

From: [Debbie](#)
To: [Secretary, BPUBoard \[BPU\]](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Docket No. GO23020099
Date: Wednesday, September 6, 2023 7:21:27 AM

I am writing today to urge BPU to deny approval of any and all fossil fuel gas or RNG infrastructure projects except those that are necessary for the safety of the current gas distribution systems. The state needs to implement real plans to meet the State's clean energy (100% by 2035) and carbon reduction (50% by 2030) goals for the many reasons and more laid out in Empower NJ's comments submitted as part of this proceeding.

I urge BPU to take into account the science on climate change in NJ and the devastating impacts of climate change on current and future NJ residents/taxpayers/ratepayers. More and more people are understanding the urgency of moving away from fossil fuels, and this is reflected in state policies, reduced demand for gas, and increased demand for clean, renewable energy. The direct cause and effect link between human sources of green house gases, and climate change is irrefutable. Chief among the human sources of GHG is the burning of fossil fuels for energy, which is why BPU denying new fossil fuel infrastructure is so important to the human health, environmental health, and economic health of our State.

I'm alarmed by the increasing intensity of storms and the swinging between periods of no rain (near drought) and excessive rain and floods due to climate change. My son and I (in different areas of the state) almost didn't make it home alive during Hurricane Ida (one of the many storms made more powerful and destructive due to climate change), and dozens of NJ residents lost their lives that day. The increased number of high heat days and poor air quality (from forest fires and other pollutants, such as ozone, made worse by climate change) also results in loss of life and decreases health in everyone.

In conclusion, I ask BPU to deny approval of any and all fossil fuel gas or RNG infrastructure projects except those that are necessary for the safety of the current gas distribution systems. I reiterate the points made in Empower NJ's comments on this docket.

Sincerely,
Deborah Kratzer
Frenchtown, NJ