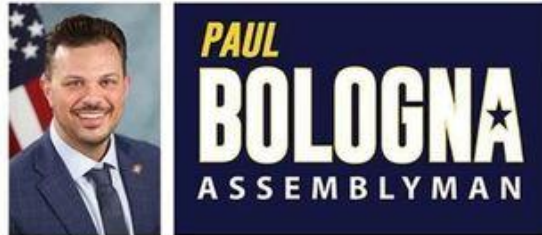


*****ENERGY BILL INCREASES-PLEASE READ*****



Dear Neighbor,

Like many of you, I've seen my energy bill increase sharply over the past several weeks. My office has also heard from many constituents who are frustrated, angry, and worried about what these rising costs mean for their household budgets.

You deserve a clear and honest explanation. The recent winter storms and sustained cold temperatures—impacting much of the country—have significantly increased energy demand. When temperatures drop and remain low for extended periods, more electricity and natural gas are required to heat homes, businesses, and essential facilities.

That increased demand places immediate pressure on energy markets.

However, weather alone does not explain the full picture.

For more than a decade, New York State has reduced reliable energy supply while simultaneously increasing electricity demand through state mandates. Policies limiting natural gas development, blocking pipeline projects, and phasing out reliable baseload power sources have occurred at the same time the state pushes electrification of homes, vehicles, and businesses.

When supply decreases and demand increases, prices rise. Unfortunately, we are seeing that reality reflected in today's energy bills.

It's also important to understand how your bill is structured. Utility profits in New York are tightly regulated and capped by the state. Those costs appear in the delivery portion of your bill, which utilities cannot arbitrarily increase.

The supply portion of your bill reflects the market price of electricity. These prices fluctuate based on demand, fuel availability, infrastructure limitations, and regulatory decisions.

In addition, many bills include state-mandated taxes, fees, and surcharges that fund various energy programs.

These costs are passed directly on to ratepayers.

New Yorkers should not have to choose between heating their homes and paying their bills. That is why my conference has proposed the "Lights On With Energy Relief" plan to provide BOTH immediate relief while addressing the underlying causes of rising costs for long term sustainability:

- Income-based rebate checks of up to \$400 to help families with rising energy bills
- Return \$2.4 billion in unused climate funds directly to ratepayers
- Bring reliable energy plants back online to strengthen supply
- Re- invest in pipelines that have been decommissioned to create reliable natural gas energy sources
- Invest in an all-of-the-above energy strategy, including natural gas, nuclear, and renewable power
- Protect energy choice by ending costly one-size-fits-all mandates

Energy policy should be grounded in engineering, economics, and common sense—not ideology. New Yorkers deserve affordable, reliable, and transparent energy choices.

I will continue working to protect ratepayers, restore balance to New York's energy policies, and push back against decisions that make everyday life more expensive for working families.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Paul Bologna".

Paul Bologna
Member of Assembly
144th Assembly District