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Testimony of Rise and Resist to the New York State Legislature Joint Budget Hearing on the 2022-23 Executive Budget Proposal on Environmental Conservation February 1, 2022

It is a well known and widely accepted fact that the climate crisis is rapidly worsening. New York State has suffered through super-storms and unprecedented flooding caused by climate change, and worse is threatened in the future. It's crucial that New York state address this urgent existential threat. The 2022-2023 budget must prioritize adequate funding to combat climate change, promote climate justice, invest in frontline communities and create good, green jobs.

The Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act that was passed in 2019 has languished unfunded and unimplemented for nearly three years. This must be remedied. Time is running out, but the Governor's budget proposal does nothing to address the urgency or gravity of the situation. The multi-year \$4B Clean Air, Clean Water, Green Jobs Act and the one-time \$500M wind power allotment are woefully inadequate.

It's up to the legislature to make a wiser choice for the state. We implore you to face climate reality and take action by including, at minimum, \$15 billion for climate in the 2022-2023 one-house budget.

Rise and Resist is a direct action group committed to opposing, disrupting, and defeating any government act that threatens democracy, equality, and our civil liberties. We work collaboratively, creatively, respectfully, and with all the joy we can muster for the health of the people and the planet.

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