

Dear Governor Murphy,

I'm sure that by now, we all can agree that Climate Change is real, and that it's effects are caused by anthropogenic emissions of green house gases. We may even all agree that it's effects will be worse with the passage of time, but time is running out to mount an effective plan. I know that regardless of how much I turn down my thermostat, put solar panels on my home, maintain my car and drive it in a fuel conserving manner or perhaps even switch to an electric car or a hybrid, recycle, reuse and compost, eschew plastic straws, bags and food containers, or regardless of how many of my fellow New Jerseyians also do these very things; this is not enough to mitigate the harm of climate change. Until we get our collective selves, businesses and governments off of all fossil fuels, we do not have a single hope of avoiding the terrible loss of life and the punishing expensive damage caused by the worst effects of climate change. With this dire need for immediate action in mind, the 2019 NJ Energy Master Plan doesn't do nearly enough, nor is it being done quickly enough to combat climate change. The carbon neutral solution that it proposes includes energy from fossil fuels, garbage incineration, nuclear plants and costly, impractical carbon capture technology, instead of focusing on getting off fossil fuels and avoiding more climate change havoc. It also lacks any interim benchmark goals between it's start and the end goal of 2050, which should be checked on an annual basis. The EMP must make a bold statement and include a moratorium on all fossil fuel infrastructure projects in NJ, a transition to 100% clean renewable energy and a green economy, well before the 2050 goal of the current draft.

Elizabeth Whitehead
Glassboro, NJ 08028