



119 Washington Avenue, Suite 103
Albany, NY 12210
518.432.1405
info@aceny.org | www.aceny.org

For Immediate Release

Governor Hochul's Speech Stresses Energy Affordability and Efficiency

ACE NY strongly supports cap-and-invest measure as next step in fighting climate change

ALBANY, January 10, 2023 — Following today's State of the State address from New York Governor Kathy Hochul, Anne Reynolds, the executive director of the Alliance for Clean Energy New York (ACE NY) issued this statement:

“Cap-and-invest is a powerful tool to reduce carbon emissions and pay for the portions of the Climate Scoping Plan that are currently unfunded,” Reynolds said. “As the Governor's speech mentioned, the first order of business is for the Department of Environmental Conservation to turn the pollution cap in the law into regulations, and to do so with close attention to re-investing revenues generated from the cap into clean energy programs focused on disadvantaged communities and affordability. We strongly support this approach to establishing a nation-leading cap-and-invest policy in New York.”

“Requiring that new construction be all-electric starting in 2025, and 2028 for larger buildings, is a necessary step to reach our climate goals,” said Deb Peck Kelleher, Deputy Director of ACE NY and manager of ACE's building and transportation programs. “We were pleased to see building benchmarking mentioned by the Governor, and a new proceeding at the PSC on overcoming barriers to charging infrastructure for trucks and buses. These are key pieces in the climate plan, and key for public health.”

“However, ACE NY was disappointed to see that allowing direct sales of electric vehicles – a no-cost mechanism that will allow greater consumer choice and jumpstart electric car sales – was overlooked in today's speech,” Reynolds said. “We are hopeful that this measure, which was also included in the Climate Scoping Plan, will be included in the Executive Budget.”

Contact:

Jeanne Hedden Gallagher, Director of Public Relations, 323.314.4057, jhgallagher@aceny.org
Anne Reynolds, Executive Director, ACE NY, 518.248.4556, areynolds@aceny.org

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About the Alliance for Clean Energy New York: The Alliance for Clean Energy New York (ACE NY) is a broad coalition dedicated to promoting clean energy, energy efficiency, a healthy environment, and a strong economy for the Empire State, and is New York's premier advocate for the rapid adoption of renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies. www.aceny.org