



**NYSERDA**

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

**Quarter Ending September 30, 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.



**NY-Sun Initiative**  
**Quarterly Performance Report to the**  
**Public Service Commission**  
**Quarter Ending September 30, 2017**

*Final Report*

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Albany, NY

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# 1 Overview of NY-Sun

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## 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 Gigawatts Goal, is to install three gigawatts (GW) of solar electric capacity by 2023 while building a self-sustaining solar industry.

Through September 30, 2017, 904 megawatts (MW) of solar have been installed statewide with NYSERDA funding, and an additional 1,263 MW are in the pipeline. The NYSERDA-funded solar capacity installed statewide as of September 30, 2017 generates approximately 1,046,175 megawatt-hours (MWh) of electricity each year, reducing annual carbon dioxide equivalent (CO<sub>2</sub>e) emissions by 550,618 metric tons (MT).<sup>1</sup>

## 1.2 High Level Accomplishments during this Quarter

- Rest of State Residential Block 7 was fully subscribed to its allocation of 85 MW. The incentive rate for Rest of State Residential Block 8 was adjusted from \$0.30 per watt (W) to \$0.35/W due to slow market conditions.
- Green Jobs - Green New York financing is still available for Long Island residents. As of the third quarter of 2017, 687 “financing only” Long Island projects have been completed and 125 additional Long Island “financing only” project applications have been received or approved.
- NY-Sun deployed additional resources to educate and support stakeholders in the transition to Value of Distributed Energy Resources (VDER), including a Value Stack Calculator (available at [nysesda.ny.gov/vder](http://nysesda.ny.gov/vder)).
- Ten Competitive PV projects, sited at schools and local governments, were installed during Q3 2017.

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<sup>1</sup> The Clean Energy Fund Investment Plan Budget Accounting and Benefits Chapter was submitted on February 22, 2016, in which NYSERDA adopted the NYS Public Service Commission's recommendation in its January 21, 2016 Order Establishing the Benefit Cost Analysis Framework. NYSERDA fulfilled the recommendation that New York State's greenhouse gas (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 CO<sub>2</sub>e/MWh to 1,160 pounds CO<sub>2</sub>e/MWh. The emissions reductions calculated for this quarterly report reflect the new factor of 1,160 pounds CO<sub>2</sub>e/MWh.

- Uptake for the Affordable Solar Residential Onsite program, which provides additional incentives for on-site residential projects for low- to moderate-income homeowners, increased for customers and contractors during the third quarter of 2017. Through Q3 2017, 229 installations were completed with 81 more in the pipeline. Over 50 NY-Sun contractors have completed Affordable Solar projects to date.
- The Affordable Solar Predevelopment and Technical Assistance program, which provides funding to support the development of community solar projects serving low- and moderate-income households as well as solar serving multifamily affordable housing properties, approved eight project applications through Q3 2017, with three predevelopment projects under contract.
- The planned Solar Market Accelerator was broadened beyond distributed solar to include other clean energy technologies such as large-scale solar, wind, and batteries. Now titled the Clean Energy Market Accelerator (CEMA), the initiative seeks to reduce soft-cost barriers inhibiting the deployment of clean energy technologies, initially focusing on distributed solar and large-scale renewables. The CEMA Investment Plan will be filed by NYSERDA in Q4 of 2017.
- In September 2017, NY-Sun released an expanded version of the NY Solar Guidebook, which seeks to reduce soft costs by guiding local governments through the solar development process. New chapters in the 2017 Guidebook include a Solar Payment-in-Lieu-of-Tax (PILOT) Toolkit, the State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR) process for solar, and Land Use Tools for Siting Solar While Protecting Farmland. Since the release of the 2017 Solar Guidebook, several municipalities have adopted PILOT agreements with rates in-line with NYSERDA's guidance.
- During Q3, NY-Sun presented program plans for a Low-Income Community Solar Initiative to the Value of DER Low-Moderate Income and other stakeholder forums in advance of an Investment Plan filing in early Q4 of 2017.
- Through Q3 2017, 24 Solarize campaigns have been hosted throughout the State. Solarize campaigns currently underway will close by the end of the calendar year, with the exception of the CEG SolarGen campaign, which focuses on commercial and manufacturing buildings.

## 2 Progress and Results

Table 2-1. Capacity toward 3GW Goal through September 30, 2017 (MW)<sup>2,3</sup>.

Program	Projects Completed (Installed Units) with Adjustments through 6/30/17	Projects Completed (Installed Units) 7/01/17 - 9/30/17	Projects Completed (Installed Units) through 9/30/17	Applications Approved but Not Yet Contracted (Current Pipeline)	Projects Contracted but Not Yet Completed (Current Pipeline)	Total (Current Pipeline + Installed Units) through 9/30/17
Residential / Small Commercial	321.22	24.68	345.90	7.22	85.22	438.34
Commercial / Industrial	34.82	3.40	38.22	15.26	1,022.08	1,075.56
Competitive PV	40.26	9.31	49.57	0.00	104.68	154.25
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>396.29</b>	<b>37.39</b>	<b>433.68</b>	<b>22.49</b>	<b>1,211.98</b>	<b>1,668.15</b>

<sup>2</sup> 1,000 MW equals one GW.

<sup>3</sup> Changes in numbers for previously reported completed projects are due to lagged data and/or QA/QC.

**Table 2-2. Production Associated with 3GW Goal through September 30, 2017 (MWh)<sup>4, 5, 6</sup>**

Program	Projects Completed (Installed Units) with Adjustments through 6/30/17	Projects Completed (Installed Units) 7/01/17 - 9/30/17	Projects Completed (Installed Units) through 9/30/17	Applications Approved but Not Yet Contracted (Current Pipeline)	Projects Contracted but Not Yet Completed (Current Pipeline)	Total (Current Pipeline + Installed Units) through 9/30/17
Residential / Small Commercial	377,055	28,972	406,027	8,480	100,029	514,537
Commercial / Industrial	40,869	3,994	44,864	17,918	1,199,760	1,262,541
Competitive PV	47,254	10,929	58,183	0	122,881	181,064
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>465,179</b>	<b>43,895</b>	<b>509,074</b>	<b>26,398</b>	<b>1,422,670</b>	<b>1,958,142</b>

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<sup>4</sup> Changes in numbers for previously reported completed projects are due to lagged data and/or QA/QC.

<sup>5</sup> Note that the megawatt-hours included in Table 2-2 are estimated amounts based on a statewide capacity factor. NYSERDA does not, by filing this report, make any claim to the environmental attributes associated with those megawatt-hours.

<sup>6</sup> The NY-Sun program does not determine the delivery or use of solar energy (MWh) from projects that receive funding. Generation from NY-Sun-funded projects may be used by customers for their own voluntary use or used toward meeting State requirements to deliver renewable energy to electricity customers in New York, depending on ownership of the environmental attributes and/or renewable energy certificates (RECs) from those projects. Where NYSERDA has not acquired the RECs from a NY-Sun-funded project, NYSERDA makes no claim to the environmental attributes of that energy.

**Table 2-3. Budget and Financial Status for NY-Sun Programs as of September 30, 2017  
(in dollars)<sup>7</sup>**

<b>Program</b>	<b>Pre-encumbrances</b>	<b>Open Encumbrances</b>	<b>Expended Funds</b>	<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>Budgeted Funds 2014-2023</b>
Residential/Small Commercial	2,601,225	33,957,078	206,690,181	243,248,484	578,409,379
Commercial/Industrial	2,846,265	337,692,162	4,595,730	345,134,157	469,308,059
Competitive PV	-	69,289,712	9,434,753	78,724,465	78,724,465
Program Implementation	536,993	1,752,450	2,943,916	5,233,359	32,600,000
Low-Moderate Income	35,737	503,964	499,759	1,039,460	13,000,000
Consumer Education	-	3,156,057	343,943	3,500,000	3,500,000
Administration	12,000	350,860	5,100,802	5,463,662	38,706,000
Evaluation	-	119,742	30,258	150,000	2,500,000
NYS Cost Recovery Fee	-	-	1,298,429	1,298,429	19,250,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,032,220</b>	<b>446,822,025</b>	<b>230,937,771</b>	<b>683,792,016</b>	<b>1,235,997,903</b>

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<sup>7</sup> 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](http://nyserdera.ny.gov) or follow us on Twitter, Facebook, YouTube, or Instagram.

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