

From: [Jeri Doherty](#)
To: [comments, EMP](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Energy Master Plan should include a ban on the use of fracked gas in NJ
Date: Monday, September 09, 2019 11:48:40 PM

Dear Members of the NJ Board of Public Utilities,

While it is commendable that Gov. Murphy's Administration wants to recommit New Jersey to the Global Warming Response Act mandate to reduce greenhouse gas emissions 80% by 2050, the 2019 draft NJ Energy Master Plan provides no interim milestones, thus enabling reductions to be delayed. The consequences of climate change are occurring earlier and more rapidly than previously expected. The latest scientific research tells us we must aim for a 45% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 and zero emissions by 2050. To have any hope of achieving these goals, we must give up the use of fracked gas and invest only in 100% renewable energy sources as quickly as possible. The EMP must include a moratorium on all new fossil fuel projects, especially the production of fracked gas. There are a dozen or so proposed fossil fuel projects in New Jersey waiting to be approved. These new projects alone will increase GHG emissions by well over 30%.

The current draft of the EMP drastically understates the global warming impact of methane released by the extraction, distribution and burning of natural gas. Over a 20-year period, methane is 86 times more potent than CO₂ as a greenhouse gas.

Relying on natural gas to achieve short-term electric bill cost savings will come at the expense of much greater external costs and long-term survival. Instead of worrying about offending the natural gas industrial complex, I urge Governor Murphy and the Board of Public Utilities to worry about the future of our children and grandchildren. Please revise the EMP to include a moratorium on any further production projects for fracked gas!

Thank you for your consideration of my comments.

Sincerely yours,

Jerilyn Doherty
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