

CAMPAIGN FOR NEW YORK'S FUTURE

Energy

Mayor Bloomberg's PlaNYC initiative calls for cleaner, more reliable power for every New Yorker while reducing greenhouse gas emissions and achieving the cleanest air of any major city in the nation. To achieve this goal, the plan calls for upgrading the aging NYC power supply sector with clean efficient capacity, reducing energy consumption and peak demand, and creating policies to ensure better energy planning in the future. This fact sheet has been prepared by the Campaign for New York's Future—a coalition of civic, business, environmental, labor, community and public health organizations—to answer some common questions about how the plan would improve energy efficiency for all New Yorkers.

What are New York City's current energy demands?

With current trends, New York City's demand for electricity will increase by a projected 29 percent, while overall electricity consumption is projected to increase by 44 percent.

Even with this rise in demand, it is unlikely the energy market will provide sufficient new clean, efficient power plants due to risk and lack of incentives, lack of planning for lower power prices or lower CO₂ emissions, and other barriers, which leave New York City reliant on an aging and inefficient fleet of plants.

Furthermore, existing energy efficiency efforts are not optimized due to social and structural barriers, several of which are particularly acute in NYC, including higher installation costs and the greater proportion of renters.

In total, these trends could result in an increase in our annual energy bills of \$3 billion – or \$300-\$400 per household – and 6-8 million more tons of CO₂ emissions by 2015.

How will PlaNYC lead to cleaner, more reliable energy?

PlaNYC recommends an aggressive, integrated plan to meet these goals:

- Significantly reduce energy consumption and peak demand through a comprehensive energy efficiency strategy;
- Upgrade the aging NYC power supply sector with clean, efficient capacity;
- Create the organizational mechanisms and policies to secure a role in New York City energy planning; and
- Taking on the responsibility and accountability for New York City's energy needs.

How will PlaNYC reduce energy consumption and peak demand?

PlaNYC outlines a comprehensive energy policy that will maximize NYC's energy efficiency. Specifically, the plan will:

- Reduce energy consumption by City government by investing 10 percent of the City's energy costs into energy efficiency programs;
- Strengthen energy building codes for New York City;
- Create an energy efficiency authority for New York City;
- Prioritize five areas for targeted incentives: government & institutional, commer-

Compact Fluorescent Light Bulbs (CFL) A Bright Idea

Average life span
of a CFL: 9 Years

Savings by replacing
one incandescent
with a CFL: \$107*

*Over the lifetime of the CFL

“Energy efficient homes, offices and power plants are the key to meeting our growing energy needs, lowering energy bills and reducing global warming pollution.”

– Ashok Gupta,
Air and Energy Program
Director, Natural Resources
Defense Council

- cial & industrial, residential, new construction, and appliances and electronics;
- Expand participation in peak load management programs and real-time pricing; and
- Launch an energy awareness and training campaign to reduce demand.

How does PlaNYC plan to upgrade the aging NYC power sector?

Flattening consumption will not happen overnight. Despite current efficiency efforts, by 2015 NYC will need at least 900 megawatts of new generating capacity just to keep up with rising demand and expected power plant retirements. PlaNYC proposes to create a cleaner supply of energy through the following actions:

- Facilitate repowering, construct power plants and dedicated transmission lines through long-term power purchase agreements;
- Expand Clean Distributed Generation (“Clean DG”) by reducing barriers and facilitating district energy;
- Support expansion of natural gas infrastructure;
- Foster the market for renewable energy with incentives for and purchases of renewable energy; and
- Support expansions of our natural gas infrastructure.

What organizational mechanisms are necessary to achieve reduced energy use and clean NYC’s energy supply?

We need a more comprehensive, coordinated and aggressive planning effort, focused on the specific needs of New York City. PlaNYC calls for a New York City Energy Planning Board that would be responsible for:

- Comprehensive planning: To review and approve energy plans that include supply and demand strategies to meet the city’s needs.
- Reducing demand: Set demand reduction targets as part of the city’s overall energy plan and recommend funding levels.
- Expanding supply: Set targets and would facilitate the supply of new clean power to the city by enabling a process to issue long-term contracts to energy supply developers.

What are the expected economic and environmental benefits of PlaNYC’s energy efficiency plan?

Over the long-run PlaNYC’s energy plan will provide significant and measurable City benefits:

- \$2-3 billion annual savings in the City’s combined power and heating bill by 2015;
- The average household would save \$19/month by 2015 from reduced rates and reduced residential energy usage after “investing” \$2-3/month over 8-10 years;
- A 7 million ton annual reduction in energy CO2 (vs. 2005); and
- Health benefits from reduced emissions for all NYC residents.

The Price of Inaction

Projected increase in the price of electricity between now and 2030 if we do nothing: 60 percent.

For more information, visit www.CampaignForNewYork.org.