

## NEWS

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### **Fuel Preference Would Distort New York Energy Market and Hurt Consumers, Say Natural Gas Suppliers**

(Washington, D.C.) – In comments filed yesterday on the New York Public Service Commission’s (NYPSC) *2016 Staff White Paper on Clean Energy Standard*, the Natural Gas Supply Association (NGSA) urged the PSC to reject subsidies for specific sources of energy because they would distort the energy market and result in higher consumer energy costs. Instead, NGSA said the NYPSC should allow market forces to establish a cost-effective long-term path forward for the state’s carbon reduction.

“Subsidizing an uneconomic energy source not only raises costs for New York’s electricity customers, it distorts wholesale electricity markets and puts other clean-burning fuels at a competitive disadvantage,” said Jenny Fordham, senior vice president of the Natural Gas Supply Association. For example, NGSA said the NYPSC should reject the concept of nuclear Zero Emission Credits (ZECs) because they artificially prop up uneconomical power generation facilities, ultimately resulting in higher consumer energy costs.

Fordham said, “Furthermore, a ZEC-style subsidy would impact the operation and development of natural gas-fired power plants, which are essential to underpinning intermittent renewable energy. Natural gas generation doesn’t just make renewable energy more reliable, it provides clean energy benefits while doing so,” she said. “The subsidy approach doesn’t make long-term sense for New York’s energy consumers or for New York’s environmental goals.”

NGSA wrote in its comments, “Natural gas is paving the way for reduced carbon emissions from the electricity generation sector and manufacturing growth. Achievement of climate objectives and economic revitalization can and should go hand-in-hand. It is the competitive market that makes this possible.”

The complete NGSA filing on the NYPSC Staff White Paper can be found [here on NGSA.org](http://www.ngsa.org).

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The Natural Gas Supply Association (NGSA) represents integrated and independent companies that supply natural gas. Established in 1965, NGSA encourages the use of natural gas within a balanced national energy policy, and promotes the benefits of competitive markets, thus encouraging increased supply and the reliable and efficient delivery of natural gas to U.S. customers. For more information, please visit [www.ngsa.org](http://www.ngsa.org) and [www.naturalgas.org](http://www.naturalgas.org).