

1 Disadvantaged Communities Criteria - 6/21/2022

2 STATE OF NEW YORK

3 DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

4 Public Hearing on the Draft Disadvantaged
5 Communities Criteria

6 PUBLIC COMMENT HEARING

7 DATE: June 21, 2022 at 12:01 p.m.

8 VENUE: Webex

9 BEFORE: A.L.J. MICHELE M. STEFANUCCI

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Reported by Howard Hubbard

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1 Disadvantaged Communities Criteria - 6/21/2022

2 APPEARANCES:

3 MARIA KATCHMAR, D.E.C. HOST
ANDRIA LINTON, D.E.C. COHOST
4 ALANAH KEDDELL-TUCKEY, D.E.C. DIRECTOR
LOUIS ALEXANDER
5 HALEY VICCARO
CHRISTOPHER COLL
6 ANDRIANA ESPINOZA

7 SPEAKERS:
ROBERT SMULLEN

8 MEY PON
CAROLINE REALE

9 SCOTT HORTON
10 GREGORY YOUNG
THOM MCPHEETERS
11 MATILDA LARSON

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2 (The hearing commenced at 12:01 p.m.)

3 THE COURT: Mr. Hubbard, are you ready
4 to go on the record?

5 THE REPORTER: I am one moment. Okay.
6 I have us on the record.

7 THE COURT: Thank you. Good
8 afternoon. My name is Michele Stetanucci, and I'm an
9 Administrative Law Judge with the New York State,
10 Department of Environmental Conservation. I will be
11 presiding at today's Public Comment hearing to
12 receive comments on the Draft Disadvantaged
13 Communities Criteria. On behalf of D.E.C. and
14 NYSERDA, I would like to thank you for joining us
15 this afternoon and for participating in this
16 important process. The D.E.C in partnership with
17 NYSERDA is holding eleven public comment hearings
18 across the State to receive comment on the Draft
19 Criteria and to help guide the implementation of the
20 State's Climate Leadership and Community Protection
21 Act. New York's Climate Justice Working Group, which
22 includes representatives from environmental groups
23 across the State, and representatives of involved
24 agencies voted to release the Draft Criteria for
25 public review. The Public Comment period commenced

1 Disadvantaged Communities Criteria - 6/21/2022
2 in March and will end on July 7th, 2022. The Draft
3 Criteria may be found at climate.ny.gov.
4 The criteria are based on geographic
5 public health, environmental hazard, and
6 socioeconomic factors. In a moment, Alanah Keddell-
7 Tuckey, the director of D.E.C.'s Office of
8 Environmental Justice, will provide a brief overview
9 of the work done to the Draft Criteria. This Public
10 Comment Hearing is being held through the WebEx
11 platform. Notice of this hearing was published in
12 the environmental notice bulletin on May 4th, 2022.
13 Assisting with the hearing today are members of the
14 D.E.C. Office of Communications Services. People are
15 attending today's hearing over the internet or by
16 phone. In either case you should have audio input
17 from only one device. Otherwise you may experience
18 problems with feedback. Everyone has been muted upon
19 entry. If you experience any technical issues,
20 please call (518) 402-8044 for assistance. The
21 purpose of today's hearing is to allow members of the
22 public to comment on the Draft Disadvantaged
23 Communities Criteria. This is not a question and
24 answer session. Please note that written comments
25 may be submitted until July 7th, 2022.

1 Disadvantaged Communities Criteria - 6/21/2022
2 Written comments are given the same
3 weight as oral comments. Comments submitted by e-mail
4 must be received by the Department by five p.m. on
5 July 7th, 2022. And comments submitted by mail must
6 be postmarked by July 7th, 2022. The e-mail address
7 for the submission of comments is
8 decomments@dec.ny.gov. That's D-A-C-C-O-M-M-E-N-T-S
9 @D-E-C dot N-Y dot G-O-V. The mailing address is
10 draft dot comments. New York State D.E.C attention
11 Office of Environmental Justice, 625 Broadway 14th
12 floor Albany, New York, 12233. Anyone who wished to
13 speak today was asked to preregister. We will call
14 registered speakers first. As we have done at each of
15 these public hearings, we are going to limit speakers
16 to two minutes. Please be respectful of that time
17 limit. For those attending over the internet,
18 there'll be a two minute timer on the screen to help
19 you keep track of your time. Note that closed
20 captioning is available if you have joined via the
21 internet. You will see an option to use this service
22 on the lower left side of the WebEx page you are
23 viewing now. Please click on the C.C. symbol for
24 closed captioning. Again, if you are having any
25 technical issues, you may call now at (518) 402-8044.

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2 Before we begin the public comment, Director Alana
3 Keddell-Tuckey would like to give a brief
4 presentation. Director?

5 MS. KEDDELL-TUCKEY: Thank you Judge.
6 Can everyone hear me?

7 THE COURT: Yes -- yes.

8 MS. KEDDELL-TUCKEY: Great. Thank
9 you. Good afternoon, everyone. My name is Alana
10 Keddell-Tuckey, and I am the Director for the Office
11 of Environmental Justice at the Department of
12 Environmental Conservation. I'm also the Chair of
13 the State's Climate Justice Working Group. Thank you
14 everyone for joining us this afternoon for this
15 Public Hearing on a Disadvantaged Communities
16 Criteria. The Climate act is the nation's most
17 ambitious climate change-related legislation. Its
18 goal is to reduce New York's greenhouse gas emissions
19 from all human activities by a hundred percent over
20 1990 levels by the year 2050. With an incremental
21 target of at least forty percent reduction in
22 greenhouse gases by the year 2030. At least eighty
23 five percent of the reductions by 2050 must come from
24 preventing the release of greenhouse gases.
25 Implementing the Climate act will create

1 Disadvantaged Communities Criteria - 6/21/2022
2 opportunities to build a better future. To ensure
3 this work also advances climate justice, the Climate
4 act mandates that at least thirty five to forty
5 percent of the benefits of New York's spending on
6 clean energy accrue in disadvantaged communities.
7 State agencies are also required to
8 prioritize greenhouse gas emissions and ...
9 reductions in disadvantaged communities. This
10 includes the D.E.C. and the drafting of regulations
11 to meet greenhouse gas emission limits that are
12 required by the climate act. The identification and
13 prioritization of disadvantaged communities in
14 accounting for the benefits of cutting pollution and
15 improving resilience is what makes our climate act a
16 transformative law. To identify disadvantaged
17 communities in New York, the Climate Justice Working
18 Group was guided by the language of the climate act
19 in identifying disproportionately burdened
20 communities. They voted to include forty five
21 indicators using data on environmental hazards,
22 climate change risk, public health issues, geography,
23 and socioeconomic factors like race, income,
24 education levels, unemployment rates, and housing
25 conditions. Additionally, the Draft Disadvantaged

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2 Communities designations are reflective of the
3 working group, their lived experiences and the lived
4 experiences of residents of these historically
5 overburdened and underfunded communities.

6 Each census tract is scored based on a
7 relative burden risk vulnerability, or sensitivity.
8 Specifically the percentile ranks of the indicators
9 for each census tract are combined to produce a value
10 that measures a census tract's relative level of
11 environmental burdens and climate change risks, as
12 well as population characteristics and health
13 vulnerabilities relative to other tracts. Tracts
14 with the highest scores relative to other tracts in
15 the state or in their region were identified as
16 disadvantaged communities. The working group also
17 voted to include low income households with incomes
18 at sixty percent of the state median income as
19 disadvantaged for the purposes of benefits and
20 investments. Based on the criteria, thirty six
21 percent of households in the capital region fall into
22 the Disadvantaged Communities Criteria with twenty
23 percent of these households in geographic
24 disadvantaged communities. In the north country,
25 forty four percent of households in the region are in

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2 the expanded Disadvantaged Communities Criteria with
3 sixteen percent located in the geographic
4 disadvantaged communities. Once again, thank you
5 everyone for coming to this hearing today. We look
6 forward to hearing your comments on the Disadvantaged
7 Communities Criteria, and we hope that you will also
8 submit comments by July 7th. Thank you.

9 THE COURT: Thank you, Director. We
10 will now take public comments. For internet
11 participants, when we call your name to speak, your
12 line will be unmuted. If you are participating by
13 phone, we will ask you to press star three to raise
14 your hand so that we may unmute your line. Please do
15 not press star three until we have called your name.
16 Please begin with your name and address, and if you
17 are speaking on behalf of someone or some group,
18 identify who it is that you are representing. Please
19 speak loudly, slowly, and clearly so that our Court
20 Reporter can properly record your comments. Our
21 first speaker today is Assemblyman Robert Smullen.
22 Assemblyman Robert Smullen. Can we unmute
23 Assemblyman Smullen's line please?

24 MS. KATCHMAR: Oh, yes. We did
25 request unmute and the Assemblyman must Thank

1 Disadvantaged Communities Criteria - 6/21/2022
2 you, Assemblyman --.

3 MR. SMULLEN: I appreciate the -- the
4 opportunity to comment in this public forum. One of
5 the big things that I'm concerned with is rural
6 equity for the citizens of the hundred eighteenth
7 Assembly District. It's a five-county area, it's
8 Fulton, Upper Herkimer, Hamilton County, six towns in
9 Oneida, nine towns in St. Lawrence County. And
10 there's some serious issues that I want to bring up
11 having to do with the -- the draft definition to make
12 sure that it fits all of the citizens of all the
13 different diverse geographic areas of the State. One
14 of the things that I wanted to bring out directly is
15 -- is relative demographic characteristics. So for
16 instance, in the area that I represent, it's about
17 ninety seven percent majority white population. So,
18 seemingly one of the characteristics that are -- that
19 is being brought out is -- is race. Has -- and I
20 want to make sure that it's factored in that it's
21 more an economic metrics that should be the prime
22 driver of the -- of the definition of the
23 disadvantaged community from an environmental justice
24 perspective.

25 And -- and the reason that is -- is

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2 that for about forty years, we've been de
3 industrializing a lot of the capital region, the
4 North Country and the Mohawk Valley that I represent.
5 Many legacy industries have been left with a lot of
6 cleanup costs that are associated with them, which
7 have subsequently been dragging down the area economy
8 over time. And I wanted to make sure that economic
9 metrics are -- are the prime driver of this. To me,
10 it doesn't matter, you know, what your -- what your
11 demographic characteristics are so much as what your
12 economic prospects are. For instance the -- the
13 factors that I think are really important in -- in
14 factoring in, is the percentage of the people on free
15 and reduced school lunch prices, what is -- what is
16 the actual median income, and it's hard to know, and
17 to see that that's one of the -- one of the main
18 things, because it's a relative regional proposition
19 when it comes to median income.

20 There's -- one of the things that I
21 haven't heard a lot about is the percentage of the
22 population that's on public assistance. Various
23 programs, whether it's SNAP or -- or welfare benefits
24 that -- that help them in times of need. Another one
25 is the percentage of the population on Medicaid. If

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2 there's a high percentage of the people that are on
3 Medicaid, it means that the economics aren't as -- as
4 good as they could be in many areas. There's also
5 some physical characteristics having to do with
6 Brownfields and with Superfund sites and in many of
7 the legacy industrial areas. They're very
8 unattractive from a perspective, a regulatory
9 uncertainty. That is, companies aren't going to come
10 in and invest there if they know that there are
11 potential environmental hazards that are beneath the
12 surface. And I think --.

13 THE COURT: Excuse me Assemblyman, you
14 have two minutes left, can you please wrap up your
15 comments?

16 MR. SMULLEN: I -- I certainly can.
17 And I -- I think it's very appropriate that I -- as a
18 -- a sitting assembly person have more than two
19 minutes. I know you have a busy day today but I've
20 got a lot to say on behalf of the a hundred and
21 thirty thousand people in my district.

22 THE COURT: My apologies, we tried to
23 keep the time limit the same for everyone. And I
24 would encourage you to submit comments in writing as
25 well.

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2 MR. SMULLEN: I see no other

3 participants in the in the waiting room. But anyway,

4 I will wrap up. I -- I do appreciate it and I want

5 to be respectful. But I want to make sure that

6 regulatory certainty is part of this because it

7 that's the key thing to -- in -- in the economic

8 development world to encourage redevelopment. And

9 just a few examples as I do wrap up right now, the

10 U.S. E.P.A. is cleaning up the Charlestown Mall,

11 which is a part in Herkimer County. There are

12 numerous Superfund Sites in Gloversville. There are

13 numerous Brownfield Sites in Herkimer and there are

14 many mine -- mining sites that were all around the

15 Adirondacks, which at one -- at one point were very

16 valuable, but now are -- are an environmental legacy

17 that -- that needs to be cleaned up. So as -- as we

18 go about this definition, and I'll also make sure

19 that I tune in for the Mohawk Valley's effort at

20 this, is to make sure that -- that it's heard loud

21 and clear that there are people, there are places,

22 there are forty six towns, thirteen villages, and two

23 small cities in my district that -- that need their

24 share of consideration in the Economic Disadvantaged

25 Criteria to clean up the legacy of the past so they

1 Disadvantaged Communities Criteria - 6/21/2022
2 can move forward smartly into the future. Thank you
3 very much.

4 THE COURT: Thank you, Assemblyman.
5 Our next speaker is Assemblyman Matthew Simpson. Has
6 Assemblyman Simpson's line been unmuted?

7 MS. KATCHMAR: I am working on that.
8 Let's see on the list right at this moment.

9 THE COURT: Assemblyman Simpson, if
10 you called in today, if you pressed star three, we
11 can unmute your line.

12 MS. KATCHMAR: He was on earlier. He
13 may have gotten called away.

14 THE COURT: Okay. You know what?
15 We'll go to our next speaker and then we'll -- we'll
16 try and catch him again later. Our third registered
17 speaker is Tom McPheeters. Mr. McPheeters, if you're
18 participating today by phone and you press star
19 three, we can unmute your line. Next up, we have
20 Supervisor Gregory Young. Supervisor Gregory Young -
21 - Supervisor if you're participating today by phone,
22 you can press star three and we can unmute your line
23 so you can make your public comment. Okay. Now our
24 next registered speaker is William Donahue. William
25 Donahue? Mr. Donahue, if you're participating today

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2 by phone, you can press star three and we'll unmute
3 your line. Okay. Our next registered speaker is Toa
4 Schekazion (phonetic). Mr. Schekazion, we can unmute
5 your line and you can make your comment.

6 MR. SCHEKAZION: Thank you for asking,
7 but I do not have a comment as of yet. I appreciate
8 it. I'll stay on.

9 THE COURT: Thank you. And our next
10 registered speaker is Mei Pon. Is Mei Pon with us
11 today? Ms. Pon if you're participating today by
12 phone and you'd like to make a comment, please press
13 star three, and we can unmute your line.

14 MS. KATCHMAR: I do see a hand raised,
15 or I did. It's a call-in user. To the call-in user
16 that had raised your hand if that was you, could you
17 please press star three again?

18 Ms. PON: Okay. I have made the
19 request on you. Can you hear me okay?

20 MS. KATCHMAR: Yes.

21 THE COURT: Yes. You may go ahead and
22 make your comments.

23 MS. PON: Yes. Good afternoon. My
24 name's is Mei Pon. I'm speaking of -- speaking on
25 behalf of Con Edison and Orange and Rockland. We've

1 Disadvantaged Communities Criteria - 6/21/2022
2 served the New York metro region for almost 200
3 years. We've been providing electricity, gas, and
4 steam to five million customers, and we are committed
5 to investing, building and operating the most
6 reliable, resilient, innovative energy
7 infrastructure, advancing electrification, competing
8 and transportation, and also transitioning away from
9 fossil fuels to a net zero economy. We support the
10 achievement of the -- of the ... Now energy clean
11 energy commitment is a pledge to lead on to
12 delivering the clean energy future. Our clean energy
13 commitments incorporate considerations of this
14 managed communities. For example, we have planned
15 infrastructure upgrade to ensure equitable, clean
16 energy transition, such as the reliable clean city
17 projects, which will improve air quality in
18 disadvantaged communities suffering from pick a plant
19 solution -- pollution. And we also increase
20 reliability with the underground program that
21 includes -- there is a branch criteria where we
22 identify overhead lines to the underground. With
23 increased availability of energy efficiency and ...
24 programs in the disadvantaged communities as well.
25 We also offer builders councils, our most vulnerable

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2 customers. Since serving the disadvantaged
3 communities is the most important aspect of achieving
4 Con Edison's clean energy commitment with strong
5 support, clean -- justice -- Climate Justice Working
6 Groups finalizing the definitions of the criteria so
7 we can apply them to our clean energy plans
8 immediately. We will continue to review our clean
9 energy commitment informed by final scoping plan and
10 a Disadvantaged Community Criteria to help achieve
11 the State's goal. And finally, we have formed a
12 environmental justice working group internally to
13 accelerate the company's cross departmental efforts
14 and investments to enable an equitable clean
15 transition. Thank you so much.

16 THE REPORTER: Excuse me. This is the
17 Court Reporter. Can I please get the spelling of the
18 -- of your first and last name?

19 MS. PON: This is Mei Pon. M-E-I. And
20 last name is P-O-N.

21 THE REPORTER: Thank you.

22 THE COURT: Thank you for your
23 comments, Ms. Pon. Now we will hear from anyone else
24 who would like to comment tonight. If you joined us
25 by internet, you may press the hand symbol next to

1 Disadvantaged Communities Criteria - 6/21/2022
2 your name or at the bottom of the screen. And if you
3 joined by phone, you can press star three to raise
4 your hand. Do we have anybody who was not registered
5 who would like to make a public comment? Again you
6 can raise your hand. Think I see Caroline Reale. Go
7 ahead, Ms. Reale, your line has been unmuted.

8 MS. REALE: Thank you. My name is
9 Caroline Reale, and I represent New Hartford district
10 fifteen as A.N.E.D. County Legislator. And first of
11 all, thank you for all the amazing and important work
12 that you do on this issue. I'd like to sort of echo
13 the sentiments and the comments of Robert Smullen, in
14 speaking about Charlestown that is in Oneida County,
15 and I disagree with him in the sense of looking at
16 this equation and making sure that we factor in the
17 inequities financially in our communities, as we move
18 forward with this project. And I'm looking forward
19 to seeing what New York can accomplish, and we really
20 have to be a leader that everyone else in this
21 country can look to when it comes to this issue.
22 That's all.

23 THE COURT: Thank you for your
24 comments. Next I see a raised hand for Horton. Can
25 we unmute the line for Horton?

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2 MS. KATCHMAR: I have made the
3 request, and he just has to accept that.

4 THE COURT: Okay. Great. Thank you,
5 Maria. Mr. Horton, if you'd like to make a comment,
6 we see that your hand is raised. You can accept the
7 request to be unmuted, and then you can make your
8 comment. If you no longer wish to make a comment,
9 you can lower your raised hand. Oh, your line has
10 been unmuted. You can go ahead and make your
11 comment.

12 MR. HORTON: Okay. Thank you. All,
13 can you hear me?

14 THE COURT: Yes, I can.

15 MR. HORTON: Oh, great. Yeah, my name
16 is Scott Horton and I'm the supervisor of the town of
17 Caroga. We're a small community in Fulton County. I
18 -- I -- we have seven lakes, recreational lakes, in
19 my small town and the environment is extremely
20 important to us. That's how we attract people here,
21 the clean lakes, clean water, the beautiful air, the
22 night sky. So I -- I certainly applaud the effort on
23 D.E.C. to -- to take this initiative with the broader
24 aspect of looking at our environment and how we can
25 go forward. We are a small community. We only have

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2 twelve hundred people. Economic development is very,
3 very limited because we can only basically do
4 recreational activities. We do have some challenges
5 in our community, and I think that providing
6 resources, I -- I heard Assemblyman Smullen and he
7 represents our district the one eighteenth. Talk --
8 talk about -- using the proper metrics when you look
9 at communities. So we have many diverse communities
10 in this great State and we have some that are not so
11 diverse.

12 We're diverse in a different way.
13 They're hardworking people, and they just are looking
14 for a break. So I would hope that the metrics that
15 you use and the support that you can give to these
16 small communities will -- will be looked at
17 comprehensively, knowing that one size does not fit
18 all. And I also would like to thank you again for
19 all of the work that you've done. D.E.C. has been a
20 great partner in our community and helping us in
21 many, many ways. And we want to continue that
22 whether it's ... mitigation or whatever other we have
23 obviously have septic systems here. Clean water is
24 extremely important. We have no infrastructure that
25 would be very helpful to us. We're just looking for

1 Disadvantaged Communities Criteria - 6/21/2022
2 a hand up. That's all and we'll take care of the
3 rest. So thank you very much for allowing me to
4 comment and -- and good luck with your program. I'm
5 sure that I'll dive into it a little bit more and
6 send some written comments.

7 THE COURT: Thank you for your
8 comments Supervisor. Is there anyone else present
9 today that would like to make a comment? If you're
10 participating by internet, you can raise your hand.
11 If you're participating by phone, you can press star
12 three. I see Supervisor Gregory Young. Supervisor,
13 your line is unmuted.

14 MR. YOUNG: Good afternoon. Can you
15 hear me okay?

16 THE COURT: Yes.

17 MR. YOUNG: I'd like to echo the
18 comments of my fellow officials representing Fulton
19 County, Supervisor Horton, and Assemblyman Smullen.
20 Our area is one that is very attractive to many
21 people because of the -- the rich environment that it
22 offers. And particularly in Gloversville which I
23 have the pleasure of representing. We also have a
24 number of environmental challenges from the legacy of
25 the tanning industry and our underway working with

1 Disadvantaged Communities Criteria - 6/21/2022
2 D.E.C. and the E.P.A. to address Brownfields. And so
3 paying attention to -- to climate is certainly very
4 important. And I know several Gloversville census
5 tracts were designated as disadvantaged communities
6 as part of this process. This is a very valuable
7 thing. But one thing I did want to point out is that
8 Fulton County overall is a very high poverty area.
9 So in transitioning to more green forms of energy the
10 cost of doing so for many people who are -- are just
11 getting by, is going to be very expensive. So I
12 would encourage the committee to be mindful of that
13 and to encourage opportunities to help people who
14 want to upgrade their home heating systems, for
15 example but don't have the means to do so to be able
16 to find some support from the State in that process.
17 I think that'd be very valuable for these and all
18 disadvantaged communities throughout the State.
19 Thank you.

20 THE COURT: Thank you for your
21 comments supervisor. I see that we have a raised
22 hand for Tom McPheeters. Tom McPheeters. Can we
23 unmute Mr. McPheeters' line? Your line has been
24 unmuted. Yeah, I can hear you fine.

25 MR. MCPHEETERS: Great. Thank you

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2 very much. I am a resident of the south end of
3 Albany. And this area has been declared an -- a
4 disadvantaged community. And before that it was
5 declared an Environmental Justice Community by the
6 D.E.C and so on. This is a -- our community is one
7 that has -- that starts from a very low bar in terms
8 of climate change in that it has already been
9 impacted, but for years and years for decades by
10 heavy truck traffic serving the port of Albany and
11 the surrounding commercial areas to the point where
12 we have documented very high levels of asthma and
13 other respiratory diseases and actually many
14 diseases. It's also an area that has been impacted
15 by redlining and other aspects of racial injustice,
16 again, going back decades and decades so that we
17 start from a place where it's in just what's
18 happening with climate change, but what has already
19 happened to this community.

20 I -- when I look at the map of what
21 areas have been declared disadvantaged communities,
22 there are certainly many in -- in the -- in the
23 State. But I think that you need to take into
24 consideration the -- the impacts that have already
25 happened on -- on communities like this and make sure

1 Disadvantaged Communities Criteria - 6/21/2022
2 that the resources that are going to be available are
3 available to go back and address some of the
4 disinvestment and also the health impacts of the
5 people who live here. It's not just starting from --
6 from now for climate change. It is starting from
7 decades and decades ago. I know that there's only as
8 I understand it only two -- there's only one
9 designation of disadvantaged communities. But
10 frankly, some communities have more disadvantage than
11 others. Thank you.

12 THE COURT: Thank you for your
13 comments, Mr. McPheeters. I see we have a raised
14 hand from Matilda Larson. Matilda Larson, your line
15 has been unmuted

16 MS. LARSON: I'm an employee with the
17 St. Lawrence County Planning Office, and we provide
18 staff support to a variety of advisory boards,
19 including the fair housing task force, environmental
20 management council, and county planning board. A
21 suggested criteria that I would ask, the -- the
22 committee to consider in addition to looking at race
23 by census tract would be to examine places where
24 there are higher concentrations of poverty, as well
25 as persons who are disabled. And you can rely on

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2 American Community Survey from 2016 to 2020 by census
3 tract. And that would just be a suggestion that I'd
4 like to share with you for your consideration is to
5 examine people living in poverty who are disabled
6 because other -- as others have indicated while
7 portions of the north country may not be racially
8 diverse. There are some inequities that should be
9 taken into account when it comes to household income
10 as well as physical disabilities. Thank you.

11 THE COURT: Thank you for your
12 comments, Ms. Larson. At this time I would ask if
13 there's anyone else who would like to make a comment,
14 you can raise your hand, or if you're a call-in user,
15 you can press star three and we'll unmute your line
16 and you can make a comment. At this time I don't see
17 any additional raised hands. So I just want to let
18 you know that there will be an additional pre
19 opportunities to provide public comment on the Draft
20 Disadvantaged Communities Criteria. The next one is
21 scheduled for Thursday, June 23rd, at 6:00 p.m. in
22 Western New York at the PUSH Buffalo School 77
23 located at 429 Plymouth Avenue in Buffalo, New York.
24 And after that, there'll be two additional
25 opportunities for you to make public comment. One

1 Disadvantaged Communities Criteria - 6/21/2022
2 will be the Hudson Valley virtual hearing, and that
3 Public Comment Hearing will be conducted on the WebEx
4 platform. The date for that is Wednesday, June 29th
5 at noon. And the final hearing will be the Western
6 New York hearing. And that also will be on the WebEx
7 platform. And the date for that will be Thursday,
8 June 30th at noon. Details for how to attend -- these
9 Public Comment Hearings can be found on
10 climate.ny.gov. And that's C-L-I-M-A-T-E dot N-Y dot
11 G-O-V. And that concludes this afternoon's hearing.
12 I want to thank you again for your participation, and
13 I want to wish you all a good afternoon. Thank you.
14 We can go off the record.

15 THE REPORTER: Okay.

16 (The hearing concluded at 12:35 p.m.)

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1 Disadvantaged Communities Criteria - 6/21/2022

2 STATE OF NEW YORK

3 I, HOWARD HUBBARD, do hereby certify that the foregoing
4 was reported by me, in the cause, at the time and place,
5 as stated in the caption hereto, at Page 1 hereof; that
6 the foregoing typewritten transcription consisting of
7 pages 1 through 26, is a true record of all proceedings
8 had at the hearing.

9 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto
10 subscribed my name, this the 12th day of July, 2022.

11

12 HOWARD HUBBARD, Reporter

13

14

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25

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