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THE COUNCIL
OF
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

JAMES F. GENNARO
COUNCIL MEMBER
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January 6, 2022

Hon. Michelle L. Phillips
Secretary to the Commission
New York State Public Service Commission
Empire State Plaza, Agency Building 3
Albany, NY 12223-1350

Re: Proceeding on Motion of the Commission to Implement a Large-Scale Renewable Program and a Clean Energy Standard.

Dear Secretary Phillips:

As Chair of the New York City Council's Committee on Environmental Protection, I am writing in support of Clean Path New York, for which the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority recently filed petitions before the Public Service Commission to move forward under the Clean Energy Standard's Tier 4 Renewable Energy Credit Program.

As you know, New York is at a turning point in environmental policy. The decisions we make in the next decade on how we tackle climate change will have impacts on our environment for generations. This is a critical moment to eliminate our reliance on fossil fuels, reduce harmful carbon pollution, and help avoid the impacts of climate change. By transmitting power from renewable sources upstate to New York City, the Clean Path New York project will support new renewable energy production, immediately reduce our reliance on fossil fuels, and present bold new investment in the green economy.

The Clean Path New York project creates a path to transmitting over 7+ TWh of clean energy directly into New York City. In doing so, the project will build a portfolio of 3000+ MW of new onshore wind and solar with 10+ TWh of clean energy generation capability. The project will also have important impacts on reducing carbon emissions. By 2030, Clean Path New York will reduce New York State's annual CO2 emissions by 2.5 million tons, representing an overall 22 percent reduction in CO2 emissions from electric generation.

The project is also a once-in-a-generation investment in green jobs across the state. Clean Path will generate over \$4.3 billion in incremental economic benefits, 40 percent

of which will be invested directly in disadvantaged communities. That will amount to a \$1.8 billion dollar investment in communities across the state, and will produce thousands of good-paying jobs in the green economy.

We need to take bold action now to reduce pollution in our state and fight the impacts of climate change. By cultivating new renewable energy production upstate, investing in new green jobs in our communities, and fundamentally reducing our reliance on fossil fuels, this project represents a necessary step towards meeting our state's energy goals.

Again, I write to include my support for Clean Path NY. Should you have any questions or wish to discuss the matter further please don't hesitate to reach out to my office. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jim Gennaro". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

James F. Gennaro
New York City Council Member
District 24