



June 26, 2025

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

Subject: Urging a Veto of S.8417 (Krueger) / A.8888 (Simon) — Preserve the 100-Foot Rule for Gas Service

Dear Governor Hochul,

We write to respectfully urge you to veto **Senate Bill No. 8417 (Krueger) / Assembly Bill No. 8888 (Simon)**, 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 building¹—to customers, placing an undue burden on homeowners, builders, and renters across the state.

Natural gas remains a critical, affordable, and reliable energy source for millions of New Yorkers. Nearly 60% of households statewide use gas as their primary energy source, and in many new housing developments, it remains the most cost-effective option, especially as electricity rates continue to rise due to mandates under the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA). At a time when the State is grappling with an affordability crisis and a shortage of housing, eliminating one of the few mechanisms that helps control construction and energy costs would be counterproductive.

Additionally, natural gas plays an essential role in public safety. During the deadly 2022 Buffalo blizzard, many homes retained heat through natural gas service, helping to prevent further loss of life. In regions where severe winter weather is a reality, especially upstate, dependable heating is not merely a convenience, it is a lifeline.

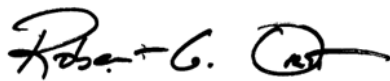
¹<https://www.news10.com/news/new-york-votes-to-end-gas-hookup-subsidies-shifting-costs-to-homeowners/>

The New York Independent System Operator (NYISO) has also raised concerns about electric grid reliability, warning of tight capacity margins and the risks posed by rapid electrification. Eliminating the 100-foot rule could hasten an unsustainable transition, pushing more customers to rely on an already overburdened electric grid without sufficient generation or storage capacity. This could lead to blackouts, higher energy costs, and grid instability. New York's residential electricity rates are already nearly 40% higher than those in Pennsylvania, and this gap will continue to widen under policies that increase reliance on electricity without adequate infrastructure.

While we support the State's commitment to a clean energy future, the path to that future must be practical, affordable and reliable. Policies that undermine affordability and energy security, especially for working families, will only erode public confidence and deepen economic challenges.

For these reasons, we respectfully urge you to veto S.8417/A.8888 and preserve the 100-foot rule for gas service in New York State.

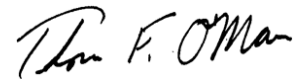
Sincerely,



Robert G. Ort
Senate Minority Leader
62nd District



Senator Andrew Lanza
24th District



Senator Tom O'Mara
58th District



Senator Mario Mattera
2nd District



Senator Mark Walczyk
49th District



Senator Anthony Palumbo
1st District



Senator Steve Chan
17th District



Senator Patricia Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick
9th District



Senator Steve Rhoads
5th District



Senator Peter Oberacker
51st District



Senator Dan G. Stec
45th District



Senator Patrick Gallivan
60th District



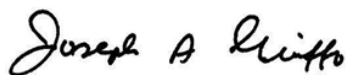
Senator Jake Ashby
43rd District



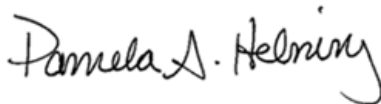
Senator Rob Rolison
39th District



Senator William Weber
38th District



Senator Joseph Griffo
53rd District



Senator Pam Helming
54th District



Senator George Borrello
57th District



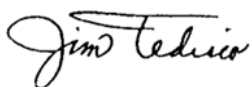
Senator Alexis Weik
8th District



Senator Jack M. Martins
7th District



Senator Dean Murray
3rd District



Senator Jim Tedisco
44th District