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Bolster baseload power as part of rail plan

Gov. Paterson deserves credit for his efforts to foster high-speed rail across our state. This is a critical investment in New York's infrastructure that will provide a needed jolt for Buffalo's economy; one that will lead to new jobs, new investment and an enhanced quality of life.

However, we must also take the responsible steps needed to bolster our state's electricity generating capacity, also known as baseload power, so that we have sufficient power for rails and economic recovery overall. This is why it is imperative for state lawmakers to pass a new, comprehensive power plant siting law, and to reaffirm our state's long-standing commitment to carbon-free baseload power resources such as nuclear and hydro.

We must also continue to encourage investment in our aging energy infrastructure, support competitive electricity markets, bolster alternative energy sources and research and always strive for energy conservation and efficiencies.

Paterson is on the right track. Let's get on board and secure our state's energy future.

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