Hi! My name is Valdi Weiderpass. I live in Endicott, NY and I volunteer as the Chairperson of our local Susquehanna Group of Sierra Club, which has over 1,000 members. I'm speaking on behalf of the Sierra Club today, the nation's **oldest** and **largest grassroots** environmental organization with over **3.5 million members** and supporters nationwide, and over **353,000 in New York State**. I am a retired engineer and I remember the flood of early September of 2011, which flooded the former location of my workplace, Air Force Plant 59, along with many other businesses and homes. The flood was caused by slow moving Tropical Storm Lee, which dropped a **foot of rain** in parts of Broome County in a little over 24 hours. Air Force Plant 59 has since been demolished as have 370 homes and buildings in Broome County. This storm’s total cost was over **$1 billion** in property damage and flood resiliency work in just Broome County. The **storm’s characteristics were consistent with expected exacerbation of severe storms** by **Climate Change**.

I and other New Yorkers want NY to do its part to help prevent a worsening future. We want strong Climate Action with a scoping plan that implements the CLCPA with no compromises and needed funding of $15 billion per year, with help for low to moderate income residents. Scenario 3 is preferred to prevent bio-gas from being used to justify continued gas distribution.

* We need a big increase in renewable energy, energy storage, and energy efficiency.
* Our **electric grid capacity** needs to **double** by 2050, to be able to heat our homes with heat pumps and to charge Electric Vehicles.
* Detailed yearly milestones and more authority are needed to coordinate grid transformation to be based on renewables.
* **Stop expansion of fossil fuel infrastructure** and phase out existing fossil fuel plants.
* Require all **new** buildings to be fully electric beginning in 2024.
* Gas is **not** a bridge fuel. Its leakage is accelerating climate change!

The cost of delaying acting on climate, could be a ‘hothouse Earth’ condition, as climate scientists tell us, which could result in breakdown of human civilization! More jobs, better health, less deaths, and billions in savings are in our future if we do this right! Thank you!