

Chapter 23. Reporting

Successful implementation of the Scoping Plan strategies requires monitoring and reporting on the results of our efforts and a robust public process. Reporting requirements provide transparency and public access to information and awareness of where improvements can be made in our emissions reduction activities. Information ranging from annual greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions to how well the policies implemented are working to meet the GHG emission limits will be released in a range of reports that are required by the Climate Act. Reporting is critical to track how New York is meeting the GHG emission limits.

In addition to the reports required by the Climate Act, New York will measure, track, and report on the investments, benefits, and positive outcomes for Disadvantaged Communities associated with the Climate Act's requirements for clean energy and energy efficiency spending, and as discussed in *Chapter 6. Advancing Climate Justice*.

The State needs to ensure that there are sufficient data collected over time to measure progress and inform policy. To successfully monitor emission sources, the State will need to invest in information technology solutions to gather, analyze, and share data on GHG and co-pollutant emissions. Implementing many of the strategies in the Scoping Plan will necessitate electronic systems for New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and other relevant State entities to efficiently collect information from many reporting entities, ensure quality, and to make data accessible and transparent to the public. Regulated entities and emission sources may be required to submit to DEC or other State entities compliance items, such as emissions data or payments, and robust data management tools will ensure that DEC and other relevant entities can monitor compliance with the technical and financial requirements of programs or regulations adopted pursuant to the Climate Act. New York should use other jurisdictions as models for developing these systems, including California's Mandatory Reporting of GHG Emissions Regulation³⁴⁰ and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Electronic Greenhouse Gas Reporting Program.³⁴¹

³⁴⁰ Information on the California Air Resources Board MRR program can be accessed at <https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/mrr-regulation>.

³⁴¹ Information on EPA's Electronic Greenhouse Gas Reporting Program can be accessed at <https://www.epa.gov/ghgreporting>.

23.1 Annual Inventory

DEC issued the first annual Statewide GHG Emissions Report, or inventory, of GHG emissions in New York in 2021 and will issue an annual report each year thereafter, as required by the Climate Act.³⁴² Due to the nature of national emissions reporting and data collection, the annual inventory reports the GHG emissions from 1990 up to two years prior to the date of release, as the most recent information available.

This annual inventory reports include information on all GHG emission sources in the State, including the relative contribution of each type of GHG and each type of source to the statewide total. The reports also include, as part of the statewide total, an estimate of GHG emissions from the generation of electricity imported into New York and from the extraction and transmission of fossil fuels imported into the State.³⁴³ DEC will continually refine and improve the methodology used by the annual inventory report based upon the best available information and informed by public feedback.

23.2 Implementation Report

Every four years, DEC will issue a report, after consultation with the Climate Action Council (Council) and the Climate Justice Working Group (CJWG), on the implementation of GHG reduction measures, as required by the Climate Act. The first implementation report will be released no later than January 1, 2028.³⁴⁴

The implementation report will include, but is not limited to, an analysis of whether New York is on track to meet the statewide GHG emission limits and if the existing regulations are sufficient to meet the limits or require modifications. Information on the social benefits from the regulations and on the compliance costs for regulated entities, DEC, and other State agencies will also be included. The report will also highlight the impacts from regulations on Disadvantaged Communities and their access to or community ownership of services and commodities identified in the Barriers and Opportunities Report. The implementation report will provide information to the public on the progress toward achievement of the Climate Act requirements and will also serve to inform the regular updates to the Scoping Plan that are required under the Climate Act.

³⁴² ECL § 75-0105(1).

³⁴³ ECL § 75-0105(3).

³⁴⁴ ECL § 75-0119.

23.3 Review of Renewable Energy Program

Every two years, starting no later than July 1, 2024, the New York State Public Service Commission (PSC) will issue a comprehensive review of the renewable energy program established by the Climate Act. In this review, the PSC will evaluate the progress in meeting the overall targets for deployment of renewable energy systems and zero-emission sources including factors that will, or are likely to, frustrate progress toward the targets. It will also examine the distribution of systems by size and load zone and annual funding commitments and expenditures.

23.4 Air Quality Monitoring

Pursuant to the Climate Act, DEC established a Community Air Monitoring Program. The Climate Act requires that DEC deploy community air monitoring systems in no less than four Disadvantaged Communities that have been identified as the highest priority for exposure to toxic air contaminants and criteria air pollutants. Information collected by these systems will be shared with the public and be used to inform the development of a strategy by June 1, 2024, to reduce emissions of these pollutants in Disadvantaged Communities affected by a high cumulative exposure burden.

As described in *Chapter 6. Advancing Climate Justice*, DEC and the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA), in consultation with the CJWG and community leaders, identified 10 communities and have deployed hyperlocal air monitoring technology to collect air quality data in each of them. This is an historic, new effort to monitor air quality in Disadvantaged Communities across the State and use the data collected to develop strategies to reduce pollution in these communities, including the GHGs that contribute to climate change. This statewide community air monitoring effort is the largest ever undertaken in the United States.