



NYSERDA

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

Quarter Ending March 31, 2016

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
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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. NY-Sun also provides a comprehensive approach to reducing solar costs and barriers. NY-Sun's goal, referred to as the 3 GW Goal, is to install 3 gigawatts (GW) of solar electric capacity by 2023 while building a self-sustaining solar industry.

Through March 31, 2016, 568 MW of solar have been installed statewide with NYSEERDA funding, and an additional 538 MW are in the pipeline. The NYSEERDA-funded solar capacity installed statewide as of March 31, 2016 generates approximately 653,878 MWh of electricity each year, reducing annual carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂e) emissions by 344,146 metric tons¹.

1.2 High Level Accomplishments during this Quarter

New York State experienced continued growth in the residential/small commercial solar market supported by NY-Sun during the first quarter of 2016. A total of 5,925 new applications for NY-Sun Megawatt (MW) Block incentives were submitted for residential/small commercial solar electric projects during this time, including 1,157 applications in the Con Edison region, 2,401 applications for the Long Island region, and 2,367 in the Upstate region. The Long Island applications represented most of the remaining capacity for the final residential MW Block for the Long Island region, with the block planning on fully closing in the second quarter of 2016. Green Jobs - Green New York financing and the Affordable Solar incentive for low- and moderate-income residential customers will remain available statewide.

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's GHG emissions factor methodology shift from an average grid emission profile to a marginal grid emission profile. Due to this shift, New York'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.

The market served by the Commercial/Industrial MW Block incentives accelerated significantly during the first quarter of 2016. Applications for 81 projects were submitted during that time, including 76 in the Upstate region. The rapid growth reflected the maturity of projects that initiated development in 2015, including Community Distributed Generation (Community DG) projects initiated after the New York Public Service Commission's July 2015 Order establishing Community DG and the implementation of utility tariffs for Community DG in October 2015.

In March 2016, NYSERDA and the Department of Public Service introduced ombudsman services to assist developers and utilities with interconnection applications and new distributed generation projects. At the same time, the State created the New York State Interconnect Working Group and implemented new interconnection regulations. Taken together, these measures will make it faster and easier for solar projects to connect to the grid, reducing one of the most significant barriers to the growth of solar in New York State.

2 Progress and Results

Table 2-1. Capacity toward 3GW Goal through March 31, 2016 (MW)²³

Technology	Application Approved but Not Yet Contracted (Current Pipeline)	Projects Contracted but not yet Completed (Current Pipeline)	Projects Completed (Installed Units)	Total (Current Pipeline + Installed Units)	Projects Completed (Installed Units) ^{*Current Period Quarter}
Solar PV - Residential/Small Commercial	2.36	152.87	172.51	327.75	32.89
Solar PV - Commercial/Industrial	71.35	123.84	3.01	198.20	1.31
Competitive PV	0.00	153.87	7.79	161.66	3.48
Grand Total	73.71	430.58	183.31	687.60	37.67

* Current Period Projects Completed (Installed Units) refer to projects installed between January 1, 2016 and March 31, 2016

² 1,000 MW equals 1 GW

³ Projects Completed (Installed Units) for Solar PV - Residential/Small Commercial excludes approximately 0.18 MW from eight projects, which will be added in the next quarterly report.

Table 2-2. Production Associated with 3GW Goal through March 31, 2016 (MWh)⁴

Technology	Application Approved but Not Yet Contracted (Current Pipeline)	Projects Contracted but not yet Completed (Current Pipeline)	Projects Completed (Installed Units)	Total (Current Pipeline + Installed Units)	Projects Completed (Installed Units) *Current Period Quarter
Solar PV - Residential/Small Commercial	2,775.19	179,445.61	202,500.49	384,721.28	38,603.53
Solar PV - Commercial/Industrial	83,749.70	145,370.55	3,530.34	232,650.59	1,535.55
Competitive PV	0.00	180,620.24	9,143.15	189,763.39	4,084.34
Grand Total	86,524.89	505,436.40	215,173.97	807,135.26	44,223.43

* Current Period Projects Completed (Installed Units) refer to projects installed between January 1, 2016 and March 31, 2016

⁴ Projects Completed (Installed Units) for Solar PV - Residential/Small Commercial excludes approximately 214 MWh from eight projects, which will be added in the next quarterly report.

Table 2-3. Budget and Financial Status for NY-Sun Programs as of March 31, 2016 (in dollars)

Program	Pre-encumbrances⁵	Open Encumbrances⁶	Expended Funds⁷	Grand Total	Budgeted Funds 2014-2023
Solar PV – Residential / Small Commercial	\$1,222,220	\$79,809,809	\$130,446,399	\$211,478,428	\$594,634,379
Solar PV – Commercial / Industrial	\$26,179,027	\$45,560,226	\$353,333	\$72,092,586	\$489,943,524
Competitive PV⁸	-	\$79,285,365	\$826,655	\$80,112,019	\$80,112,019
Program Implementation⁹	-	\$156,037	\$367,953	\$523,990	\$32,875,000
Total	\$27,401,247	\$204,655,400	\$131,626,386	\$363,683,033	\$1,197,564,922

⁵ Planned funding for contracts awarded and under negotiation; and planned funding under active development through open solicitations with upcoming proposal due dates.

⁶ Remaining funding obligated under a contract, purchase order, or incentive award.

⁷ Invoices processed for payment by NYSERDA.

⁸ Commercial / Industrial budgeted funds includes all RPS Large Scale budget funds other than those represented on the Competitive PV line and the 3/31/16 value of the commitments of Competitive PV projects pre-encumbered prior to January 1, 2014

⁹ Program Implementation includes technical assistance and field review for quality assurance and quality control.

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.

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