**Action Alert:  Please help stop the proposed Danskammer Expansion**:  Consistent with our support for a rapid transition to a Renewable Energy Economy with storage and efficiency and our strong opposition to new fossil fuel infrastructure, Clearwater is actively opposing the expansion of the current Danskammer peaker plant, which operates less than 5% of the time, to a new year-round gas plant that would operate 60 - 70% of the year.  Recently Danskammer Energy released its Preliminary Scoping Statement (PSS) for comment.  We urge you to take a few minutes and go on to the PSC website to offer comment by March 15.  Click here to see a few key talking points and directions for how to submit comments.

The PSS is deficient in these major ways:

1) Danskammer Energy repeatedly compares of the proposed facility, which would run 60-70% of the time, to their existing peaker plant, which runs less than 5% of the time.  The air analyses presented in the PSS/EIS is faulty because DEC’s new proposed nitrous oxide (NOx) regulations would almost certainly result in the closure of the existing plant no later than 2025.   Therefore, the appropriate baseline for comparing the new plant emissions is no plant, not the existing plant;

2)  Danskammer Energy has totally disregarded the impacts of sea level rise, especially in conjunction with storm surge or other flood event.  Given their history of a devastating damage from Hurricane Sandy to their original facility, this is fool-hardy at best.  They are using the existing, but seriously outdated FEMA flood maps as the barometer for impacts.  With polar ice caps melting more quickly than predicted, with resulting worsening of sea-level rising, weather conditions and storm surges, the PSS needs to use the most current information available to model the risks to a new facility to be built on this flood-prone peninsula along the shores of the Hudson River.

To submit comments on the Danskammer Preliminary Scoping Statement, please go here:  <http://documents.dps.ny.gov/public/MatterManagement/CaseMaster.aspx?Mattercaseno=18-F-0325>   Click on “Post Comments” up on upper right.

Alternatively, you can email your comments to:  secretary@dps.ny.gov
or send via postal mail to: Hon. Kathleen H. Burgess, Secretary, New York State Public Service Commission, Empire State Plaza Agency Building 3, Albany, NY 12223-1350