



To Solar Contractors:

Thank you for your efforts in helping New York State achieve 575 percent growth in solar between 2012 and 2015. New York State is committed to taking steps to further advance installation and interconnection of solar and other distributed energy resources – building on the success already achieved. As part of these efforts, we are pleased to inform you that NYSERDA and the Department of Public Service (DPS) have designated an ombudsperson at each agency to assist solar developers and utilities with interconnection-related questions and help to resolve related issues.

The ombudsperson will serve as a liaison to communicate information on the process and timeline for interconnections, and work with all parties to advance projects currently in the queue. NYSERDA has designated Houtan Moaveni, while Elizabeth Grisaru has been designated as the Acting Ombudsperson at DPS.

These individuals will help investigate complaints and offer problem-solving assistance to minimize delays associated with project applications. In addition, they will recommend changes to the Standardized Interconnection Requirements (SIR) and other regulations or practices to improve and better streamline the process, work with stakeholders to develop training on the interconnection process and procedures, and address issues to better manage the interconnection queue.

Please find the following contact information to reach an ombudsperson:

Houtan Moaveni, (518) 862-1090 x 3016 houtan.moaveni@nyserda.ny.gov
Elizabeth Grisaru, (518) 486-2653, elizabeth.grisaru@dps.ny.gov

In addition to Houtan and Elizabeth, each investor-owned utility has appointed an ombudsperson. The State has also created the New York State Interconnect Technical Working Group, which is made up of representatives from DPS, NYSERDA, the Joint Utilities, New York Solar Energy Industry Association, and a few individual installers. While the

ombudspersons will work on issues regarding individual installations, the Technical Working Group will work to solve technical interconnect problems that affect large numbers of projects.

The growth of solar is a critical component to achieving Governor Cuomo's clean energy goals as part of Reforming the Energy Vision (REV), while also creating jobs and a clean energy economy. As New York continues its efforts to expand solar and distributed generation across the State, please do not hesitate to contact either ombudsperson to improve the interconnection process and help New York achieve its energy goals.

Regards,
David Sandbank

About NY-Sun

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. To learn more about NY-Sun, visit ny-sun.ny.gov