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NYPIRG STATEMENT ON CLIMATE ACTION COUNCIL ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND HOUSING ADVISORY PANEL RECOMMENDATIONS

(*Albany, N.Y.*) Today, the Energy Efficiency and Housing Advisory Panel of New York's Climate Action Council released preliminary recommendations for New York to comply with the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act. These recommendations include banning fossil fuels for new construction in the next five to ten years, amongst several other recommendations.

During the gas moratoriums in Westchester, Brooklyn, Queens, and on Long Island in 2019, NYPIRG and dozens of partner organizations <u>called</u> for localities and New York State to move forward with policies to mandate all-electric new construction as rapidly as possible.

The following statement is attributable to Liz Moran, Environmental Policy Director for NYPIRG:

"Today's recommendations from the Energy Efficiency and Housing Advisory Panel offer important steps for New York to comply with its climate goals and reflect a growing consensus that new construction cannot rely on fossil fuels. According to climate scientists, drastic actions to cut carbon emissions must be implemented to avert climate catastrophes in the next nine years. Dozens of cities in California and Massachusetts have already adopted policies to ban fossil fuel hookups for new construction – New York should follow suit and get started with new construction in 2022. The Advisory Panel's final recommendations must reflect the urgency to act rapidly."