



January 25, 2021

Hon. Liz Krueger, 28th District
172 State Street, Capitol Building
Albany, NY 12247

Hon. Helene E. Weinstein, 41st District
LOB 923
Albany, NY 12248

RE: 2021-22 Executive Budget Proposal - Clean Fuels Program

Dear Senator Krueger and Assemblymember Weinstein,

The Coalition for Renewable Natural Gas (RNG Coalition) writes in strong **SUPPORT** of the inclusion of a clean fuels program in the state budget that would require a reduction in carbon intensity from the on-road transportation sector by 20% by 2032. We believe this program has the potential to provide the state of New York with significant environmental and economic benefits by generating demand for clean, domestic, renewable fuels including renewable natural gas (RNG or Biomethane).

We represent and provide public policy advocacy and education for the RNG industry across North America. Our organization is comprised of 278 members – cities, counties, airports, ports, municipalities, colleges, universities and leading companies operating in each sector of the industry - including producers of greater than 95% of all RNG produced in the United States and Canada.

We believe that the creation of a Clean Fuels Program would provide New York with an excellent opportunity to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from transportation fuel sources while simultaneously improving public health, fostering the improved management of existing waste streams, diversifying fuel supply and providing green jobs by generating demand for RNG and Renewable Hydrogen (RH₂) derived from RNG. According to data from the California Air Resources Board, RNG is the lowest carbon fuel commercially available today. While conventional diesel and gasoline score

at 100 and 90 grams of CO2 equivalent per megajoule of energy respectively, RNG scores as low as -500.¹ The increased utilization of RNG would also provide significant public health benefits to New Yorkers. According to a 2017 recent study by the University of California - Riverside, ultra-low emission heavy-duty natural gas engines fueled by RNG test more than 99.8 percent clean.² This translates into significant reductions in respiratory ailments such as asthma and bronchitis, lung cancer and premature death particularly in our most vulnerable populations including children and those living with lung or cardiovascular disease.

The increased development of RNG can help New York State meet additional policy objectives by capturing and converting for productive, every-day use methane that would otherwise be flared (combusted and wasted) or escape into the atmosphere as a highly potent short-lived climate pollutant from dairies, wastewater treatment plants, landfills and anaerobic digestion facilities at municipal solid waste and livestock operations. The development of RNG production facilities foster improved management of existing organic waste streams thereby reducing any air, soil, and water impacts.

In addition to the environmental benefits, there are substantial economic benefits realized with the increased development of RNG. According to a study conducted by ICF, RNG facilities attract between \$10-\$100 million in capital investment per project and the creation of up to 173 direct and indirect jobs per project.³

The Coalition for Renewable Natural Gas would like to acknowledge the hard work and due diligence you have demonstrated in authoring this legislation. We look forward to working with you to achieve the adoption of a Clean Fuels Program in New York State. We are pleased to **SUPPORT**. Please feel free to contact me directly at (916)588-3033 with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



Nina Kapoor Oliveira
Director of State Government Affairs
Coalition for Renewable Natural Gas

¹ <https://www.arb.ca.gov/fuels/lcfs/fuelpathways/pathwaytable.htm>

² <https://ucrtoday.ucr.edu/48342>

³ https://static1.squarespace.com/static/53a09c47e4b050b5ad5bf4f5/t/59077544ebbd1ad192d13ff6/1493660998766/ICF_RNG+Jobs+Study_FINAL+with+infographic.pdf