County  
Mayor Tim Rogers, New Paltz, Ulster County  
County Legislator Ellen Rosano, Albany County  
Trustee Shari Rosen Archer, Dobbs Ferry, Westchester County  
Trustee Matthew Rosenberg, Dobbs Ferry, Westchester County  
Mayor Martin Rutyna, Sleepy Hollow, Westchester County  
Mayor Peter Scherer, Pleasantville, Westchester County  
Councilmember Tommy John Schiavoni, Town of Southampton, Suffolk County  
Councilmember Elect Anne Smith, Town of Southold, Suffolk County  
Supervisor Jim Sofranko, Town of Olive, Ulster County  
Supervisor Elizabeth Spinzia, Town of Rhinebeck, Dutchess County  
Deputy Mayor Nicole Sullivan, Dobbs Ferry, Westchester County  
Mayor Austin Tylec, City of North Tonawanda, Niagara County  
Councilmember Rick Werwaiss, Chatham, Columbia County  
Town Board Member Joseph Wetmore, Lansing, Tompkins County  
Mayor Robert Williams, Village of Elmsford, Westchester County  
Councilmember Robin Wilt, Town of Brighton, Monroe County  
Town Councilmember Tom Wood, Town of Plattsburgh, Clinton County

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<sup>1</sup> New York Atlas of Disaster, Rebuild By Design, 2023

<sup>2</sup> New York's Local Governments Adapting to Climate Change: Challenges, Solutions and Costs, Office of the State Comptroller, 2023

<sup>3</sup> Rising ocean, bay tides could eventually reshape Long Island, *Newsday*, April 24, 2023

<sup>4</sup> Why New York City Keeps Flooding, *The New York Times*, September 29th, 2023

<sup>5</sup> New York and New Jersey Coastal Storm Risk Management Feasibility Study, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 2022

<sup>6</sup> Enacting the "Polluter Pays" Principle, Institute for Policy Integrity, 2022



The Honorable Kathy Hochul  
Governor of New York State  
Executive Chamber  
NYS State Capitol Building  
Albany, NY 12224

Dear Governor Hochul:

As organizations representing the youngest adults in New York, we write to urgently appeal that you include the Climate Change Superfund Act in the FY 2024-2025 Executive Budget. The staggering and growing climate burden that we will have to bear *must* be offset by revenues from those responsible for the largest greenhouse gas emissions.

As you know, New York State's growing climate burden will grow from billions now to tens of billions by our middle age. Currently, New York taxpayers are footing the entire bill resulting from climate damages – rising sea levels, more intense storms, hotter temperatures, more pollution, etc.

That is not fair to anyone today and nor is it fair to future generations who will bear those mushrooming costs. Instead, those responsible – most notably the largest oil companies – should be held financially accountable.

The bill we support (S.2129A/A.3351A) is a just source of revenue to address the climate crisis. Based on the “polluter pays” legal principle, this legislation ensures that the largest oil companies are held financially responsible for the rising costs of the climate catastrophe, specifically for funding climate damage repair and resilience projects. Under the bill, the companies responsible for the largest greenhouse gas emissions are charged an aggregate \$3 billion annually (the more GHG that a company is responsible for, the greater the share of the \$3 billion).

The revenues generated are to be used for the state's climate costs – improved infrastructure, air conditioning in schools, etc. *The legislation is designed to ensure that the oil companies cannot pass those charges from the Climate Superfund onto the public.*

Why should Big Oil be on the hook? It was, after all, the decisions of those companies that have resulted in the worsening climate catastrophe that we are experiencing. Why should we bear the entire cost?

We shouldn't, and your inclusion of the Climate Change Superfund Act in your budget will change that. Failure to make Big Oil financially accountable means that we will bear this burden for the rest of our adult lives. We urge you to stand with, and protect, New York taxpayers.

And the companies have the money. The largest oil companies have raked in \$750 billion in *profits* since 2021. New Yorkers’ financial exposure from rising climate costs has been estimated at \$100 billion according to a statement by Department of Environmental Conservation Commissioner Basil Seggos in a Capital Tonight interview. *“Listen, we know from two years of very intensive research that the cost of inaction on climate in New York far exceeds the cost of action by the tune of over \$100 billion.”*

As you know, the Climate Change Superfund Act passed the Senate last session, has 68 legislative sponsors combined in both houses, and is strongly supported by over 240 national, statewide, and regional environmental, environmental justice, health, faith, labor and community organizations, such as Building Performance Contractors Association, Citizen Action, DC 37, Environmental Advocates, League of Women Voters, NYPIRG, NRDC, NY-GEO, NYS Council of Churches, NYS Nurses Association, Sierra Club Atlantic Chapter, UAW Region 9A, United University Professions and WE ACT for Environmental Justice.

**The climate crisis poses an immediate and grave threat to *our* future. Our organizations strongly urge you to include S.2129A/A.3351A in your FY 2024-2025 Executive Budget. New York State should be a leader with this first-in-the-nation, just and fair approach to ensure the state’s efforts to respond to global warming are funded by the industry that profited from and is responsible for the climate crisis.** Thank you for considering our request.

Sincerely,

<b>Club or Organization Name</b>	<b>College Campus</b>
5 percent	SUNY New Paltz
Acorns to Action	SUNY ESF
Active Minds	SUNY New Paltz
African International Club	College of Staten Island
American Fisheries Society (AFS)	SUNY ESF
Animation Appreciation Club	SUNY New Paltz
Anime Club	Queens College
Anime Club	Borough of Manhattan Community College
Anthropology Club	Brooklyn College
Anthropology/Media Studies Club	SUNY Purchase
Arabica Culture Club	Borough of Manhattan Community College
Asian American Pacific Islanders (AAPI)	College of Staten Island
Asian Student Union at Hunter College	Hunter College
Bangladeshi Student Association (BSA)	Queens College
BC Sustainability Club	Brooklyn College
BCC Student Government Association	Bronx Community College
Bengali Student Association of Hunter College	Hunter College
Best Buddies	SUNY Cortland
Best Buddies	Hunter College
Black Student Union	Brooklyn College

Black Student Union	Hunter College
Blacksmithing Club	SUNY ESF
BMCC Music Club	Borough of Manhattan Community College
BMCC Painting Club	Borough of Manhattan Community College
Brooklyn College Anime Manga Corps	Brooklyn College
Brooklyn College Dream Team	Brooklyn College
Brooklyn College Speech and Debate Team	Brooklyn College
Business Society	Queensborough Community College
Campus Activities Board (CAB)	College of Staten Island
Caribbean Student Coalition	Queensborough Community College
Caribbean Students Association	SUNY Cortland
CCNY Green	City College of Manhattan
Cheese Club	SUNY Purchase
Chi Alpha	Queens College
Chi Alpha Christian Fellowship	Queens College
Chinese Cultural Association Club	Borough of Manhattan Community College
City Tech Library	City Tech
	Group that engages families, primarily those with young children, in climate activism
Climate Families NYC	SUNY ESF
Climbing Club	Borough of Manhattan Community College
Computer Programming Club	Queens College
Creative Media Club	SUNY Cortland
Crochet Club	College of Staten Island
CSI Campus Activities Board	College of Staten Island
CSI Finance and Economics Club	College of Staten Island
CSI Hiking Club	SUNY New Paltz
Democracy Matters	SUNY ESF
Entomology Club	HPHS
Environmental Club at High School for Health Professionals (HPS)	SUNY New Paltz
Epic Glee Club	
ESF Friends of Recreation, Conservation, and Environmental Stewardship (FORCES)	SUNY ESF
Fashion Flick Society Club	Borough of Manhattan Community College
Fridays for Future Capital District NY	SUNY Albany
Friends of Oakwood	SUNY ESF
Garden Club	College of Staten Island
Graduate Student Association	SUNY ESF
Guy A. Baldassarre Birding Club	SUNY ESF
Hawkappella	Hunter College
Healing Blessings	Hunter College
Health & Wellness Club	Borough of Manhattan Community College
Hillel at Purchase College	SUNY Purchase

Hispanic Club	Queens College
Humans of Asian and Polynesian Ancestry (HAPA)	SUNY Purchase
Hunter College Men's Volleyball	Hunter College
Hunter College Undergraduate Student Government	Hunter College
Hunter Student Veterans Club	Hunter College
Hunter TREEage	Hunter College
Illustrator's Club	SUNY ESF
In Living Color	SUNY New Paltz
Interfaith Climate Justice Community of WNY	Buffalo State University (retired)
International Student Association	SUNY ESF
Japanese Club of Hunter College	Hunter College
Japanese Visual Culture Club	College of Staten Island
Justice is Global (JiG)	SUNY New Paltz
Korean Culture Club	Brooklyn College
La Familia Latina	SUNY Cortland
Latine Unidos (LU)	SUNY Purchase
Latinos Of the Caribbean(LOCS)	Hunter College
LGBTQ CLUB	CCNY
Life Drawing Club	Borough of Manhattan Community College
Lost in Thought	College of Staten Island
Male Resource Center (MRC)	Queensborough Community College
Marine Biology Society	College of Staten Island
Medical Roots Program	City College of Manhattan
Medication Abortion	SUNY New Paltz
Men's Basketball	SUNY Purchase
Mighty Oak Student Assembly (MOSA)	SUNY ESF
Mixed Martial Arts (MMA) Club	Borough of Manhattan Community College
Model United Nations	City College of Manhattan
Multicultural Center	SUNY Purchase
Music Club	City Tech
Muslim Student Association	College of Staten Island
Muslim Student Association	SUNY New Paltz
Muslim Student Association (MSA)	Queens College
Muslim Students Association	Queensborough Community College
Neuroscience Club	Borough of Manhattan Community College
New Paltz Drag Collective	SUNY New Paltz
Non-Traditional Student Organization	SUNY Cortland
Office of the Arts Ambassadors	Hunter College
Open Alliance Club	City College of Manhattan
Open Minds Exchange	College of Staten Island
Organization of African Peoples in the Americas (OAPIA)	SUNY Purchase

Outdoors Club	SUNY Purchase
Outing Club	SUNY New Paltz
Philippine American Organization (PAO)	City College of New York
Philippine American Society	College of Staten Island
Poetry Club	SUNY ESF
Poetry of the East Club at Hunter	Hunter College
Political Science Club	Brooklyn College
Political Science Club	Queens College
Pratt Gaming Club	Pratt Institute
Pre-Law Society	Borough of Manhattan Community College
Pre-Med Club	SUNY Purchase
Public Service Club	Borough of Manhattan Community College
Purchase Christian Fellowship	SUNY Purchase
Purchase College Cheer Team	SUNY Purchase
Purchase Men's Lacrosse Team	SUNY Purchase
Purchase Phoenix	SUNY Purchase
Purchase Television	SUNY Purchase
QC Soon Movement	Queens College
Queer Student Union	Hunter College
Rainbow Panther Club	Borough of Manhattan Community College
Restoration Pals/Eco Restoration/SER	SUNY ESF
Role Playing Games Club	SUNY Cortland
Rubik's Cube Club	Hunter College
Sculpture Club	Borough of Manhattan Community College
Seekers Christian Fellowship	City Tech
Sew Knotty	SUNY ESF
Sexuality & Gender Alliance (SAGA)	SUNY ESF
Sixth Street Community Center Teen Climate Justice Program	Community program
Society of Women Engineers	College of Staten Island
Spanish Club	College of Staten Island
Sport Management Club	SUNY Cortland
StageCraft Club	City Tech
Student Association	Syracuse University
Student Government	College of Staten Island
Student Government Association	SUNY Cortland
Student Government Association	Queensborough Community College
Student Government Association	City Tech
Student Government Association	Pratt Institute
Student Government Association (SGA)	SUNY Purchase
Student Government of CSI	College of Staten Island
Student Life & Development (SLD)	City Tech
Student Success Center	City Tech

Students for justice in Palestine (SJP)	College of Staten Island
Sunrise SBU	Stony Brook University
SUNY Cortland Animal Rights Activism Club	SUNY Cortland
SUNY Cortland Panhellenic Association	SUNY Cortland
SUNY Cortland Recreation Association	SUNY Cortland
SUNY Cortland Recreation Association (SCRA)	SUNY Cortland
SUNY ESF Music Society	SUNY ESF
SUNY ESF Sustainable Energy Club	SUNY ESF
SUNY New Paltz Environmental Task Force	SUNY New Paltz
SUNY New Paltz Student Association Senate	SUNY New Paltz
SUNY New Paltz Zine Collective	SUNY New Paltz
SUNY NP Music Therapy Student Association	SUNY New Paltz
SUNY Purchase Political Science Club	SUNY Purchase
Sustainability Advisory and Outreach Committee	SUNY Purchase
Swim Team	SUNY Purchase
Take Back The Night	SUNY New Paltz
The Alternative Center	SUNY Purchase
The Banner	College of Staten Island
The Caribbean Latin Coalition	SUNY New Paltz
The Environmental Alliance	SUNY New Paltz
The Evolutionary Studies Club	SUNY New Paltz
The Fahari Libertad	SUNY New Paltz
The Kinght News (TKN)	Queens College
The Olivetree Review	Hunter College
The Paper	City College of Manhattan
The Wildlife Society	SUNY ESF
Theatre Club	Hunter College
Theta Phi Gamma	Hunter College
Together Representing an Organization for Philippine Americans (TROPA)	Queens College
Veterinary Club	SUNY ESF
Video Game Club	Queensborough Community College
WHCS Radio	Hunter College
Women's Club Lacrosse Team	SUNY Cortland
Writers' Guild	Borough of Manhattan Community College
WSIA Radio	College of Staten Island
Young Democratic Socialists of America (YDSA)	Queensborough Community College
Young Democratic Socialists of America @ Syracuse University/SUNY-ESF	Syracuse University

# NEW YORK STATE'S CLIMATE REALITY IS AN ENVIRONMENTAL & ECONOMIC INJUSTICE

## The Climate Change Superfund Act S. 2129A (Krueger) & A. 3351A (Dinowitz) Will Generate Sustainable Funding from Polluting Big Oil Companies

**PROBLEM:** NYS taxpayers were burdened with nearly \$2 billion in climate crisis costs over the past year. A state agency report estimates that up to \$10 billion annually is needed to meet the State's Climate Act goals.<sup>1</sup>

**SOLUTION:** Climate polluters should pay \$3 billion a year for their past damaging greenhouse gas emissions. Big Oil companies are making skyrocketing profits with no fiscal accountability for the climate crisis they created.

The world's biggest oil companies are reaping enormous profits while people across the globe suffer from unprecedented climate disasters. New York taxpayers were burdened with nearly \$2 billion in climate damage and resiliency costs over the past 12 months according to a review of Governor Hochul's news releases.<sup>2</sup> At the same time, Big Oil companies have racked up staggering profits - \$750 billion since 2021.<sup>3</sup>

### Make the Climate Polluters Pay

It's bad enough that New Yorkers are suffering from air pollution, extreme heat, intense storms, and rising sea levels; they are also on the hook for billions of dollars to deal with the costs of a worsening climate. The Climate Change Superfund Act is the obvious solution. If Governor Hochul and the NYS Assembly want to rectify this economic injustice, address affordability and the climate crisis, they must join the NYS Senate and pass the Climate Change Superfund Act to make corporate climate polluters - not hardworking New Yorkers - pay.

**The Climate Change Superfund Act is first-in-the-nation legislation to put Big Oil, which is still driving the climate crisis, on the hook for climate damages and resiliency.** The legislation is modeled on the "polluters pay" principle established in the 1980s under the successful Federal and State Superfund laws that require companies to pay to clean up their toxic waste dumps. *We all learned the basic rule in kindergarten - you make a mess; you clean it up. Corporate climate polluters should be financially responsible for the environmental damage that they have caused. This bill would not result in consumer price increases according to an economic analysis by NYU Law's Institute for Policy Integrity because "polluter pay" fees are for past greenhouse gas emissions.*<sup>4</sup>

**Big Oil is at fault, and it can certainly afford the "polluter pays" fees.** The oil industry has known for decades that the burning of oil, coal, and gas would lead to global warming, but they mislead the public over the dangers.<sup>5</sup> A Rebuild by Design report estimates NYS climate costs could be \$55 billion by 2030.<sup>6</sup> The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers estimates it will cost \$52 billion to protect NYC Harbor alone.<sup>7</sup> It was recently estimated that Long Island faces up to \$100 billion in climate costs.<sup>8</sup> Storms are worse, sea levels

## SUMMARY

Big Oil companies created the climate crisis with their greenhouse gas emissions and then misled the public of the dangers.

New York is spending hundreds of millions of dollars to address the climate crisis.

There is strong legal precedent and broad public support for the "polluter pays principle."

The Climate Change Superfund Act requires the fossil fuel industry to pay \$75 billion over 25 years, for their share of past GHG emissions.

The Climate Change Superfund Act would support programs to repair climate damages and protect communities.



are rising, and extreme heat and wildfires are increasing - and those repair and resiliency project expenses are unfairly burdening local and state governments.

## The State Needs a Climate Change Superfund Act

**The Climate Change Superfund Act is fair, just, and popular.** According to a Data for Progress poll, 89% of New Yorkers support fossil fuel companies covering some of the cost for climate damages.<sup>9</sup> Over 230 environmental, health, faith, labor, and community groups support the bill, stating in a letter to Governor Hochul that the fossil fuel industry should pay since their decisions led to global warming; justice requires they be financially responsible for the tragically enormous climate crisis impacts they created.

**Hundreds of green jobs could be created with the Climate Change Superfund with monies for major projects to repair climate damage and build resiliency throughout the state.**

## The Climate Change Superfund Act would support:

- Massive statewide upgrades to roads and bridges, subways and transit systems;
- Unprecedented upgrades to storm water drainage, sewage treatment, and other water systems;
- Preparing the power grid for stronger hurricanes and other severe storms;
- Installing new systems to protect people from more frequent, escalating, deadly heat waves (e.g., the costs for ensuring that air conditioning exists in schools); and
- Responding to increased environmental and public health threats, such as air and water pollution.

**New York State is a national leader with its landmark Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act. The state now has the opportunity to set a precedent with the Climate Change Superfund Act which is a just and fair approach to make sure the industry responsible for the climate crisis is funding the work needed to address it.**

For more information, contact Anne Rabe, NYPIRG, [arabe@nypirg.org](mailto:arabe@nypirg.org), 518-560-1849

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<sup>1</sup> *An Economic Analysis of Climate Change Impacts and Adaptations in New York State*, 2014, Annex III, <https://www.nyserda.ny.gov/-/media/Project/Nyserda/Files/Publications/Research/Environmental/EMEP/climaid/ClimAID-Annex-III.pdf>.

<sup>2</sup> Information collected by NYPIRG from the governor's news postings, August 2022 through August 2023.

<sup>3</sup> Information collected by NYPIRG from companies' media releases and other public sources from largest publicly-owned Western oil companies & Saudi Aramco.

<sup>4</sup> Institute for Policy Integrity, *Enacting the "Polluter Pays" Principle*, November, 2022, <https://policyintegrity.org/publications/detail/enacting-the-polluter-pays-principle>.

<sup>5</sup> *Exxon Scientists Predicted Global Warming, Even as Company Cast Doubts, Study Finds*, The New York Times, 1/12/2023.

[https://www.nytimes.com/2023/01/12/climate/exxon-mobil-global-warming-climate-change.html?campaign\\_id=54&emc=edit\\_clim\\_20230113&instance\\_id=82625&nl=climate-forward&regi\\_id=56949721&segment\\_id=122450&te=1&user\\_id=54e05bcd4678be2a4bf3ed4d35bbbf5e](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/01/12/climate/exxon-mobil-global-warming-climate-change.html?campaign_id=54&emc=edit_clim_20230113&instance_id=82625&nl=climate-forward&regi_id=56949721&segment_id=122450&te=1&user_id=54e05bcd4678be2a4bf3ed4d35bbbf5e).

<sup>6</sup> *Resilient Infrastructure for New York State*, Rebuild By Design, 2021, <https://rebuildbydesign.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/1329.pdf>.

<sup>7</sup> *12 Storm Surge Gates: Army Corps Proposes \$52 Billion Barriers for NY NJ Waterways*, 9/26/2022, <https://gothamist.com/news/army-corps-52-billion-dollar-storm-surge-barriers-new-york-new-jersey-harbor-waterways>.

<sup>8</sup> *Rising ocean, bay tides could eventually reshape Long Island — and will alter how we live, work and play, experts say*,

Newsday, 4/24/2023, <https://www.newsday.com/long-island/environment/climate-change-sea-levels-bay-tides-long-island-s1hsx81r>.

<sup>9</sup> Data for Progress, 12/2022, [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1JwVEOxE2DaXvK9RTU8cWzoRCeS-zPw\\_s/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1JwVEOxE2DaXvK9RTU8cWzoRCeS-zPw_s/view)