



NYSERDA

NY-Sun Initiative Quarterly Performance Report to the Public Service Commission

Quarter Ending March 31, 2017

Final Report

NYSERDA's Promise to New Yorkers:

NYSERDA provides resources, expertise, and objective information so New Yorkers can make confident, informed energy decisions.

Mission Statement:

Advance innovative energy solutions in ways that improve New York's economy and environment.

Vision Statement:

Serve as a catalyst – advancing energy innovation, technology, and investment; transforming New York's economy; and empowering people to choose clean and efficient energy as part of their everyday lives.

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Prepared by:

New York State Energy Research and Development Authority

Albany, NY

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1 Overview of NY-Sun

1.1 Introduction

NY-Sun is a \$1 billion initiative to expand solar capacity throughout New York State by utilizing public funds in a strategic manner to build a self-sustaining solar market. NY-Sun provides financial support to qualified solar installation contractors as well as a comprehensive approach to reducing solar costs and barriers. NY-Sun's goal, referred to as the 3 Gigawatt Goal, is to install three gigawatts (GW) of solar electric capacity by 2023.

Through March 31, 2017, 815 MW of solar have been installed statewide with NYSEERDA funding, and an additional 1,143 MW are in the pipeline. The NYSEERDA-funded solar capacity installed statewide as of March 31, 2017 generates approximately 940,855MWh of electricity each year, reducing annual carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂e) emissions by 495,187 metric tons.¹

1.2 High Level Accomplishments during this Quarter

New York State experienced continued growth in the solar market supported by NY-Sun during the first quarter of 2017. Highlights for this period include:

- Green Jobs - Green NY financing is still available for Long Island residents. As of the first quarter of 2017, 512 “financing only” projects were completed and 192 additional “financing only” project applications have been received or approved.
- Uptake for the Affordable Solar program, which provides additional incentives for onsite residential projects for low- to moderate-income homeowners, increased for customers and contractors during the first quarter of 2017. Through the first quarter of 2017, 146 installations were completed with 60 additional in the program pipeline (submitted or approved). Over 40 NY-Sun contractors have completed Affordable Solar projects.
- “Solarize” campaigns participating in Community Solar NY Round 2 officially closed at the end of 2016. These campaigns resulted in approximately 850 solar installations across 24 counties, equaling approximately 6.17 MW of solar. This round of campaigns saved customers approximately \$1.5 million in project costs, totaling \$1,848 in cost savings per project.

¹ With the submittal of its Clean Energy Fund Investment Plan Budget Accounting and Benefits Chapter on February 22, 2016, NYSEERDA adopted the NYS Public Service Commission's recommendation in its January 21, 2016 Order Establishing the Benefit Cost Analysis Framework that New York State's GHG emissions factor methodology shift from an average grid emission profile to a marginal grid emission profile. Due to this shift, New York State's factor to calculate GHG emissions reductions has changed from 625 pounds CO₂e/MWh to 1,160 pounds CO₂e/MWh. The emissions reductions calculated for this quarterly report reflect the new factor of 1,160 pounds CO₂e/MWh.

- Round 3 of Community Solar NY kicked off in March of 2017 with three communities from Community Solar NY moving forward. In 2017 there will be close to 15 active Solarize campaigns launching either from self-funded organizations, or through other NYSERDA funding channels.
- During the first quarter of 2017, the New York State Interconnection Ombudsmen continued to work with the utilities and solar developers to reduce obstacles to Distributed Generation interconnection. Most importantly, the New York State Public Service Commission approved the interconnection queue management proposal on January 25, 2017. The order applies to interconnection applications submitted under the Standardized Interconnection Requirements in effect through April 29, 2016. The new rules are designed to clear out a backlog of inactive project proposals, and allow well-developed projects to proceed. The first milestone deadline occurred on March 8, 2017, where property owner consent was due to the utilities. The New York State Interconnection Ombudsmen continued the collaborative efforts under the Interconnection Policy Working Group to address interconnection issues.

2 Progress and Results

Table 2-1. Capacity toward 3GW Goal through March 31, 2017 (MW)^{2,3}

Program	Projects Completed (Installed Units) with Adjustments through 12/31/16	Projects Completed (Installed Units) 1/01/17 - 3/31/17	Projects Completed (Installed Units) through 3/31/17	Applications Approved but Not Yet Contracted (Current Pipeline)	Projects Contracted but Not Yet Completed (Current Pipeline)	Total (Current Pipeline + Installed Units) through 3/31/17
Residential / Small Commercial	260.50	30.09	290.59	3.72	107.35	401.66
Commercial / Industrial	17.86	8.17	26.03	131.11	737.47	894.61
Competitive PV	23.74	17.52	41.26	0.00	115.03	156.29
Grand Total	302.10	55.78	357.88	134.83	959.85	1,452.57

² 1,000 MW equals one GW.

³ Changes in numbers for previously reported completed projects is due to lagged data and/or QA/QC.

Table 2-2. Production Associated with 3GW Goal through March 31, 2017 (MWh)⁴

Program	Projects Completed (Installed Units) with Adjustments through 12/31/16	Projects Completed (Installed Units) 1/01/17 - 3/31/17	Projects Completed (Installed Units) through 3/31/17	Applications Approved but Not Yet Contracted (Current Pipeline)	Projects Contracted but Not Yet Completed (Current Pipeline)	Total (Current Pipeline + Installed Units) through 3/31/17
Residential / Small Commercial	305,784	35,324	341,108	4,369	126,014	471,490
Commercial / Industrial	20,966	9,593	30,559	153,903	865,672	1,050,134
Competitive PV	27,865	20,563	48,428	0	135,029	183,457
Grand Total	354,614	65,480	420,094	158,272	1,126,714	1,705,080

⁴ Changes in numbers for previously reported completed projects is due to lagged data and/or QA/QC.

Table 2-3. Budget and Financial Status for NY-Sun Programs as of March 31, 2017 (in dollars)⁵

Program	Pre-encumbrances	Open Encumbrances	Expended Funds	Grand Total	Budgeted Funds 2014-2023
Residential/Small Commercial	1,708,489	50,600,664	182,400,773	234,709,926	594,234,379
Commercial/Industrial	41,458,192	272,095,930	2,743,884	316,298,006	465,741,045
Competitive PV	-	73,953,963	6,544,626	80,498,588	80,498,588
Program Implementation	-	479,000	1,379,873	1,858,873	33,275,000
Administration	202,792	322,717	3,196,003	3,721,512	38,706,000
Evaluation	-	-	-	-	2,500,000
NYS Cost Recovery Fee	-	-	1,043,035	1,043,035	19,250,000
Total	43,369,473	397,452,274	197,308,195	638,129,941	1,234,205,012

⁵ Administration, Evaluation, and NYS Cost Recovery Fee are for NY-Sun funds only.

NYSERDA, a public benefit corporation, offers objective information and analysis, innovative programs, technical expertise, and support to help New Yorkers increase energy efficiency, save money, use renewable energy, and reduce reliance on fossil fuels. NYSERDA professionals work to protect the environment and create clean-energy jobs. NYSERDA has been developing partnerships to advance innovative energy solutions in New York State since 1975.

To learn more about NYSERDA's programs and funding opportunities, visit nyserdera.ny.gov or follow us on Twitter, Facebook, YouTube, or Instagram.

**New York State
Energy Research and
Development Authority**

17 Columbia Circle
Albany, NY 12203-6399

toll free: 866-NYSERDA
local: 518-862-1090
fax: 518-862-1091

info@nyserdera.ny.gov
nyserdera.ny.gov



State of New York

Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor

New York State Energy Research and Development Authority

Richard L. Kauffman, Chair | John B. Rhodes, President and CEO