



The Ravenswood Generating Station in Queens. (Scott Heins / Hell Gate)

MORNING SPEW

Trump's Pipeline Is Now Hochul's Pipeline

And other stories to start your week.



Hell Gate

9:26 AM EDT on November 10, 2025

Kathy Hochul should have been riding pretty high last week.

Fresh off [an Election Day](#), that boded extremely well for Democrats heading into midterms (not to mention her own reelection campaign) next year, and having actually [endorsed uber-celebrity Mayor-elect Zohran Mamdani](#) unlike some of her centrists peers, Hochul could have just schmoozed at this year's

Somos confab in Puerto Rico. Sure, she's not 100 percent aligned with Mamdani's agenda, but they've both been clearly telegraphing universal child care as something that will get done next legislative session, giving them both a huge win.

But the thing about Kathy Hochul? She doesn't really like letting a good thing last.

On Friday, while politicians were sipping mojitos in PR, her Department of Environmental Conservation approved the Northeast Supply Enhancement project, a 37-mile fracked natural gas pipeline supported by the Trump administration that would run from New Jersey through New York Harbor to connect to an existing pipeline near the Rockaways. The state's environmental regulators had previously denied the pipeline project three times under the Cuomo administration.

But earlier this year, the project was revived, after Hochul allegedly cut a deal with Donald Trump that would have the state give the green light to the pipeline in exchange for the Trump administration allowing a single wind farm off the coast of Long Island to be completed.

On Friday, Hochul's DEC also gave a new permit to the Greenidge Generation cryptocurrency mining plant along the Finger Lakes, reversing its 2022 denial. This reversal comes after a state judge struck down the state's justification for denying the permit, and will allow the plant to continue pumping climate-heating carbon into the air for the sole purpose of mining Bitcoin. (The state could have decided to deny the permit for other reasons, and to have continued the litigation, but did not.)

For Hochul, whose commitment to the state's legally binding environmental goals has ranged from "not firm" to "downright hostile", Friday's decisions were yet another mask-off moment. Since taking office, Hochul has dragged her feet on having the state tax polluters as required by law. At the end of October, a state judge found that New York is violating the state's landmark climate law passed in 2019, and told the state to finally take steps toward implementation. In response, Hochul pledged to "review all our options," including appealing the decision and getting the legislature to "modify" (read: weaken) the 2019 law.

In a statement on the DEC's approval of the pipeline, Hochul said that the state must "govern in reality" and take an "all-of-the-above approach" to the state's energy needs, which her office has said are currently being taxed by AI data centers, cryptocurrency mining, and the planned Micron plant in upstate New

York, which, like other upstate industrial dreams, has very little chance of ever actually happening.

But instead of doubling down on renewable energy sources to fill the demand, Hochul has chosen to dive headfirst into even more planet-killing fossil fuels, at least partially in an effort to appease President Trump—and all in apparent violation of the state's climate law, which mandates that the state ramp down its carbon emissions, not increase them.

"We can't allow that just because the federal administration has a 'drill baby drill' energy plan, New York must concede and break our own laws to avoid conflict with a bully," said Kim Fraczek, the director of the Sane Energy Project, which has opposed the pipeline. Fraczek added, "No one respects the governor when she doesn't actually have a spine."

In an email back and forth with Hell Gate, Hochul spokesperson Ken Lovett said that the state's energy grid has become dangerously stretched, necessitating the need for more fossil fuel infrastructure. (On top of the impact the pipeline will have on the environment, there's also the fact that it will be the ratepayers, i.e., you, dear reader, who will be paying to build this pipeline in the form of higher energy prices.)

Hochul, whose week was going so well, almost certainly has a lawsuit coming her way from environmental groups looking to stop the contamination of New York Harbor.

"We don't have time, you know? She's just thrown everything that we've achieved in the last 15 years into the garbage, because she is not a leader. And she doesn't know how to solve difficult problems and how to think through economic models of how she can serve her constituents," said Fraczek. "It's incredibly frustrating."

Here are some links, provided by our sponsor "Patriotic Energy HydroCarbons USA":

- WHAT THE FUCK, CHUCK??? C'MON, DO YOUR JOB!!!
- New York began releasing SNAP benefits on Sunday, even as things remain in limbo. (The Trump administration is trying to prevent states from feeding people.)
- OK maybe Bill de Blasio has been having TOO much fun.
- The Post reports that Chi Ossé is gearing up to run against Hakeem Jeffries—against the wishes of Zohran Mamdani.

- Meanwhile in Illinois: "[Indian IDOT employee questioned about immigration status, if he was 'aware' of NYC Mayor-elect Zohran Mamdani](#)"
- What is NYPD Commissioner Jessica Tisch [going to do](#) with the case of Wayne Isaacs, the officer who shot and killed Delrawn Small in 2016?
- Mayor Adams [is still vetoing legislation](#) passed by the City Council (and the council is still going to override his vetoes): "The vetoed legislation includes two bills that would expand pay equity reporting requirements to large private companies, a bill limiting how much certain housing voucher recipients have to contribute toward rent and a bill codifying the Mayor's Office of Contract Services and giving it new authorities in a bid to get nonprofits paid on time."
- Speaking of the City Council, the [battle between Julie Menin and Crystal Hudson](#) for speaker is taking shape.
- What's that, you say, the DOT's daylighting study [is trash](#)?
- RIP, [Patrick Brady](#), an FDNY firefighter who died of a heart attack while fighting a blaze in Brooklyn on Saturday night.
- Governor Kathy Hochul [is also throwing some cold water](#) on Mamdani's plan to make buses free.
- This [is cute](#) but please, can we just get rid of cobblestone streets, we live in a real city...
- "The feds [are lining up star witnesses in their sex-for-overtime case against ex-NYPD boss Jeffrey Maddrey](#)—including a female detective he allegedly slept with and a cop who may have removed K-Y jelly and other evidence from his office, a source told The Post. A third, unidentified woman is believed to be another key witness against the disgraced police chief. Top of the feds' list is Detective Ada Reyes, who allegedly had an affair with the married Maddrey. At the time he was the NYPD's highest uniformed officer, until he was booted in December following The Post's exclusive expose on another underling, Lt. Quathisha Epps, who claimed Maddrey coerced her into having sex with him for years."
- New NYC Ferry routes [will go into effect](#) December 8.
- And finally, please [be careful with your cigs](#), everyone!

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