

Dear Constituents,

New York's electrical grid does not have the distribution capability or capacity to accommodate the increased usage and stress that will result from electrification mandates.² While we need to upgrade our power lines, substations, and local networks, New Yorkers should have a choice in how they power their homes. That is why I sponsor the New York State Energy Choice Act; this will give communities the freedom to choose what works best for them while we let technology and grid upgrades meet twenty-first century market demands.



A Special Report from
ASSEMBLYMAN JOHN
LEMONDES

NEW MANDATES. OLD GRID.

Albany is adding unsustainable electricity use without upgrading the grid.

Albany's Unsustainable Mandates:

(Climate Leadership & Community Protection Act, 2019):

- **70% renewable electricity by 2030**
- **New emissions mandates are now 60% by 2040**
(as of the FY 27 Budget)
- **Ban on fossil fuel systems in most new buildings starting 2026¹**

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The Grid Problem Made Simple:

→ Power Source

- Power is made at electric generating facilities (gas, nuclear, hydro, wind, solar).

→ Transmission Lines and Substations

- It travels on big transmission lines.
- Substations and transformers step it down.

→ Local Distribution

- Local wires bring it to homes, schools, and businesses.

→ Albany's Own Experts Admit:

- Mandates mean massive price hikes.³



Why New York's Grid Can't Keep Up

- Albany's 2019 Climate Leadership & Community Protection Act (CLCPA) required: 70% renewable electricity by 2030, 60% zero-emission electricity by 2040 (as of the FY 27 Budget), and originally no gas in new buildings by 2026. (Pending an appeal in the Northern District of New York)¹
- That means much more electricity use: electric cars, heating, and new buildings.
- Problem: The grid is decades old, built in the 1950s–1970s, and not designed for this surge.
- Even under the state's own Power Grid Study scenarios, achieving the 60 × 40 (as of the FY 27 Budget) and zero-emission by 2040 mandates depends on significant transmission capacity increases to manage congestion and control costs.²
- Concerns: higher bills, more blackouts, and wasted clean power that can't reach consumers.

My Solution

I Support the Energy Choice Act. (A.8996)

What it would do:

- Let local communities opt out of CLCPA mandates.
- Give families and towns the right to choose what works best.
- Buy time to upgrade the grid first, so when we add more demand, the system can actually handle it.

For questions on this or any other state issue, please contact Assemblyman John Lemondes at:

69 South Street, Auburn, NY 13021 • 315-255-3045
lemondesj@nyassembly.gov

1. www.cbsnews.com/newyork/news/ny-all-electric-building-law-delayed
2. www.nysersda.ny.gov/-/media/project/Nyserda/Files/Publications/NY-power-grid/appendix-E.pdf
3. <https://www.documentcloud.org/documents/27704025-nyserda-analysis-of-cost-to-comply-with-clcpa/>



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