

Dear neighbor,
From Maine to Rochester,
people are organizing to make
our energy system work for us.
In the Hudson Valley, we can
come together to stop Central
Hudson rate hikes and build a
future of Energy Democracy.

The history of our energy system has
always pitted people against profits. At
the dawn of New York's hydropower,
Franklin D. Roosevelt sought to curb the
power of hydro barons, and in the 19th
century, Nikola Tesla—whose inventions
made the modern power supply system
possible—dreamed of clean energy that
would be available for free to everyone.

Today, not only do we pay for energy,
we pay for dirty energy, and we pay for
corporate monopolies to make
guaranteed profits in the process. This
year, Central Hudson is asking for an
average increase of \$30 more per bill!

But an alternative is possible. Whether
it's France or a small town in the North
Country, people have successfully come
together to beat corporate utilities. Join
us at a town hall to learn how they did
it, how you can get involved in the
Central Hudson rate case, and how
we can work together to win Energy
Democracy! RSVP is required.



ASSEMBLYMEMBER
SARAHANA SHRESTHA

RSVP to a town hall near you:

SEP 19 TUE 6:30PM

**RHINEBECK
TOWN HALL**

SEP 23 SAT 2:00PM

**KINGSTON
LIBRARY**

SEP 26 TUE 6:30PM

SUNY NEW PALTZ

OCT 03 TUE 6:30PM

**SAUGERTIES
SENIOR CENTER**

OCT 05 THU 6:30PM

**WOODSTOCK
COMMUNITY
CENTER**

OCT 19 THU 6:30PM

**OLIVE
FREE LIBRARY**

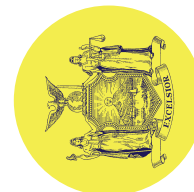
OCT 21 SAT 2:00PM

**ESOPUS
TOWN HALL**



SCAN CODE TO RSVP OR VISIT
<https://bit.ly/ad103energy>

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OFFICE OF NEW YORK
STATE ASSEMBLYMEMBER
SARAHANA SHRESTHA
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RSVP to join a town
hall near you:

Why corporate utilities run our energy system and how we can beat them

Stopping Central Hudson rate
hikes and building a future of
Energy Democracy



OFFICE OF NEW YORK
STATE ASSEMBLYMEMBER
SARAHANA SHRESTHA

Legislative highlights

01. Lead Sponsor

A07537: The Consumer Utility Protections During Investigations Act, or (CUPDI), suspends late fees and service terminations for non-payment while the utility is being investigated. **Currently, two such investigations are ongoing: Central Hudson and NYSEG.**

Requires customers to be notified within 3 days of an investigation starting, ensures utilities don't pass costs incurred as a result of this legislation to ratepayers, and makes ratepayers entitled to treble damages for improper shutoffs and fees.

02. Cosponsor

A00295B: Lowers the fixed charges on utility bills—these are the flat charges that are not dependent on energy use

A00295B: Prohibits utilities from using ratepayer money to make political contributions



03. Passed and needs to be signed by the Governor:

A4055A: Bans utilities from backbilling, i.e. sending bills for services rendered two months prior

A03683: Requires the Public Service Commission (PSC) to issue a final determination for utility rate related complaints within 90 days

A7165: Provides funding for residential and small business utility customers to become active participants in rate cases, which is the process where a utility asks for a rate increase

**Questions for our office?
Call (845) 338 9610 or email
district103@nyassembly.gov**

**See you at a town hall!
RSVP is required:
<https://bit.ly/ad103energy>**

MAJOR LEGISLATIVE WIN

The Build Public Renewables Act!

The first "Green New Deal" legislation to pass in the country, with the strongest labor protections for the renewable sector to date!

01. What does this bill do?

Authorizes and directs the New York Power Authority (NYPA)—the country's largest publicly-owned energy provider—to build enough affordable renewable energy to meet our climate goals.

Provides automatic discounts for low-income disadvantaged communities, which will be paid for by NYPA's sale of publicly-owned renewable energy. **Our district has several such communities, including in New Paltz, Saugerties, Port Ewen, Kingston, and more.**

02. Has it gone into effect?

Yes! But the public still needs to organize to ensure this bill is implemented as intended, and that NYPA brings opaque processes out in the open for public engagement. **Get in touch if you want to get involved!**

03. Why is this legislation necessary?

The private sector has been coming up short on its output of renewable energy. **The total share of wind and solar in the state's energy production has been only about 6%.**

For years, NYPA has been banned from building new energy, leaving new renewables entirely to the inefficient and expensive private sector.

The recent series of extreme weather events makes it clear: the climate crisis is here. But as we transition off fossil fuel, we must also ensure affordability and protect workers who need to transition into the new sector.

