



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Thomas F. O'Mara

O'Mara, colleagues to governor: Save the 100-foot rule for gas service in NYS

THOMAS F. O'MARA June 26, 2025

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Senator O'Mara joined his colleagues earlier this year to continue warning against "unaffordable and unrealistic" energy mandates.

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News Release

O'MARA, COLLEAGUES TO GOVERNOR: PRESERVE THE 100-FOOT RULE FOR GAS SERVICE IN NEW YORK STATE

Albany, N.Y., June 26 —State Senator Tom O'Mara (R,C-Big Flats) today joined his [REDACTED] colleagues on the Senate Energy and Telecommunications Committee in a letter to Governor Kathy Hochul calling on the governor to veto legislation that would eliminate New York's long-standing "100-foot rule" for natural gas service.

The legislation (S8417/A8888) was approved by the Senate and Assembly in the closing hours of the 2025 legislative session in late June. Currently in New York State, utilities are required to cover the cost of new gas service connections located within 100 feet of an existing main. If enacted by Hochul, the proposed new law will repeal the 100-foot rule and result in shifting these new costs to residents and businesses by forcing them to pay the cost of any new connection to the gas system. The New York Independent System Operator (NYISO) has also indicated eliminating the 100-foot rule could accelerate an unsustainable transition, pushing more customers to depend on an already overstressed electric grid without adequate generation or storage capacity.

O'Mara, a member of the Senate Energy and Telecommunications Committee, said, "Albany [REDACTED] majorities remain relentless in their pursuit of unaffordable and unrealistic energy mandates with no concern for their affordability, feasibility, or reliability. They keep reaching deeper and deeper into the pockets of middle-class ratepayers and taxpayers, destroying family budgets, killing local jobs, and weakening local economies with the promise of very minimal or realistic benefits for most New Yorkers. This proposed action would be the latest addition to a disaster in the making and Governor Hochul should immediately veto it."

In their letter to Hochul, O'Mara and Senate [REDACTED] minority colleagues wrote, "We write to respectfully urge you to veto (this legislation), which would eliminate New York's long-standing '100-foot rule' for natural gas service. This rule currently requires utilities to cover the cost of new gas service connections located within 100 feet of an existing main. The proposed legislation would shift these costs—ranging from \$2,500 to \$10,000 per building—to customers, placing an undue burden on homeowners, builders, and renters across the state."

The letter concludes, "While we support the state's commitment to a clean energy future, the path to that future must be practical, affordable, and reliable. Policies

