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NYPIRG STATEMENT ON NEW YORK CLIMATE CHANGE AGREEMENT

(Albany, N.Y.) Today, the New York State Legislature passed the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act, which is expected to be signed by the Governor. The Act includes goals to achieve an 85% cut in greenhouse gas emissions below 1990 levels by 2050, 70% of statewide energy generation from renewable energy systems by 2030, and more. The legislation also includes goals for expansion of off-shore wind and solar.

The following statement is attributable to Liz Moran, Environmental Policy Director for NYPIRG:

“Thanks to the hard work of on-the-ground advocates and concerned residents, New York has passed one of the strongest pieces of climate legislation in the country. But the passage of this legislation, while critical, is only the beginning. The science on the climate crisis is clear and increasingly dire: The world must act as rapidly as possible to transition to renewable energy and achieve zero greenhouse gas emissions to avoid the most catastrophic impacts of climate change. Additional steps must also ensure a just transition of displaced workers and investment in the communities most adversely impacted by climate pollution. The Empire State is now poised to lead on climate, but New Yorkers must remain vigilant and engaged to ensure that the state quickly implements, and further strengthens – as the science dictates – the goals of this legislation.”

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