

STAND UP FOR BOLD CLIMATE ACTION IN NY

Summary: We're mobilizing for public hearings across the state to voice our support for climate leadership in NY and for Governor Hochul to stand up to Trump with bold climate action.

Organizational Bio: Citizen Action of New York is a grassroots membership organization taking on big issues that are at the center of transforming society, like education, mass incarceration, housing, healthcare, democracy, and climate–among others.

Personal Bio: Ethan Gormley is a Regional Climate Justice Organizer for Citizen Action of New York. In his role, Gormley regularly conducts community outreach to engage with community members and volunteers, meets with legislators, develops and implements teach-ins and community education events, leads press conferences and rallies, and fosters collaboration among advocacy groups in Central New York and beyond.

The Problem: As we know, the climate change-denier in the White House is doing everything he can to eliminate climate progress in this country. We need climate leadership in NY, and we need it now. Unfortunately, in January this year, Governor Hochul revealed that she is delaying a crucial component of the state's Climate Law. That crucial component is called Cap and Invest.

What Is Cap and Invest? Cap and Invest is an emissions-reduction program that would limit, or *cap*, emissions from major polluters in the state. That cap would tighten over time, gradually reducing the amount of emissions allowed for release. Meanwhile, major polluters will have to pay to release polluting emissions up to the level of the cap. Those funds from polluters will then be used to *invest* in green energy, jobs, home decarbonization programs, and similar efforts to support NY communities.

The Solution: To move Cap and Invest forward, we need the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) to release three sets of regulations that hold polluters accountable to Cap and Invest. Unfortunately, Governor Hochul has released only one. We will use the public hearings for this one set of regulations as an opportunity to voice our support for NYS climate leadership and to urge Governor Hochul to release all the regulations necessary to the success of the program.

Action: We will mobilize for the public hearings around the state with our climate justice coalition New York Renews. New Yorkers will join to voice their support for climate leadership and to urge Governor Hochul to stand up to Trump by releasing all the regulations and funding climate legislation. Public hearings take place in Syracuse on June 3, Albany on June 4, and New York City on June 12. There will also be a virtual hearing on June 18.