

## Climate Action Council Draft Scoping Plan

Testimony for Virtual Hearing

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I am Kate Kremer, Vice President of Save Ontario Shores Inc.

The backbone of all the Draft Scoping Plan scenarios rely upon the rapid industrialization of huge land areas to provide wind and solar electricity. Appendices show that the Plan requires over 10 GW of onshore large scale wind projects in NY. Using 200 MW size as an example that would be 50 land based industrial wind projects likely to impact 100 rural towns - requiring **over 1 million acres of leased land**. Add to that 225 large scale solar projects of the same 200 MW size – each taking up thousands of acres of New York State farmland. And then there is the land needed for massive transmission lines.

And the plan to deal with the gap in electricity? More batteries or green hydrogen –either option would **require even more wind and solar** than already planned.

The Plan is disingenuous in suggesting that counties and towns will be able to be a part of planning for locations for these projects. The Office of Renewable Energy Siting has been created to officially bypass local laws, eliminate municipalities as parties, and is tasked with quickly approving developer applications. State government that once said it would not force projects into towns that oppose them is now set up to do just that on a rapid and massive scale.

New York does not have millions of acres of unforested, unoccupied land. These projects will increasingly push up against wildlife areas, parks, avian migratory pathways, Native American lands, forested and agricultural land, tourist and scenic areas and will industrialize hundreds of rural towns. It will fundamentally change the character of rural NY state. This is what is planned. Say it. Be honest about it. And be honest that there are other options for decreasing NY's carbon footprint.