

From: [Leslie Doyle](#)
To: [comments_EMP](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] 2019 Draft Energy Master Plan.
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Good morning!

I have read through, understand, and assent to these points from Empower New Jersey. Their considerations and conclusions are persuasive and powerful, so I am including them as a whole. I write as a lifelong resident of New Jersey, where my children and grandchild also reside. I want to leave them a world that is habitable. I'm sure you all want that for you and yours as well. It's past time for half measures. Please take up virtual arms in defense of a livable planet!

From Empower NJ:

The Murphy Administration's Draft 2019 Energy Master Plan commendably takes a more holistic and broader approach to combating climate change than its predecessors. It recognizes that we are far off track in meeting our clean energy goals and bold action is needed. It recommitments the Administration to the specific targets and legal requirements of the Global Warming Response Act, and similar targets for offshore wind, solar, energy efficiency, electric vehicles, and storage, many of which were precedent-setting when announced.

However, the latest overwhelming scientific consensus dictates that much more needs to be done much sooner than previously realized. Unfortunately, the draft clearly fails to address this urgent situation even after discounting the fact that it is only a draft, while other states have already surpassed our efforts. The Administration must strengthen the final master plan along the following lines and accompany these changed policies with aggressive implementation:

- **The EMP must include a moratorium on all new fossil fuel projects until GHG's are effectively regulated per below.** Even the State's existing goals for reducing GHGs cannot possibly be met if New Jersey permits any of the dozen or so proposed fossil fuel projects. These new projects alone will increase GHG emissions by well over 30%. Fracked natural gas, with the supposed promise of short-term savings at the expense of higher and lethal future costs, will continue to stymie renewable energy projects. New fossil fuel projects make no economic sense, as they will need to be abandoned before the end of their useful life if we are to achieve 100% clean energy economy wide by 2050. When pressed on the need for a moratorium on these projects, Governor Murphy has responded that he is waiting for recommendations in the EMP yet the EMP does not even mention the word moratorium and is totally silent on these fossil fuel expansion projects.

- **The goal of 100% carbon neutral energy by 2050 must be replaced with the goal of achieving 100% clean renewable energy by 2050.** Carbon neutral includes energy from fossil fuel power plants with ineffective market-based schemes like carbon offsets, pollution credits and other pay to pollute schemes. Carbon neutral also includes garbage incineration, aging and new nuclear power plants, and more fossil fuel power plants with carbon capture and storage, an expensive technology that has never shown any commercial or practical viability. These dirty and dangerous energy sources and pollution trading schemes disproportionately impact low income communities and communities of color and block progress towards achieving the 100% renewable energy economy we urgently need.

- **The EMP's goals are inadequate to address the immediate emergency we are facing.** While the EMP recommitments to the mandate established in the Global Warming Response Act (GWRA) to reduce greenhouse gas emissions 80% by 2050, it provides no interim milestones thus enabling reductions to be delayed. Meanwhile the consequences of climate change are occurring earlier and

more rapidly than expected. We only have ten years to act. The latest Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change [IPCC] report and the latest US National Climate Assessment call for rapid and immediate reductions in GHG's: 45% from 2010 levels by 2030 and net zero emissions around 2050. To meet these critical targets, our clean energy goals must be 100% renewable energy for electricity by 2035 and 100% renewable energy economy wide by 2050. These are readily attainable goals whose obstacles are mainly political, not technological or financial, when all costs and benefits are considered.

Thank you!

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