



Assemblymember
DAN QUART
Protecting the Environment

ASSEMBLYMEMBER QUART PROTECTS AIR QUALITY ON THE EAST SIDE

Since I was elected to the State Assembly in 2011, I have been committed to improving the air quality in our neighborhoods. In 2012, I worked with the MTA to bring air quality monitoring to the Second Avenue Subway construction sites. I also introduced legislation requiring natural gas companies to regulate radon in any natural gas produced or distributed in New York State. This legislation will help ensure that our energy sources are not polluting our air.

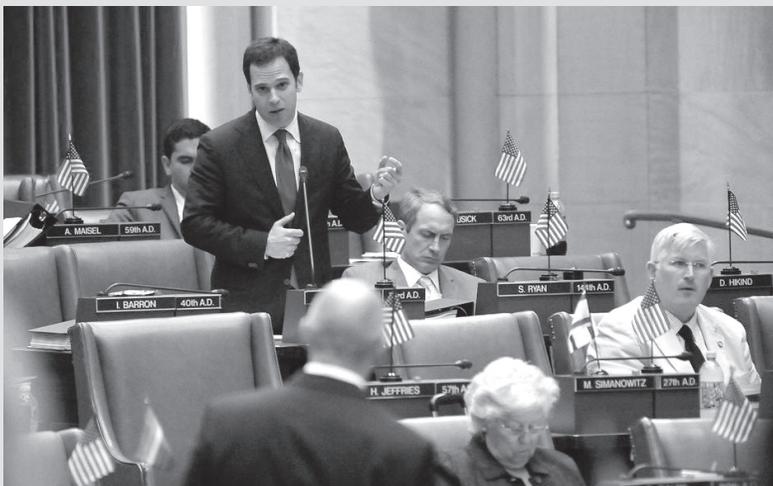
Aside from these acute air pollutants though, New York City is still struggling with chronically polluting residential boilers. Boilers burning #6 and #4 fuel in residential buildings throughout Manhattan have resulted in poor air quality for the Upper East Side and Mid-Town Manhattan. The City's mandate for buildings to convert off of the two most polluting heating oils (#6 and #4) has resulted in a decrease in the use of those oils of nearly 50% and a resulting 23% decrease in pollution. However, many buildings have missed their mandated conversion date. Further, many of these buildings have only taken the small step of converting to #4 fuel, a fuel that is still highly emissive.

I am working to secure funding in this year's state budget for a low interest loan program or tax credit for building owners who convert their boilers from those that burn #6 fuel oil or #4 fuel oil to less emissive fuels. This program will make significant progress in reducing emissions and improve air quality in our neighborhoods.



Assemblymember Quart addressing the crowd at a community rally.

ASSEMBLYMEMBER QUART INTRODUCES LEGISLATION TO INCREASE ACCESS TO SOLAR ENERGY



Assemblymember Quart debating on the floor of the Assembly.

In a city like New York, there is limited access to renewable resources. Without wide open spaces for wind farms or easy access to rooftops for solar installation, many city residents are unable to obtain a renewable source for their home energy needs.

Community solar is a model for solar installation that is available to investors who do not have the ability to mount solar panels on their own roofs. Under a community solar program, investors offer capital to build an off-site solar installation. In return for their investment, they receive credits for their portion of the energy generated on their monthly energy bills.

In addition to creating more options for energy rate-payers who would prefer to choose solar, community solar installations help undergird New York's growing solar industry by bolstering demand. This increased

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ASSEMBLYMEMBER QUART WORKS TO IMPROVE NEW YORK STATE INVESTMENT IN RENEWABLE ENERGY

New York State ensures continued investment in renewable energy through a Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS). New York's RPS requires the state to use financial incentives to procure renewable energy from the utility companies across the state.

New York State's RPS is regulated by the Public Service Commission (PSC). However, the PSC promulgates regulation without input from the state legislature. For instance, New York's RPS dates back to 2004, when the PSC established a goal of 25% renewable energy by the end of 2013. The PSC, recognizing that this goal was unlikely to be met, changed the goal to 30% by 2015. As of December 2012, the state has failed to meet this goal as well. The state legislature has approved a variety of initiatives intended to help the state meet the goals set by the PSC for renewable energy, including the landmark NY-Sun Act. However, more oversight of the PSC and accountability is needed to ensure that the PSC does not keep revising down our renewable energy goals.

I have introduced legislation that will give the Renewable Portfolio Standard the force of law. My legislation requires that the state achieve a renewable energy goal of 30% by 2015, and then expands that goal to 40% by 2020. These goals would put New York State in the forefront of states committed to expanding renewable energy. New York should be a leader in renewable energy, not a follower. Strengthening our RPS is an important way for us to reach for a sustainable future.



Assemblymember Quart in the Assembly chamber.



Assemblymember Quart speaking at the re-opening of the historic Thomas Hunter Hall at Hunter College.

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demand should contribute to lower costs for solar installations, making solar energy more affordable with each installation.

I have introduced legislation to create a community solar pilot program in New York. The project would be open to investors all across the state and would pay out quarterly dividends to each investor, save a 1% commission to pay for any additional costs of building, maintaining, or administering the program.

A diversified energy portfolio is critical to ensuring a sustainable future for New York City. I am committed to working on your behalf to find innovative solutions to support renewable energy sources.



Assemblymember

DAN QUART

Protecting the Environment

During this legislative session, one of my highest priorities will be securing funding and sponsoring legislation that protects our environment.

New York City's natural resources require a serious commitment from the state to ensure their preservation. Our state policies must also maintain affordability for city residents who face yearly increases. I am committed to fighting on your behalf in Albany for policies that diversify our energy portfolio, improve air quality, and protect against cost increases for rate payers.

Please do not hesitate to contact my office to share with me your concerns.



Pictured right: Assemblymember Quart at a press conference.