

350Brooklyn, All Our Energy, Capital District Zero Waste Group, Clean Air Coalition, Climate Reality Project Long Island, Communication Workers of America Upstate NY/New England, Community Advocates for Sustainable Environment, Coalition for Environmental Justice, Environmental Advocates, FWW, GELF, Grassroots Environmental Education, Interfaith Climate Justice Community, Long Island Progressive Coalition, Mothers Out Front, NAACP, NRDC, NYCAP, NYPIRG, PUSH Buffalo, Rivers & Mountains GreenFaith, SHARE, Sierra Club Niagara Group, Sisters of Mercy, Surfrider Foundation, Third Act Upstate New York, United University Professions, WNY Environmental Alliance, WNYCOSH

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**Over 200 Organizations and Elected Officials Call on Governor Hochul to include the
Climate Change Superfund Act in the State Budget:
A Fiscally Responsible and Just Program to Raise \$3 Billion Annually
from Big Oil Companies Emitting Over One Billion Tons of Greenhouse Gases**

**Groups Hold Statewide “Day of Action” Events in
Albany, Buffalo and Mineola to Release New Data Showing Taxpayers Burdened with
\$2.7 Billion in Climate Change Costs Since August 2022**

**Groups Issue “Invoices” to Big Oil for Climate Expenses
Report Big Oil Companies Racked Up \$750 Billion in Past 30 Months**

(Albany, NY) Over 200 national, statewide and regional environmental, labor and faith groups sent a letter to Governor Hochul urging her to include the Climate Change Superfund Act (S.2129A/A.3351A) in her upcoming State Budget. The bill, which passed the Senate last session, would raise \$3 billion annually from apportioned fees on Big Oil companies that emitted more than one billion tons of greenhouse gases in the state. Groups rallied at events in Albany, Buffalo and Mineola, releasing fact sheets on the “taxpayer tally” of costs to repair climate damages and construct resiliency and protection programs. (Pgs. 5 - 8.)

Taxpayers Burdened with \$2.7 Billion While Big Oil Rakes in \$750 Billion Since 2021. The groups reported New York State taxpayers are on the hook for \$2.7 billion in climate-related damage repair and resiliency costs, according to a review of news releases issued by Governor Hochul since August 2022 by the New York Public Interest Research Group (NYPIRG). (See pg. 3). Groups held signs calling on “Big Oil to Pay” through the creation of a Climate Change Superfund and reported that the world’s biggest oil companies racked up nearly \$750 billion in profits in the last 30 months.¹ (See pg. 4.) Large invoices for “Big Oil” companies, “Dinosaurs for Fossil Fuel”, and the “Big Oil” pig were featured at the events.

No Action Estimated at \$100 Billion in Costs. Groups stated that the lack of funding is hindering the implementation of the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA) and the costs have by default fallen on the taxpayers. They also noted that recently the cost of inaction was estimated at \$100 billion according to a statement by Department of Environmental Conservation Commissioner Basil Seggos in a Capital Tonight interview.² “Listen, we know from two years of very intensive research that the cost of inaction on climate in New York far exceeds the cost of action by the tune of over \$100 billion,” said Seggos.³ Numerous project-specific estimates range from \$52 billion for the New York City Harbor⁴ to up to \$100 billion for Long Island infrastructure.⁵

Blair Horner, NYPIRG Executive Director said, “The time is long overdue for the Governor to create a fiscally responsible revenue stream to implement the Climate Action Council’s Scoping Plan and ensure that the state meets the CLCPA’s 2030 goal and beyond. The Climate Change Superfund Act is based on the ‘polluters pay principle’ established over 40 years ago by the Federal and State Superfund laws that required polluting companies to fund the cleanup of toxic waste sites. Why are taxpayers paying \$2.7 billion when those responsible for climate change are raking in record profits and paying nothing? If Governor Hochul wants to address affordability and the climate crisis, the obvious solution is to include the bill in the State Budget and make Big Oil climate polluters - not hardworking New Yorkers - pay.”

A cosponsor of the bill who spoke at the Buffalo event, **Assemblymember Patrick Burke (Erie)**, said, "I am attending this rally and backing the Superfund because it's time for some accountability from Big Oil. These oil companies' reckless practices contribute to climate change, which in turn has led to devastating blizzards and flooding which have rocked cities like Buffalo. It's only right that these companies pay their fair share into the Superfund so that every community in the state has the funding and resources to protect against climate disasters."

President Frederick E. Kowal of United University Professions (UUP) said “As a union that strongly believes in climate justice and combatting climate change, UUP urges the passage of the Climate Change Superfund Act. For decades, Big Oil has reaped massive profits while creating massive amounts of pollution, all without truly being held accountable for their actions—which only serves to worsen the climate crisis. It is time that these corporations—and not New Yorkers—pay for their pollution transgressions through the Superfund Act, which would hit them where it hurts the most—in the wallet.”

Dr. Kevin R. Hardwick, Erie County Comptroller stated, “Climate change is all too real, as are the problems it creates for our critical infrastructure. It’s only fitting that those most responsible help us pay for its costs.”

Debora Hayes, Upstate NY/New England Director of the Communication Workers of America, stated, “The Climate Crisis is a public health crisis.”

Chris Murawski, Executive Director of Clean Air Coalition, said, “Many of the members we organize are sick with asthma and respiratory diseases and live in communities that are forced to face an unfair burden from the negative effects of polluted air from the fossil fuel industry.”

Sister Eileen Oconnor, RSM of the Interfaith Climate Justice Community said, “If you make a mess, you clean it up. It is unjust to pass these costs onto citizens and especially unfair to future generations.” **The Rev. Merle Showers of the Interfaith Climate Justice Community** stated, "The Climate Change Superfund Act is our response to God's call to care for all living things."

Lynda Schneekloth of Sierra Club Niagara Group and the Western New York Environmental Alliance said, “The environmental community of Western New York expects Governor Hochul to hold big oil and gas accountable for the millions of dollars our taxpayers are burdened with because of the deceit and denial of the fossil fuel industry.”

Margaret Maher, a Food & Water Watch volunteer from Merrick, said, “Long Islanders are painfully aware of how vulnerable our region is to climate change. As we prepare our grandchildren to face a world of extreme storms, eroded beaches, flooding, and worse, it is imperative that Big Oil play their part. Our unsustainable reliance on fossil fuels created this climate chaos — Governor Hochul must make these dirty profiteers pay to clean it up. We need Governor Hochul to be a climate leader and continue moving New York off fossil fuels, by passing the Climate Superfund in the state budget.”

Patti Wood, Executive Director of Grassroots Environmental Education said, “Although damage to infrastructure is the most visible harm New Yorkers experience from climate change, the impact on the public’s health has significant costs and consequences. Children and people with chronic illnesses will be most affected by extreme heat, air pollution, flooding and mosquito and tick-borne diseases.”

Ryan Madden, Sustainability Organizer of the Long Island Progressive Coalition said, "We know from our experience with the Grumman Plume, illegal dumping in our parks, and the dozens of superfund sites across our region that polluters should foot the bill for the damage they have done. With resilience and protection programs from climate impacts estimated at \$75-100 billion on Long Island over the next few decades, the Climate Change Superfund Act is necessary to hold the biggest oil companies accountable for these costs as climate change continues to threaten our infrastructure, coastlines, and livelihoods."

Randall Sorscher of All Our Energy said, "It's about fundamental fairness. If you caused the damage, you pay for the damage. It's the NYS taxpayers or it's the Oil producers. Temperatures are rising like oil companies’ profits and so are the waves, the tides, the damage and the costs to repair or rebuild."

Michael Richardson of Third Act Upstate New York, stated, “While the United Nations and leading climate scientists issue severe climate warnings on a regular basis, the Governor and the State Assembly have failed year after year to sufficiently fund our landmark NYS Climate Act. Given the immense task of mitigating climate disruption, what has been done so far is too little and too late. Including the Climate Change Superfund Act in the Governor’s Budget will provide substantial annual payments toward funding climate damage repairs and infrastructure.”

Background

The Climate Change Superfund Act isn't just necessary – it's popular. According to a poll from Data for Progress, [89% of New Yorkers](#) support fossil fuel companies covering at least some of the cost for climate damages. The [Climate Change Superfund Act](#) is first-in-the-nation legislation to put Big Oil, who is still driving the climate crisis, on the hook for climate damages and resiliency. Currently, taxpayers are footing the bill for this mess. The legislation is modeled on the existing toxics superfund law (which deals with land and drinking water contamination) that makes corporate climate polluters financially responsible for the environmental damage that they have caused. These costs wouldn't fall back on consumers, according to [an analysis](#) from the Institute for Policy Integrity at NYU Law. Big Oil is at fault for climate change, and it can certainly afford the costs - which are uniquely necessary - and expensive - in New York. Since 2021, Big Oil companies have reaped nearly \$750 billion in profits.

PROFITS OF SAUDI OIL GIANT ARAMCO COMBINED WITH THE LARGEST PUBLICLY OWNED, WESTERN COMPANIES IN BILLIONS

Company	2021	2022	First Half of 2023
Saudi Aramco	\$110	\$161	\$62
ExxonMobil	\$23.1	\$55.9	\$19.3
Shell	\$19.2	\$39.9	\$14.7
Chevron	\$15.7	\$35.5	\$12.7
TotalEnergies	\$18.1	\$36.3	\$11.9
BP	\$12.8	\$27.7	\$7.6
ConocoPhillips	\$7.7	\$18.6	\$5.1
Marathon Petroleum	\$9.7	\$14.5	\$4.9

**\$2.7 BILLION IN TAXPAYERS' MONEY PLEDGED FOR
CLIMATE DAMAGE AND RESILIENCY PROJECTS SINCE AUGUST 2022
ACCORDING TO GOVERNOR HOCHUL NEWS RELEASE ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Announcement Date	Pledge Amount	Link to News Release Announcement
8/18/2022	\$3.8 million	Governor Hochul Announces Start of Construction on Flood Resiliency Projects in Jefferson County
8/31/2022	\$200 million	Governor Hochul Announces \$232 Million to Fund Water Infrastructure Projects Across New York State
9/20/2022	\$60 million	Governor Hochul Announces New York State Awarded \$60 Million in Federal Funds to Advance Smart Climate Practices for New York Farms and Forests Governor Kathy Hochul (ny.gov)
9/22/2022	\$7.9 million	Governor Hochul Announces Nearly \$7.9 Million to Help New York Farms Address Impacts of Climate Change
9/24/2022	\$2.4 million	Governor Hochul Announces Completion of Resiliency Project in Town of Yates, Orleans County
10/14/2022	\$7.6 million	Governor Hochul Announces \$7.6 Million in Federal Funding to Support Local Emergency Planning and Response Efforts
10/28/2022	\$13 million	Governor Hochul Announces Over \$13 Million to Protect Clean Water and Support New York Farmers in the Fight Against Climate Change
11/10/2022	\$3.2 million	Governor Hochul Announces Start of Construction of \$3.2 Million Flood Protection Project in Village of Sackets Harbor
12/2/2022	\$6.3 million	Governor Hochul Announces Start of Construction on Series of Flood Resiliency Projects in City of Ogdensburg, St. Lawrence County
12/29/2022	\$11.6 million	Governor Hochul Announces More Than \$11.6 Million Awarded to Municipalities for Climate Smart Communities Projects
1/13/2023	\$143 million	Governor Hochul Announces \$143 Million Investment in Critical Water Infrastructure Projects Across New York State Governor Kathy Hochul (ny.gov)
2/8/2023	\$100 million	Governor Hochul Announces \$100 Million to Repave Roads Impacted by Extreme Weather Governor Kathy Hochul (ny.gov)
2/27/2023	\$3.663 million	Governor Hochul Announces Completion of Construction of Series of Flood Resiliency Projects in Fair Haven, Cayuga County Governor Kathy Hochul (ny.gov)
4/5/2023	\$70 million	Governor Hochul Announces Over \$70 Million Investment in Critical Water Infrastructure Projects Across New York State Governor Kathy Hochul (ny.gov)
4/6/2023	\$26.7 million	Governor Hochul Announces Start of \$26.7 Million Project to Rehabilitate Interstate 390 in Livingston County Governor Kathy Hochul (ny.gov)
4/21/2023	\$4 million	Governor Hochul Announces Start of Construction on Flood Resiliency Project in Town of Clayton, Jefferson County Governor Kathy Hochul (ny.gov)
4/21/2023	\$61.8 million	Governor Hochul Announces Start of \$61.8 Million Pavement Improvement and Bridge Rehabilitation Project on I-95 in the Bronx and Westchester County Governor Kathy Hochul (ny.gov)
4/24/2023	\$15 million	Governor Hochul Announces \$15 Million in Cooling Assistance for Vulnerable New Yorkers Governor Kathy Hochul (ny.gov)
4/26/2023	\$6 million	Governor Hochul Announces \$6 Million Now Available for Environmental Justice Community Impact Grants Governor Kathy Hochul (ny.gov)
5/5/2023	\$2.1 million	Governor Hochul Announces \$2.1 Million in Grants Now Available for Air Quality Monitoring in Disadvantaged Communities Governor Kathy Hochul (ny.gov)
5/11/2023	\$3 million	Governor Hochul Celebrates Year of Progress Addressing Longstanding Water Infrastructure Challenges in Mount Vernon
5/16/2023	\$8 million	Governor Hochul Announces \$8 Million Now Available for New Climate Smart Community Projects Governor Kathy Hochul (ny.gov)

6/2/2023	\$15 million	Governor Hochul Announces the U.S. Small Business Administration Provided More Than \$15 Million in Federal Assistance to Residents and Businesses in
7/5/2023	\$516 million	Governor Hochul Announces More Than \$516 Million in Bridge NY Funding to Rehabilitate and Replace Local Bridges and Culverts
7/11/2023	\$6.2 million	Governor Hochul Announces Start of \$6.2 Million Project to Rehabilitate Carpenter's Flats Bridge Over the Ausable River in Clinton County
7/12/2023	\$12.2 million	Governor Hochul Announces Start of \$12.2 Million Project to Improve Resiliency Along State Route 54A in Steuben County
7/17/2023	\$500 million	After Devastating Flooding, Governor Hochul Extends Application Deadline for More Than \$500 Million in Resiliency-Related Grants
7/18/2023	\$3 million	Video, Audio, Photos & Rush Transcript: Governor Hochul Announces \$3 Million in Recovery Funds Available to Orange County Homeowners
8/9/2023	\$3 million	Governor Hochul Pledges Additional \$3 Million in Emergency Assistance for Homeowners in Hudson Valley, North Country, and Finger Lakes Regions Impacted by Recent Flooding Governor Kathy Hochul (ny.gov)
8/16/2023	\$44 million	Governor Hochul, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and Montauk Historical Society Announce Completion of Montauk Point Coastal Resiliency Project and Historic Lighthouse Restoration Governor Kathy Hochul (ny.gov)
8/16/2023	\$9.5 million	Governor Hochul Announces Completion of \$9.5 Million Resiliency Project in the City of Oswego Governor Kathy Hochul (ny.gov)
8/22/2023	\$20 million	Video, Audio, Photos & Rush Transcript: Governor Hochul Announces \$20 Million in Water Infrastructure Upgrades for Erie County Water Authority Governor Kathy Hochul (ny.gov)
8/30/2023	\$4.8 million	Governor Hochul Celebrates Construction Start of \$4.8 Million Sanitary Sewer Project in the Town of Oswego Governor Kathy Hochul (ny.gov)
8/31/2023	\$20 million	Governor Hochul Announces \$20 Million Now Available for Hudson Valley and Long Island Communities Impacted by Hurricane Ida Ahead of Storm's Second Anniversary Governor Kathy Hochul (ny.gov)
9/22/2023	\$7.4 million	Governor Hochul Announces \$7.4 Million in Federal Funding to Support Local Emergency Planning and Response Efforts Governor Kathy Hochul (ny.gov)
9/11/2023	\$20 million	Governor Hochul Announces \$20 Million Financing Fund for Decarbonization Projects in Disadvantaged Communities Governor Kathy Hochul (ny.gov)
9/14/2023	\$50 million	Governor Hochul Announces Six Leading Real Estate Groups Selected in Round Two of Empire Buildings Challenge to Advance Climate-Friendly Buildings in New York State Governor Kathy Hochul (ny.gov)
9/20/2023	\$13.8 million	During Climate Week, Governor Hochul Announces Over \$13.8 Million to Protect Clean Water and Support New York Farmers in the Fight Against Climate Change Governor Kathy Hochul (ny.gov)
9/21/2023	\$6 million	Governor Hochul Announces More Than \$6 Million Awarded to Conserve Over 2,000 Acres of New York Farmland During Climate Week Governor Kathy Hochul (ny.gov)
9/29/2023	\$165 million	Governor Hochul Announces \$165 Million in Available Funds for Environmentally Sustainable Transportation Projects Across New York State Governor Kathy Hochul (ny.gov)
13 Month Total	\$2.7 Billion	Total Amount Pledged 8/18/2022 to 9/29/2023

¹ Information collected from companies' media releases and other public sources.

² 8/17/2023, Spectrum News 1, <https://spectrumlocalnews.com/nys/central-ny/politics/2023/08/17/observations-on-the-cost--so-far--of-implementing-n-y--climate-law>

³ Ibid.

⁴ U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Report Estimate

<https://gothamist.com/news/army-corps-52-billion-dollar-storm-surge-barriers-new-york-new-jersey-harbor-waterways>

⁵ Long Island Regional Planning Council Chairman Estimate

The Honorable Kathy Hochul
Governor of New York State
Executive Chamber
NYS State Capitol Building
Albany, NY 12224

October 5, 2023

Dear Governor Hochul:

We write to urge your inclusion of the Climate Change Superfund Act in the FY 2024-2025 Executive Budget. The bill (S.2129A/A.3351A) is a fair, just, and stable source of revenue to address the climate crisis, and it will greatly reduce the costly burden on New York State taxpayers who are already suffering from rising energy costs and inflation. Based on the “polluter pays” legal principle, this bill ensures that Big Oil industries are held financially responsible for the rising costs of the climate catastrophe, specifically for funding climate damage repair and resilience projects. Those industries’ decisions led to global warming; justice requires that they—not New York’s other taxpayers—be held fiscally accountable for tragically enormous climate crisis impacts.

The Climate Change Superfund Act passed the Senate last session, has 63 legislative sponsors combined in both houses, and is strongly supported by many national, statewide, and regional environmental, environmental justice, health, faith, labor and community organizations, such as Building Performance Contractors Association, Citizen Action, DC 37, Environmental Advocates, League of Women Voters, NYPIRG, NRDC, NY-GEO, NYS Council of Churches, NYS Nurses Association, Sierra Club Atlantic Chapter, UAW Region 9A, United University Professions and WE ACT for Environmental Justice.

As you know, New York State—and the nation—is facing a climate crisis from the burning of fossil fuels, and it is costing New Yorkers tens of billions of dollars in damages due to increasingly powerful storms and flooding, extreme heat waves, and escalating air pollution. The Climate Change Superfund Act would require Big Oil companies that released over one billion tons of greenhouse gas emissions during the 2000-2018 period to pay an apportioned share of \$3 billion a year.

The world’s biggest oil companies are reaping enormous profits while people across the globe suffer from unprecedented climate disasters. New York taxpayers were burdened with over \$2 billion in climate damage and resiliency costs over the past thirteen months according to a review of your Administration’s news releases. At the same time, Big Oil companies have racked up staggering profits – nearly \$750 billion since 2021.¹ It’s time for some of those profits to be directed to climate protection, mitigation, and remedial programs.

The burning of fossil fuels is having severe adverse effects on New Yorkers, especially in environmental justice and low-income communities, such as extreme weather events that cost too many New Yorkers’ their lives and results in billions of dollars in damages. For example, “Super Storm Sandy” caused \$19 billion in damage.² Hurricane Irene devastated the state, resulting in over \$1.3 billion in damages.³ Hurricane Ida resulted in the tragic drowning of 13 New Yorkers in their own cars and homes.⁴ The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers’ plan to protect the downstate region from future storms is estimated to cost a staggering \$52 billion.⁵

Blistering heat waves have smashed temperature records this summer across the country, scorching crops, fueling wildfires, and killing people.⁶ Extreme heat is the number one weather-related killer in America, responsible for over 130 deaths in New York City per year, a number that could increase to more than 3,300 deaths annually by 2080 if action is

¹ Information collected by NYPIRG from companies’ media releases and other public sources from largest publicly owned Western oil companies & Saudi Aramco.

² The City of New York, *A Stronger, More Resilient New York: Climate Analysis*.
http://www.nyc.gov/html/sirr/downloads/pdf/final_report/Ch_2_ClimateAnalysis_FINAL_singles.pdf

³ *Hurricane Irene One Year Later*, Associated Press, 8/27/2022, www.nydailynews.com/new-york/hurricane-irene-year-storm-cost-15-8-damage-florida-new-york-caribbean-article-1.1145302

⁴ *Remembering the Devastation of Hurricane Ida*, NY Daily News, 9/2/2022, [Remembering the devastation of Hurricane Ida in NYC – New York Daily News \(nydailynews.com\)](http://www.nydailynews.com/new-york/remembering-the-devastation-of-hurricane-ida-in-nyc-article-1.1145302)

⁵ *US Army Corps of Engineers, NY & NJ Harbor & Tributaries Focus Area Feasibility Study*. <https://www.nan.usace.army.mil/Missions/Civil-Works/Projects-in-New-York/New-York-New-Jersey-Harbor-Tributaries-Focus-Area-Feasibility-Study/>

⁶ MIT Technology Review, 7/21/2022, <https://www.technologyreview.com/2022/07/21/1056291/do-these-heatwaves-mean-climate-change-is-worse-than-we-thought/>

not taken.⁷ The impacts are most severe in frontline disadvantaged communities, and other vulnerable populations, such as the elderly, children and people with chronic illnesses. The escalating extreme heat necessitates urgent investments in mitigation and a substantial increase in medical care due to increases in illnesses.

It is clear from historical records that for the better half of the late 20th Century, oil companies knew burning fossil fuels was warming the planet. Nevertheless, starting in the 1980s, the industry championed an aggressive climate change denial campaign opposing policy proposals and undermining climate science. Their success in bamboozling many Americans has pushed the planet to the brink.

New York State must lead the nation in developing and implementing a responsible and fair approach to fund critically important damage repair, resilience and community protection programs to respond to accelerating storms, floods, extreme heat, and other serious impacts of global warming. The Climate Change Superfund Act ensures that those responsible for greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions—the Big Oil companies—are responsible for the state’s climate-related expenses.

New York has a strong history of holding the polluting industry accountable for the contamination they created. Both the Federal and State Superfund are based on the “polluter pays principle,” with funding coming from annual fees placed on the oil and chemical industry for hazardous waste generated, and for their use of chemicals and petroleum. These precedents—established over forty years ago—provide an appropriate model—climate crisis contributors should be responsible for the costs related to the growing catastrophe from GHG emissions. There is broad public support for the “polluter pays” principle. National polling by the Center for Climate Integrity found 70 percent of Americans support holding climate polluters financially responsible for programs to fight climate change, jumping to 82 percent when respondents were informed of the fossil fuel industry’s deception and denial campaign.⁸

This bill places Big Oil industries squarely on the financial hook for the costs New York faces in addressing the worsening climate crisis. The Climate Change Superfund Act extends the “polluter pays” principle to GHG pollution from fossil fuel combustion, the primary cause of climate change from global warming. The fund could finance upgrades to roads, bridges, subways, transit systems, storm water drainage, and sewage treatment; preparing the power grid and improving emergency response programs to deal with stronger hurricanes and other severe storms; protecting residents from more frequent and deadly heat waves with new programs (such as ensuring that air conditioning exists in all schools); and responding to environmental and public health threats, such as algal blooms and drought caused by a rapidly heating planet.

The climate crisis poses an immediate, grave threat to our communities, health, environment, and economy. Our organizations strongly urge you to include S.2129A/A.3351A in your FY 2024-2025 Executive Budget. New York State is a national leader with its landmark Climate Leadership & Community Protection Act, and it should also be a national leader with this first-in-the-nation, just and fair approach to ensure the state’s efforts to respond to global warming are appropriately funded by the industry that profited from and is responsible for the climate crisis. Thank you for considering our request.

Sincerely

119 State Street Corp.
350Brooklyn
350NYC
369th Veterans Association
Adaptive Sports Foundation
ALIGN
All Our Energy
All Souls NYC Peace & Justice
Alliance for a Green Economy

Alliance of Public Retiree Organizations
American Military Retirees Association
American Ex-Prisoners of War
AMVETS
AU Environmental Action Coalition
Beyond Plastics
Big Reuse
Black Veterans for Social Justice
Blinded Veterans Association

⁷ New York City Could See Thousands of Heat Deaths by 2080, Scientific American, 6/23/2016, <https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/new-york-city-could-see-thousands-of-heat-deaths-by-2080/>

⁸ The Center for Climate Integrity, <https://payupclimatepolluters.org/survey-results>

Bronx Climate Justice North
 Bronx Council for Environmental Quality
 Bronx River - Sound Shore Audubon Society
 Building Performance Contractors Assoc. NYS Inc.
 Campaign for Renewable Energy
 Carbon Tax Center
 Carroll Gardens Association, Inc.
 Catholic War Veterans
 Catskill Mountainkeeper
 Center for Global Affairs, NYU
 Center for Independence of Disabled, NY
 Church Women United in New York State
 Citizen Action of New York
 Citizens' Climate Lobby – New York City
 Citizens' Climate Lobby - New York State
 Citizens' Environmental Coalition
 Clean + Healthy NY
 Clean Air Coalition of Greater Ravena-Coeymans
 Clean Air Coalition of WNY
 Climate Caucus of West Harlem Progressive Democrats
 Climate Families NYC
 Climate Reality Project, Capital Region Chapter
 Climate Reality Project, Greater Finger Lks Reg Chapter
 Climate Reality Project, Hudson Valley Chapter
 Climate Reality Project, Long Island Chapter
 Climate Reality Project, NYC Metro Chapter
 Climate Reality Project, NY State Chapters Coalition
 Climate Reality Project, Westchester Co. Chapter
 Climate Reality Project, Western NY Chapter
 Climate Solutions Accelerator Genesee-Finger Lakes
 Region
 Coalition Against Nukes
 Coalition Against the Rockaway Pipeline
 Coalition for Environmental Justice
 Coalition for Outreach, Policy & Education
 Coalition of Concerned Medical Professionals
 Coalition to Protect New York
 Coastal Research & Educ. Society of Long Island
 Combat Infantrymen's Association
 Community Advocates for a Sustainable Environment
 Communities for Local Power
 Communication Workers of America
 Concerned Citizens About NL Industries
 Concerned Health Professionals of New York
 Council 82 AFSCME Veterans Committee
 County Veterans Service Officers Assoc. of NYS
 CSEA Veterans Committee
 Deep Green Resistance
 Delaware-Otsego Audubon Society
 Disabled American Veterans
 District Council 37
 Divest New York
 Dominican Sisters in Committed Collaboration
 Don't Waste New York
 Drawdown New York City
 Earthkeeper Health Resources
 Environmental Advocates of New York
 Environmental Future
 Extinction Rebellion Mid-Hudson
 Fleet Reserve Association
 Food & Water Watch
 For the Many
 Fossil Free Tompkins
 FrackbustersNY
 Free the People WNY
 Gas Free Seneca
 Good Shepherd International Justice Peace Office NY
 Grassroots Environmental Education
 Gray Panthers NYC
 Green Education and Legal Fund
 Green Map System
 Green Party of Monroe County
 Green Party of New York
 Green Sanctuary Team at Albany UU
 HabitatMap
 HAN UMC
 Healthy Planet
 Human Impacts Institute
 Hells Kitchen Democrats
 Hudson River Audubon Society of Westchester
 Hudson River Sloop Clearwater
 Human Impacts Institute
 Indivisible Harlem
 Interfaith Climate Justice Community of WNY
 Inwood Indivisible
 Ironworks Software Inc.
 Jewish Climate Action Network NYC
 Jewish War Veterans
 Jobs to Move America
 Katal Center for Equity, Health & Justice
 Korean War Veterans Association
 Lights Out Norlite
 Long Island Progressive Coalition
 League of Women Voters of NYS
 LWV Cortland County
 Mamaki
 Marine Corps League NY Dept.
 Military Order of the Purple Heart
 Melissa Carlson Architect
 MetroJustice
 Metro NY Catholic Climate Movement
 Mothers Out Front NYS
 Neighborhood Sun
 New Paltz Climate Action Coalition
 Neighborhood Sun
 New York City Chapter of Citizens Climate Lobby
 New York City Friends of Clearwater
 New York Climate Action Group
 New York Climate Advocacy Project
 New York Communities for Change
 New York Environmental Law & Justice Project
 New York Progressive Action Network

New York Public Interest Research Group (NYPIRG)
 New York Renews
 New York State Council of Churches
 New York State Council of Veterans' Organizations
 New York State Nurses Association
 New Yorkers for Clean Power
 North American Climate, Conservation and Environment
 North Bronx Racial Justice
 North Country Earth Action
 North Country NYPAN
 Northern Catskills Audubon Society
 Northeast Organic Farming Assoc. of NY
 North Shore Audubon Society
 North Star Fund
 NYCD16 Indivisible
 NYC H2O
 NY-GEO
 Nuclear Information & Resource Service
 Nurses Rise-Nurses for Safe Water
 NYPAN Environmental Committee
 Occupy Bergen County
 Operation Resilient Living & Innovation Plus
 Operation Splash
 Our Climate
 Partnership for the Public Good
 PAUSE
 Peace Action Bay Ridge
 Peace Action New York State
 PEF Veterans Committee
 People for a Healthy Environment
 People of Albany United for Safe Energy
 Progressive Schenectady
 Queens Climate Project
 PUSH Buffalo
 Reach Out America
 Real Edgemere
 Renewable Energy Long Island
 Rensselaer Environmental Coalition
 ReWild Long Island
 Rise & Resist
 Rivers & Mountains GreenFaith Circle
 Riverside Salem UCC/DoC
 Rochester Mennonite Fellowship
 Roctricity LLC
 Safe Energy Rights Group
 SAGEVets
 SANE Energy Project
 Sanford-Oquaga Area Conc. Citizens
 Seneca Lake Guardian
 Seventh Generation, Inc.
 Sheridan Hollow Alliance for Renewable Energy
 Sierra Club Atlantic Chapter
 Sisters of Charity Federation
 Sisters of Mercy Justice Promotors
 Sisters of St. Dominic of Blauvelt
 Sisters of the Good Shepherd Province of New York /Toronto
 Sixth St. Community Center
 Solarize Albany
 Solidarity Committee of Capital District
 South Asian Fund Educ. Scholarship & Training
 South Bronx Unite
 Staten Island Urban Center
 Stop NY Fracked Gas Pipeline
 Stop the Algonquin Pipeline Expansion
 Sullivan Alliance for Sustainable Development
 Sunrise Movement NYC
 SUNY New Paltz Environmental Task Force
 Sure We Can, Brooklyn
 Sustainable Finger Lakes
 The Retired Enlisted Association
 Third Act NYC
 Thomas Berry Forum at Iona Univ.
 TIAA-Divest! from Climate Destruction
 Tompkins County Climate Protection Initiative
 UAW Region 9!
 Ulster Activists
 United Federation of Teachers Veterans Committee
 United Neighbors Concerned About GE Dewey Loeffel
 United for Action
 United For Clean Energy
 United Spinal Association
 Uptown Progressive Action
 Upper Nyack Green Committee
 Upper Green Side
 UU Congregation of Binghamton, Green Sanctuary
 United University Professions
 Veterans of Foreign War NYS
 Veterans For Peace
 Vote Solar
 WE ACT for Environmental Justice
 West Branch Conservation Association
 Western New York Environmental Alliance
 WESPAC Foundation
 Win Climate
 WNYCOSH

LONG ISLAND CLIMATE CRISIS COSTS: ESTIMATED \$75 TO \$100 BILLION NEEDED FOR ROADS AND INFRASTRUCTURE *\$73 Million for Bridge Repairs in 2023 Alone*

Experts say the devastating impacts of the climate crisis will continue to escalate on Long Island, according to an in-depth *Newsday* article.¹ Sea levels around Long Island could rise as much as six feet by the end of the century which is expected to wash away sections of barrier islands and make some shoreline neighborhoods uninhabitable.²

Resilience and protection programs are estimated to cost between \$75 billion to \$100 billion according to John Cameron, an engineer and chair of the Long Island Regional Planning Council: “Long Islanders will have little choice but to pay more in taxes, and higher fees and surcharges to avoid a collapse of the Island's economy.”³

The *Newsday* article noted that experts say local officials should start planning now, including the following measures: 1) elevate streets, septic systems, fuel tanks and storm drains; 2) build new bridges where roads are washed out by persistent flooding; and 3) prepare plans to evacuate coastal neighborhoods.

Three months ago, municipalities received \$516 million in state funding, including \$73.5 million to repair or replace Long Island bridges and culverts and make them more resilient.⁴

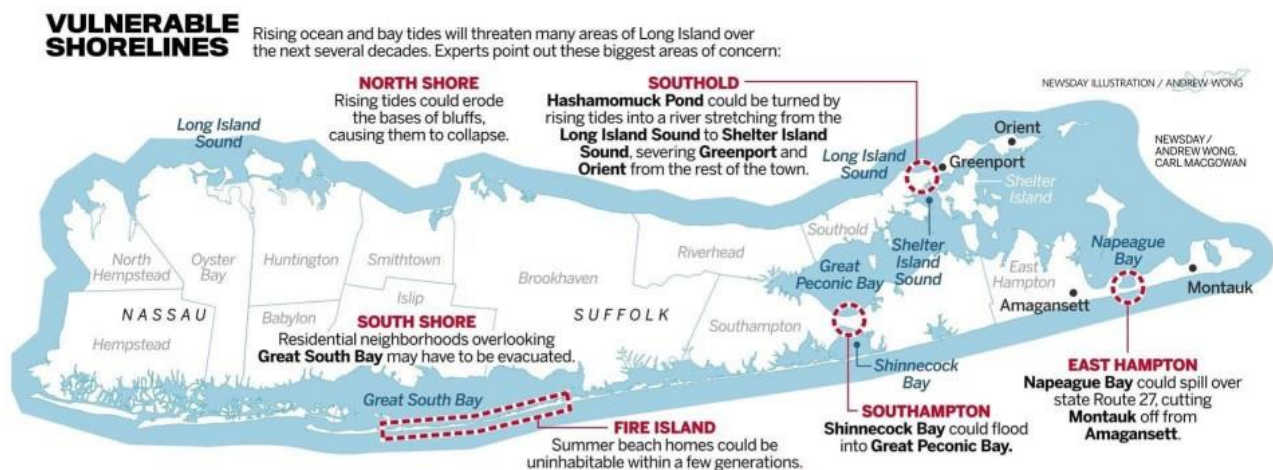
**Include the Climate Change Superfund Act in the Budget
Big Oil has made \$750 Billion in Profits since 2021.
Take the Climate Cost Burden off Taxpayers.**

LONG ISLAND NEEDS THE CLIMATE CHANGE SUPERFUND ACT

The Climate Change Superfund Act requires Big Oil to pay \$3 billion annually, or \$75 billion over 25 years, for their share of past GHG emissions.

The Climate Change Superfund Act, S.2129A/A.3351A, will support programs to repair climate damages, install resilient infrastructure and protect communities.

For more information, contact NYPIRG at arabe@nypirg.org or 518-560-1849.



¹ *Newsday*, 4/23/2023, <https://www.newsday.com/long-island/environment/climate-change-sea-levels-bay-tides-long-island-s1hxs81r>

² *Ibid.*

³ *Ibid.*

⁴ Governor News Release, 7/5/2023, <https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-hochul-announces-more-516-million-bridge-ny-funding-rehabilitate-and-replace-local>

Image Source: *Newsday* 4/23/2023.

NIAGARA REGION CLIMATE CRISIS COSTS: UP TO \$200 MILLION IN STATE FUNDS FOR BRIDGE AND WATER INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS IN LAST 2 YEARS

\$68.8 Million for Bridge Repairs in 2023 Alone

This year the state provided \$80 million for the Erie County Van de Water Treatment Plant for major infrastructure upgrades, including resiliency, to ensure up to 180,000 customers will not be affected by prolonged service interruptions and can respond to increased demands on the system.¹ In July 2023, Erie County posted a bid for the Buffalo Water Treatment Plant Flood Resilience Improvement Project, however the costs are unknown.²

Recently, municipalities received \$516 million in state funding, including \$68.8 million to repair or replace Niagara Region bridges and culverts and make them more resilient.³ This month, Erie County established a November 2022 Winter Storm \$2 million fund to provide funding assistance to businesses to farms and agribusinesses to help cover damage costs to buildings, structures, machinery, or equipment resulting from the historic storm.⁴

Last year, the state provided \$83 million for a project at Buffalo's Bird Island Wastewater Treatment Facility to improve treatment and reduce sewer overflows to the Niagara River.⁵

**Include the Climate Change Superfund Act in the Budget
Big Oil has made \$750 billion in profits since 2021.
Take the climate cost burden off taxpayers.**



47 People Died in the Buffalo Bomb Cyclone, November 2022

¹ 8/22/2023, Governor News Release, <https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-hochul-announces-20-million-water-infrastructure-upgrades-erie-county-water-authority>

² 7/12/2023, <https://www.buffalony.gov/bids.aspx?bidID=736>

³ Governor News Release, 7/5/2023, <https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-hochul-announces-more-516-million-bridge-ny-funding-rehabilitate-and-replace-local>

⁴ 9/26/2023, <https://www2.erie.gov/exec/index.php?q=press/erie-county-soil-and-water-conservation-district-accepting-grant-fund-applications-november-20>

⁵ 10/19/2023, Governor Hochul Announces Start of Construction on \$55 Million Wastewater Treatment Project in Buffalo | Governor Kathy Hochul (ny.gov)

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