As a concerned citizen and member of Franciscan Response to Fossil Fuels, without a moratorium on all new fossil fuel projects, the Energy Master Plan objective to cut greenhouse gases (GHG) by 80% by 2050 has already failed.

Of the dozen new fossil fuel projects being planned and under construction, the PennEast Pipeline alone would produce over 1 billion cubic feet per day of methane, roughly doubling the volume of New Jersey’s GHG emissions from electricity production. If PennEast is built, in order to keep GHG emissions from rising, NJ would have to remove one-third to one-half of all cars and trucks on its roads.

We agree with Governor Murphy who 'recognizes that Climate Change is a fact and an existential threat.' The IPCC has identified warming of 1.5 degrees C as the threshold beyond which extreme climate impacts will occur. New Jersey and nearby Rhode Island are the fastest warming of the Lower 48 states. NJ average temperatures have already increased between 3 and 3.6 degrees F which is equivalent to 1.7 to 2 degrees C, already exceeding the IPCC threat threshold.

Only by implementing a moratorium now on new fossil fuel projects being planned and under construction, will the Governor and the EMP be able to decrease GHG’s sufficiently to avoid the worst impacts of climate change and increase the precious time we have to soften any disruptions from the transition to renewable energy sources.

Jacquelyn Schramm
460 Indian Road
Wayne, NJ 07470