

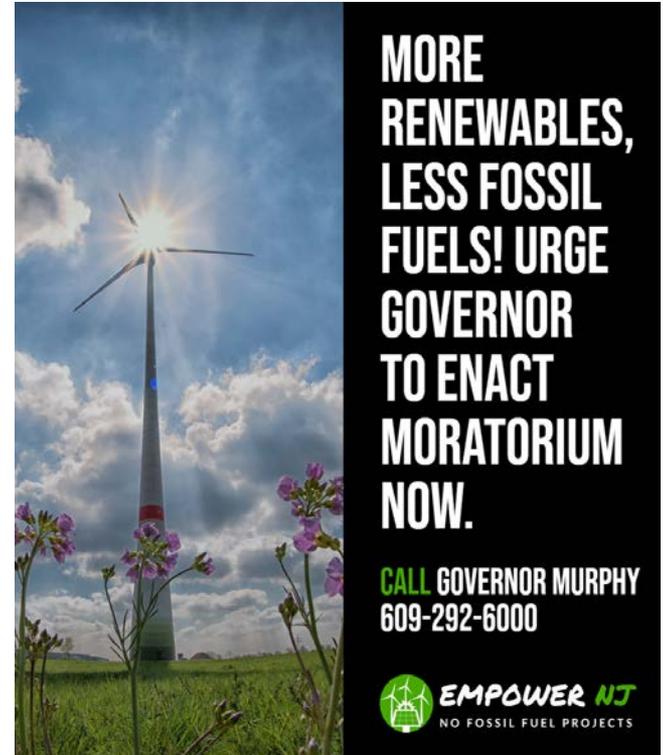
# Empower NJ Analysis of Governor Murphy's Energy Master Plan and Climate PACT Executive Order

- On January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Governor Murphy released his highly anticipated Energy Master Plan, a document to guide energy policy decisions in New Jersey. He also issued Executive Order 100, also known as “Protect Against Climate Threats” (PACT)
- The following includes Empower New Jersey's analysis of these policy guiding documents.
- Full text of the EMP available at [https://nj.gov/bpu/pdf/publicnotice/NJBPU\\_EMP.pdf](https://nj.gov/bpu/pdf/publicnotice/NJBPU_EMP.pdf)
- Full text of the Climate PACT Executive Order <https://nj.gov/infobank/eo/056murphy/pdf/EO-100.pdf>



# Gov. Murphy's Final Energy Master Plan (EMP) and Executive Order 100 (EO), released & signed on Jan 27, 2020

- Murphy Administration's vision of achieving 100% clean energy economy wide, and 80% reduction of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, by 2050
- Pros and Cons to both the EMP and the EO
- Scientific consensus says EMP and EO need to do much more much faster (45% by 2030) even as this is an improvement on past Administrations' efforts
- Few if any significant changes between the draft and revised EMP despite massive up-swell led by Empower NJ for strengthening changes
- EO includes some Empower NJ priorities but takes too long and lacks key specifics and teeth



# Energy Master Plan (EMP) Negatives

- The EMP fails to mention a moratorium on new fossil fuel projects while there are 15 proposed fossil fuel projects in NJ that can completely undermine the goals of the EMP. These projects would increase GHG emissions by 31% when we need to be cutting emissions.
- The plan does not call for a 45% reduction of GHGs by 2030 which the IPCC scientific consensus says is required to avoid the worst effects of climate change
- The EMP ignored the public testimony about the draft plan where between 60-80% of the people who testified at EMP hearings called for a moratorium.
- The plan continues to define clean energy as carbon neutral which includes incinerators, carbon sequestration for fossil fuels, biogas, biomass, and frack gas

# EMP Negatives Continued

- The EMP continues NJ's reliance on nuclear into the 2050's, well beyond the life of the plants w/ ratepayers currently paying a \$300 million annual bailout even though the plants are profitable
- While the plan calls for an 80% net reduction of Green House Gas emissions by 2050, a goal set in 2007, the scientific consensus has evolved since -- we need to get to net zero in 2050 and 45% reductions by 2030
- DEP must immediately regulate CO2; they've had authority since 2005
- NJ Transit goals should be stronger. New Jersey is spending \$500 million to replace aging trains with dirty buses and diesel trains. We should be moving forward on electrifying our transit systems.
- The EMP call for expanding solar will fall flat for 5 years at 200MW because of the cost cap. If the costs exceed the limit, BPU must set aside the Renewable Portfolio Standard for that year.
- The EMP looks at the "least cost" way to reduce carbon vs. the most effective "best value" way that would reduce societal costs of carbon.

# Energy Master Plan (EMP) Positives

- Governor Murphy advanced our offshore wind goals by expanding to 7500 MW and will get to 11000 MW by 2050.
- 34% of our electricity should be powered by solar by 2050
- The EMP sets goals for housing, energy efficiency, storage, and transportation
- Transportation goals towards electrification are good, the EMP looks to electrify this sector by 2050 for light duty vehicles and heavy-duty vehicles.
- The EMP is a living document which means that the administration can make ongoing updates. For instance, the EMP only deals with a 100-year horizon for methane impacts but the Governor just signed a law requiring New Jersey to plan for climate change impacts over a 20-year period for all short lived climate pollutants.



# Gov. Murphy's Climate PACT Executive Order 100

- **Positives**

- Directs NJDEP to adopt PACT regulations which include several Empower NJ priorities:
- “Establishes criteria that shall govern and reduce emissions of carbon dioxide and, where necessary, short-lived climate pollutants, including but not limited to, black carbon, hydrofluorocarbons, and methane” and
- “Integrate climate change considerations, such as sea level rise, into its regulatory and permitting programs, including but not limited to, land use permitting, water supply, stormwater and wastewater permitting”.



# Gov. Murphy's Climate PACT Executive Order 100

## Negatives

- The 2-year timeline to implement Murphy's EO is far too long. This is even more reason for a moratorium to go into effect now.
- Regulating carbon, GHG's, black carbon, and methane is something DEP can do now, they don't need to wait 2 years to do it.
- The EO is vague and leaves too much discretion to the DEP Commissioner on what the criteria for reductions or standards will be:
  - DEP could set a carbon standard like EPA that allows natural gas and power plants.
  - Christie-era rollbacks to Flood Hazard, Waiver, Stormwater, WQMP, and CAFRA rules that encourage development and cause more flooding and pollution could remain in place when they need to be reversed and further strengthened
  - DEP needs to spell out more on what rules and laws need updating to consider climate



# Gov. Murphy's Climate PACT Executive Order 100

## Negatives (Continued)

- Even though the whereas section of the EO mentions the IPCC, it is not reflected where it matters, there is no mention of reductions of 45% by 2030
- EO's are not rules or regulations and have no real force w/o rigorous never-ending follow through. In 1989, Gov. Kean issued EO 219 to reduce GHGs and address climate impacts, but it was never implemented.
- The EO does not update EO 215 EIS requirements on state projects or state funded projects to include climate impacts.



# What Can I Do?

- Call Governor Murphy every Monday at 866-586-4069 and urge him to declare a climate emergency moratorium on fossil fuel projects
- Join an Empower NJ action committee!  
Email [msmith@fwwatch.org](mailto:msmith@fwwatch.org) for more info.
- Host / help organize a local public forum
- Encourage others to get involved by signing our petition at:  
[www.empowernewjersey.com/petition](http://www.empowernewjersey.com/petition)



**THE TIME FOR ACTION IS NOW!**

