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**Statement of Mario Cilento**  
**Climate Action Council Member and New York State AFL-CIO President**  
**On the Adopted Scoping Plan**  
**December 19, 2022**

With the adoption of the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA) of 2019, New York demonstrated its strong commitment to mitigating the impacts of climate change. The law requires a significant reduction in greenhouse gasses, 100% zero-emission electricity by 2040 statewide, and 70% renewable energy by 2030, with a focus on a just transition, environmental justice and community resiliency.

It is important to note that the CLCPA recognizes the key role working people will play in this process and the need to ensure they are protected. "Creating good jobs and a thriving economy is a core concern of New York state. Shaping the ongoing transition in our energy sector to ensure that it creates good jobs and protects workers and communities that may lose employment in the current transition must be key concerns of our climate policy. Setting clear standards for job quality and training standards encourages not only high-quality work but positive economic impacts." The Act further states "It is in the interest of the state to ensure labor harmony and promote efficient performance of work on climate change related work sites by requiring workers to be well-trained and adequately compensated." (Chapter 106 of the Laws of 2019).

The CLCPA tasked us, the Climate Action Council, with developing a plan to meet these ambitious goals. It has been critically important that we rise to meet that challenge by providing recommendations that are effective, reasonable and feasible. Our plan will impact our communities for generations to come.

I would like to thank Governor Kathy Hochul for appointing me to the Council in May 2022. As the draft Scoping Plan released in December 2021 lacked many important labor standards, it was critical that labor was invited to join the discussion in order to advocate for the interests of working New Yorkers. Creating a plan that combats climate change while protecting workers has been a top priority for the union movement.

I am pleased that this council took the concerns of working people seriously and included historic worker protections in this Scoping Plan. It is important that New York's approach to climate policy is both sensible and effective. It must minimize job loss and re-employ workers equitably, protect the right to organize, ensure project labor standards, limit the impact on New York's industries, and ensure energy reliability and affordability for all. I feel confident that the recommendations we are putting forward will do all of this, setting New York on a path toward addressing climate change while providing working men and women with significant protections and the opportunity to secure good, family sustaining union jobs moving forward.

I look forward to continuing to work with Governor Hochul, the legislature, and administrative agencies to ensure that the labor standards and protections enshrined in this Scoping Plan are enacted in statute and regulation. I also look forward to meaningful engagement with the administration to ensure that portions of the Scoping Plan that can be implemented unilaterally prioritize workers and their unions.

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