ASSEMBLY STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENERGY

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

SUBJECT: Energy Affordability and Efficiency Programs

PURPOSE: To examine the availability and effectiveness of residential energy affordability and efficiency programs

Thursday, December 17, 2026
10:00 am
Hearing Room C, Legislative Office Building
Albany, NY

ORAL TESTIMONY WILL BE BY INVITATION ONLY

There are a wide variety of state, federal, and ratepayer-funded programs to assist residential gas and electricity customers with affording their utility bills and increasing the energy efficiency of their homes. In 2016, the New York State Public Service Commission (PSC) directed New York's gas and electric utility companies to establish an Energy Affordability Program (EAP) to provide low-income residents with a discount on their monthly utility bill. The 2023-24 New York State Enacted Budget funded an expansion of EAP known as the Enhanced Energy Affordability Program (EEAP) to provide financial assistance to moderate-income residential customers. New Yorkers also have access to energy efficiency and weatherization programs like EmPower+ administered by NYSERDA, which helps low-to-moderate income residents with home energy upgrades, such as the purchase of heat pumps, to increase energy efficiency and reduce the carbon emissions of their homes.

While low- and moderate-income New Yorkers continue to face soaring energy costs, concerns have been raised that existing energy affordability and energy efficiency programs are not widely known and do not provide sufficient financial relief to customers. The purpose of this hearing is to evaluate the residential energy affordability and efficiency programs available in New York, including the rate and ease of enrollment, comprehensiveness, and effectiveness, and to identify any potential improvements.

Persons invited to present pertinent testimony to the Committee at the above hearing should complete and return the enclosed reply form as soon as possible. It is important that the reply form be fully completed and returned so that persons may be notified in the event of emergency postponement or cancellation.

Oral testimony will be limited to seven (7) minutes' duration. In preparing the order of witnesses, the Committee will attempt to accommodate individual requests to speak at particular times in view of special circumstances. These requests should be made on the attached reply form or communicated to Committee staff as early as possible. Ten copies of any prepared testimony should be submitted at the hearing registration desk. The Committee would appreciate advance receipt of prepared statements.

Attendees and participants at any legislative public hearing should be aware that these proceedings are video recorded. Their likenesses may be included in any video coverage shown on television or the internet.

In order to meet the needs of those who may have a disability, the Assembly, in accordance with its policy of non-discrimination on the basis of disability, as well as the 1990 Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), has made its facilities and services available to all individuals with disabilities. For individuals with disabilities, accommodations will be provided, upon reasonable request, to afford such individuals access and admission to Assembly facilities and activities.

Didi Barrett
Member of Assembly
Chair
Committee on Energy

PUBLIC HEARING REPLY FORM

Persons invited to present testimony at the public hearing on Energy Affordability and Efficiency Programs are requested to complete this reply form as soon as possible and mail, email or fax it to:

Skyler Heller
Analyst
Assembly Committee on Energy
Room 520 – Capitol
Albany, New York 12248
Email: HellerS@NYAssembly.gov
Phone: (518) 455-4363
Fax: (518) 455-5182

☐ I plan to attend the following public hearing on Energy Affordability and Efficiency Programs to be conducted by the Assembly Committee on Energy on Thursday, December 17, 2026.

☐ I have been invited to make a public statement at the hearing. My statement will be limited to seven (7) minutes, and I will answer any questions which may arise. I will provide 10 copies of my prepared statement.

☐ I will address my remarks to the following subjects:

_____

_____

☐ I do not plan to attend the above hearing.

☐ I would like to be added to the Committee mailing list for notices and reports.

☐ I would like to be removed from the Committee mailing list.

☐ I will require assistance and/or handicapped accessibility information. **Please specify the type of assistance required:** _____

_____

NAME: _____

TITLE: _____

ORGANIZATION: _____

ADDRESS: _____

E-MAIL: _____

TELEPHONE: _____

FAX TELEPHONE: _____