

DEC STATEMENT to WaterFront. Nov. 15, 2023

The Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) does not have sufficient information about this conceptual project by Southern Tier CO2 to Clean Energy Solutions to speculate about the potential State permits or authorizations that would be required for the company's proposed use of private land to extract natural gas, as well as the proposed storage of carbon dioxide and combustion of gas to create electricity. DEC has not participated in any pre-application meetings nor received permit applications from Southern Tier CO2 to Clean Energy Solutions, also known as Southern Tier Solutions.

As with any proposed project, if DEC were to receive any permit applications for drilling in the Marcellus and Utica shales, the use of produced gas as fuel to generate electricity, or any other component of the company's plan, DEC would conduct a thorough and transparent review process. DEC's permitting reviews would examine all applicable federal and state standards to ensure the agency's decision is protective of public health and the environment, upholds environmental justice and fairness, and meets applicable standards, including those related to the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (Climate Act) and the State Environmental Quality Review Act. For example, DEC must ensure compliance with the requirements of the Climate Act's Section 7, which includes addressing whether the project is inconsistent with or would interfere with statewide greenhouse gas emission limits and ensuring a project would not disproportionately burden disadvantaged communities.