RUPCO Community Solar Projects for LMI Customers

Presented by the Green Jobs Green New York Team

May 17, 2017
The RUPCO Mission and Vision

OUR MISSION
To create homes, support people and improve communities.

OUR VISION
Our vision is for strong, vibrant and diverse communities with opportunity and a home for everyone.
RUPCO & NYSERDA Partnership

- Independent contractor to NYSERDA
- Outreach to homeowners on behalf of NYSERDA
- Serve 10-County, Mid-Hudson Valley
- Nonprofit Constituency Based Organization (CBO) since 1981

Advance innovative energy solutions that improve New York’s economy and environment.

- NYSERDA: New York State Energy Research and Development Authority, since 1975
- Manages NYS residential energy efficiency programs
The Numbers

KEEP
CALM
AND
GET
REFERRALS

Residential Referrals: 7,115
The Numbers

Completed Energy Assessments: 2,527
The Numbers

Work Scopes Approved or Completed: 618!
Environmental Impacts of these retrofits

In the lifetime of the HPwES Program in our region there have been 6,546 retrofits

www.epa.gov

Total Kilowatt Hours saved 4,818,737
That’s the Carbon Dioxide Equivalent 3,733 tons (As of 12/9/16)

8,116,257 Miles driven by an average passenger vehicle (As of 12/9/16)
Environmental Impacts of these retrofits
In the lifetime of the HPwES Program in our region there have been 6,546 retrofits

Total Therms of natural gas saved 2,538,637
That’s the Carbon Dioxide Equivalent 14,837 tons (As of 12/9/16)

32,258,636 Miles driven by an average passenger vehicle (As of 12/9/16)
“Reduce then Produce”

RUPCO believes that the best way to meet the goals of the REV by 2030 as it relates to residential energy reduction goals is to promote and combine energy efficiency program like the EmPower and Home Performance with ENERGY STAR® programs with renewable energy programs like NYSun.

REV Clean Energy Goals for 2030

- 40% Reduction in greenhouse gas emissions from 1990 levels
- 50% Generation of New York State’s electricity must come from renewable energy sources
- 23% Decrease in energy consumption of buildings from 2012 levels
Energy conservation and efficiency are presently the most powerful tools in the transition to a clean energy future. As shown in the Energy Pyramid, renewable energy is an important piece of our future energy, but the largest opportunities are currently in energy conservation and efficiency.

“Reduce then Produce”
In Sept of 2015 RUPCO partnered with Grid Alternatives Tri State and the City of Kingston. RUPCO secured a grant from NeighborWorks America to provide matching funding towards these solar installs. NeighborWorks provides matching funds of around $2,500 per installation to RUPCO for homeowners who meet eligibility criteria to work with GRID Alternatives in the installation of solar projects.
RUPCO – GRID Alternatives Tri State LMI Solar Program
Case Study Video

https://youtu.be/1wTpJ06kU7w
RUPCO GJGNY is facilitating the development of a community solar project at a property owned by a nonprofit group located in Kingston, NY. This could be a 1.5 MW CDG project.
Brief Overview

Goals

• To help them select a solar developer
• For the system to cover the electrical loads of their building
• To help the LMI members of this NFP reduce their energy costs
Brief Overview

Goals, cont’d.

• For the nonprofit to realize a potential revenue stream
• For market rate members to also participate
• For members of the community to have access to local, clean energy production.
• For customer to also implement energy efficiency upgrades thus maximizing the benefits of solar
Progress to date

• Engaged several large scale commercial solar developers and received proposals that satisfied the requirements

• Assisted property owners with selecting an installer

• Coordinated a solar site study done at no cost by the Environmental Protection Agency to be used as reference

• Installer has initiated the process with the utility to define if the proposed size system can be interconnected given the existing infrastructure available at the site.
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