Responsibly develop clean energy in your communities

NYSERDA offers resources to help local governments manage responsible clean energy development in their communities. These resources include guidebooks with step-by-step instructions and tools to guide the implementation of clean energy, technical assistance to help implement the policies and practices, and workshops to help manage clean energy development responsibly.

Free technical assistance

Access one-on-one technical assistance from a team of consultants to help meet your clean energy goals. We will work with municipalities to:

- Answer questions about clean energy
- Adopt a model solar or battery energy storage law
- Update a comprehensive plan for clean energy
- Develop zoning procedures for solar, wind, and energy storage
- Improve the permitting process
- Adopt a Payment-in-Lieu-of-Tax agreement
- Determine an appropriate PILOT rate
- Help towns lease underutilized lands for solar energy

Solar and Battery Energy Storage Guidebooks

The New York State Solar and Battery Energy Storage Guidebooks contain information, tools, and step-by-step instructions to encourage responsible clean energy development in communities. The Guidebooks offer comprehensive information regarding permitting, inspections, taxes, and more, to help your municipality navigate the clean energy landscape.
Workshops

NYSERDA offers complimentary workshops on several topics including zoning and planning, property tax, and code enforcement. Our team will work with your community to set up workshops and provide instruction on how our resources can help manage responsible clean energy development. Continuing education credits are offered with the workshops.

Current Workshops:

**Solar Permitting and Inspecting in New York State**  
*Accredited by: NY Dept. of State, Division of Building Standards & Codes (DOS BSC) — 2 in-service hours*  
Provides an in-depth review of the entire process of permitting and inspecting solar systems in New York State from start to finish, including the NYS Unified Solar Permit. Workshop includes topics on code enforcement and administration, uniform fire prevention, and building code.

**Overview of the Model Solar Energy Law**  
*Annual Training for Planning & Zoning Board of Appeals Members — 2 in-service hours*  
Offers a review of the Model Solar Energy Law developed by NYSERDA as a best practice guidance. NYSERDA reviewed solar laws statewide and nationally to develop an all-inclusive model for municipalities to use to adopt a solar law.

**Overview of the Model Battery Energy Storage Law**  
*Annual Training for Planning & Zoning Board of Appeals Members — 2 in-service hours*  
Offers a review of the Model Battery Energy Storage Law developed by NYSERDA as best practice guidance. This course also reviews battery energy storage technology basics, along with important code considerations with regard to siting battery storage projects.

**Battery Energy Storage for First Responders**  
*Accredited by: NY Dept. of State, Division of Building Standards & Codes (DOS BSC) — 2 in-service hours*  
Identifies potential hazards and safety considerations associated with battery energy storage systems. This course covers fire prevention, compliance with the updated New York State Uniform Code, and emergency response considerations.

Ready to get started?

Learn more about what solar can do for your community and access resources at nyserda.ny.gov/siting or email cleanenergyhelp@nyserda.ny.gov

NY-Sun, a dynamic public-private partnership, will drive growth in the solar industry and make solar technology more affordable for all New Yorkers. NY-Sun brings together and expands existing programs administered by the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA), Long Island Power Authority (LIPA), PSEG Long Island, and the New York Power Authority (NYPA), to ensure a coordinated, well-supported solar energy expansion plan and a transition to a sustainable, self-sufficient solar industry.

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, visit nyserda.ny.gov or follow us on Twitter, Facebook, YouTube, or Instagram.