NYSERDA'S 277TH BOARD MEETING
October 21, 2026
Clean Copy of Transcript

Audrey Zibelman:
Good afternoon, everyone. I'm going to call the 277th meeting of the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority to order. The notice of the meeting and agenda was mailed to Members on October 13th and to the press on October 14th, 2026. I direct that a copy of the notice and agenda be annexed to the minutes of this meeting. And welcome to everyone. This meeting's being conducted in person and by video conference. The Authority will post a video and a transcript of the meeting on the web. To confirm that we have a quorum, I would like to ask each of the Members to introduce themselves. I'll start. My name's Audrey Zibelman and I'm Chair of the Authority. I'll turn it over to you.

Charles Bell:
I'm Chuck Bell, Vice Chair of the Authority, Member of the Board.

Dale Bryk:
Dale Bryk, Member of the Board.

Lindsay Greene:
Lindsay Greene, Member of the Board.

JoAnne Hewett:
JoAnne Hewett, Member of the Board.

Jay Koh:
Jay Koh, Member of the Board.

Kim Harriman:
Kim Harriman, Member of the Board

Justin Driscoll:
Justin Driscoll, Member of the Board.

Jennifer Hensley:
Jen Hensley, Member of the Board.

Audrey Zibelman:
Thank you. And is Shere here? I don't think so yet. Okay. All right. Well, I would like to note that we do have a quorum and we'll proceed. So the first item on the agenda is the President's report. I just do want to note that Shere Abbott is participating by video conference on this as per our extraordinary circumstances exception under the Open Meeting Law and our By-laws. Shere's participation will count for votes, but she will not be included in the count for the quorum. And with that, let me turn it over to you, Doreen. Welcome.

Doreen Harris:
Good afternoon, everyone. Thank you for joining us. I'm here to provide my presence report as I do every meeting. If we can move forward to slides, please. I'll share some key New York State energy updates with you all focused on global energy market trends, announcements from Climate Week and other major news from NYSERDA and the State writ large. I wanted to organize these points using NYSERDA's mission outcomes as an organizational frame. If we turn forward though, my first slide is to welcome our newest Board Chair, Chair Zibelman.

Audrey Zibelman:
Thank you.

Doreen Harris:
Thank you for your service to the Authority. As a reminder, Governor Hochul announced Chair Zibelman as our new Board Chair in late August. We all know the vast experience that you provide. I speak for the management of the Authority in saying we're very excited to work with you to gain from your insights and also recognize that you will help us as do all the Members of the Board in making us a stronger organization. So you've hit the ground running. We want obviously the Members to join us in welcoming you and congratulating you on your appointment as well as thanking Chuck Bell for his capable leadership as NYSERDA's Acting Board Chair for many months. Thank you, Chuck. And of course, thank you for staying on in this leadership role. And again, welcome Audrey.

Audrey Zibelman:
Thank you. And thanks Doreen. And just let me note, one, thanks to the appreciation of the staff who's been really generous with their time and particularly Doreen. So thank you all. I feel like I've had a great opportunity to be onboarded and to my fellow Board Members for all of you for spending the time with me and getting me up to speed, particularly you Chuck, for leaving the Authority in a great condition so it's easy to step into. So look forward to my tenure and of course appreciate Governor Hochul for giving me this opportunity. And with that, let me turn it back to you.

Doreen Harris:
Thank you very much. So to begin, I'm providing another update as I had a number of months ago on global energy markets and their implications on New York State. I want to recognize NYSERDA's energy markets team who monitors all of these trends closely, particularly as we head into the winter heating season. I thought it would be timely to update you on a variety of factors. Next slide. Energy markets both globally and domestically are impacted by the continuing war in Iran and the escalation on the Russian-Ukraine war. And specifically, it's important to note that the damage to energy infrastructure continues to delay the movement of liquified natural gas and fruit oil and refined products such as diesel. Therefore, these trends have impacted Northeastern energy markets in the following areas. First, transportation fuel costs. They remain elevated. The US recently reached a record high for diesel prices of $6.53 per gallon.

Heating oil prices are another core concern heading into the heating season. As I said, statewide heating oil prices are 68% higher than they were a year ago. They're important programs to

support New York State consumers in search of price relief through the Home Energy Assistance program. We do hope to continue to amplify that opportunity and avail New Yorkers to these resources. Importantly, future prices for natural gas remain elevated. New England is exposed to the global price volatility in the LNG market. We've noted of elevated prices in their futures markets for natural gas and our proximity of our markets to New England may continue to expose New York consumers to the same price volatility. If we tune to the next slide, you can actually see this visually. This slide shows the impact of the war on the current price of heating oil and the price of heating oil in the future.

The chart on the left shows how much price expectations have increased from February to the latest pricing from October 5th. When heating oil prices are forecasted to be lower into the future, I would say wholesale lawyers have a disincentive to store fuel, which makes the system more vulnerable to shocks from extreme weather or other events. So that's important to note as we head into the winter weather particular. The image on the right is a statewide map of retail heating oil prices from NYSERDA's latest fuel survey. Across the state, as you can see, heating oil prices are elevated. In New York City, they're up 60% as compared to the same time last year. In the capital region, prices are 73% higher than last year. So as described, coupled with these price trends, fuel supply inventories remain at historically low levels in the Northeast, and this could impact fuel delivery delays similar to what we observed during winter storm Fern and the cold weather events this past January.

So ultimately, this to me reinforces the very criticality of the programs that we at NYSERDA execute upon relative to the means by which they can insulate consumers from fossil fuel price volatility. And of course, the conclusion from the State Energy Plan that clean energy is an affordability solution for New York. I'll keep saying it onward. Even in the face of international market volatility, September marked another successful New York City climate week for NYSERDA and the State writ large. And we had several important announcements. Next slide. First, during climate week, Governor Hochul announced a strong vision for New York State's energy future called the charge agenda, otherwise known as the clean, highly affordable, reliable grid expansion agenda. This framework champions clean energy and affordability measures in a time when energy prices in data centers pose serious concerns for rate payers. And closer to home, as part of the CHARGE Agenda, the Governor announced that the State Energy Planning Board led by NYSERDA will develop an Energy Infrastructure and Development Plan or EIDP.

This will update and strengthen our State Energy Plan with an actionable blueprint for aligning resources with economic goals for the state. And as Chair of the State Energy Planning Board, I'm excited to begin this process starting with our next Energy Planning Board meeting being held on December 9th of this year. You'll be hearing more from NYSERDA's Senior Vice President of Policy Analysis and Research, Carl Mas, in just a bit on this important process. Next slide. During Climate Week, we at NYSERDA announced our awards for the next two procurements, first for eight new bulk energy storage projects, which are expected to yield 950 megawatts of new energy storage capacity, as well as 13 Large Scale Renewable projects which are expected to increase renewable capacity by 719 megawatts. So these are signed contracts made possible via our first bulk energy storage solicitation and our 2025 Tier 1 Renewable Energy Standard solicitation.

Ultimately, these are contracts that are signed that will allow us to more than double our utility scale energy storage contracted capacity, of course, addressing grid reliability and cost reduction for New Yorkers.

And one more announcement from Climate Week. Next slide. Governor Hochul announced the creation of New Efficient Homes New York, which is going to provide financial support and help designers, developers, and home builders improve energy efficiency and improve high performing systems at scale. This program, which is part of the Governor's Let them Build Agenda, offers support in the design and construction phase for residential new construction of all sizes, and importantly, a heat pump incentive available for buildings under 50,000 square feet. We pair this with the awards from our most recent round of our Buildings of Excellence Competition for 10 zero emission multifamily projects totaling $12 million and $20 million for the next round of the competition. So all of these building related programs reflect our commitment to driving down consumer costs while improving energy efficiency in our built environment.

Next slide and one more. I'd also just like to briefly highlight the New York Community Scale Health and Air Pollution Policy Analysis Tool, which informed analysis in the 2025 State Energy Plan. In July of 2026, an article based on this State Energy Plan health analysis made the cover of the American Chemical Society Environmental Science and Technology Air Journal. This is a successful effort across our Policy Analysis and Research Business Unit with our Environmental Research Team catalyzing this initial tool development and our policy analysis staff using this tool for the health analyses in the State Energy Plan. So an example of our work having national prominence and beyond. Next slide.

And one more. Additionally, and following this Board's action, I wanted to report in a timely manner that in early August, NYSERDA and the Department of Environmental Conservation finalized new regulations for the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative, which strengthens emissions reduction targets for our State and importantly includes very specific cost containment provisions as well. NYSERDA is currently planning for our next operating plan amendment to determine how we will spend the auction proceeds. For the Board's awareness, we will bring that amendment to our Board for approval at our January meeting as we do each year. Next slide and one more. Now with some good news across our distributed and community solar portfolio, New York celebrated the installation of eight gigawatts of distributed solar in early July. This achievement underscores our national leadership in community solar, which continues to reduce costs for our rate pairs while improving the reliability of our grid.

In terms of programmatic clean energy updates, we just announced last week our framework for directing $200 million under the sustainable future program toward the NY-Sun program, allocating $116 million to large commercial and community solar with additional funding support for mid-size rooftop solar, residential solar for low to moderate income households and flexible markets as well, and incentive adders for solar development heading toward the built environment, such as projects on carports, brownfields, landfills, floating systems, and agrivoltaics. So as you know, NY-Sun is one of NYSERDA's most successful programs, so we're excited to continue this work with this $200 million influx of capital.

Next slide. In late July, NYSERDA also announced an additional $8 million in funding for the advanced fuels and thermal energy program, which supports the development of clean hydrogen and other alternative low carbon fuels. This sector offers a meaningful opportunity for continued energy innovation, especially as we aim to reduce emissions in hard to electrify sectors. And one more slide moving forward to our transportation sector. One more slide please. I wanted to share Governor Hochul's announcement of additional funding for Charge Ready New York, which finances charging stations on publicly owned land available for public use. The announcement came in mid-August allocating $35 million in additional funding for the program, also through the Sustainable Future Program. I'd say this sort of charging infrastructure is essential for our transition to the clean energy economy, particularly in publicly owned spaces and ultimately enhances the multifaceted investments that we are making in charging for electric vehicles across all sources.

And with that, I will congratulate our teams at NYSERDA for their continued programmatic successes of clean energy milestones and the progress that we are all making together. And with that, I will turn this agenda back to the Chair.

Audrey Zibelman:
Thanks. Really great report and definitely exciting to see all the progress and successes. Any questions for Doreen on the report? I see none. Then let me just then turn it over to the Committees and get our Committee reports. The first one is the Governance Committee and Dale, could you offer that?

Dale Bryk:
Yes, of course. Thanks. The Governance Committee met earlier today and a quorum was present throughout the meeting. The Committee completed its annual review of the Governance Committee Charter. No recommendations were made and the Committee unanimously recommends approval of the Committee's Charter. Next, the Committee considered proposed amendments to the Authority's bylaws to allow the president and CEO to delegate the Authority to execute certain non-material documents to NY Green Bank leaders. This will streamline and improve the transaction process for NY Green Bank, and the Committee unanimously recommends approval of those amendments to the Authority's By-laws. Lastly, the Committee received a report from the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Officer Michelle Andry on the recent activity of the team and their work on the DEI Strategic Plan. The Committee was able to ask questions and was satisfied with discussion, and this concludes my report.

Audrey Zibelman:
Great. Thanks, Dale. The next Committee to report out is Audit and Finance, and because Jay Koh was not able to come because of a preexisting conflict, I Chaired the meeting, so I'll offer the report. Committee received a report from the Director of Internal Audit, Jamie Fernandez, on the recent activities of Internal Audit. We were able to ask questions and were pleased with the discussion. The next, the Committee received a report from the Chief Financial Officer, Emily Jamison, on the Authority's most recent Risk Assessment. The assessment billed on the latest Risk Assessment, which was completed in 2022 by linking risk to the process inventory. Business unit leads generally expressed confidence that the procedures are being followed and compliance records are being maintained. We were able to ask questions and were pleased with

the discussion. This concludes my report on the informational item. And the next one, continuing on, this was trial by fire, was the Planning Committee and with the Program Planning Committee.

I also led that Committee since our chair; Shere Abbott was unable to present the item. The Committee was met just before this meeting and a quorum was present. The Committee completed its annual review of the Committee's Charter and no recommendations were made, so the Committee unanimously recommends to the Board approval of the Committee Charter. Next, the Committee received a report of the Authority's advanced nuclear activities. Chief Policy Officer John Williams introduced the item. We heard from the Director of Strategy, Erich Scherer, who provided an update on the Authority's most recent activities. Then Alyse Peterson, the Policy and Regulatory Affairs Associate Director described the Authority's nuclear coordination work. Committee had a good discussion of the items. We were able to ask questions and we were pleased with the level of information. This includes my report and we will consider the resolution of the Committee Charter as part of the consent Committee.

The next is the Waste and Facilities Management. And with that, I'll turn it over to Chuck Bell. The Committee's Chair.

Charles Bell:
Thank you. The Waste and Facilities Management Committee met earlier today and the quorum was present. The first item on the Committee's agenda was the approval of the Waste and Facilities Committee Charter. The Committee voted to approve the Charter this year with no changes and management had not recommended any. The third item on the Committee's agenda was a report on West Valley. Brad Frank and Dan Cray presented the report updating the Committee on the demolition of the main plant process building, upcoming Phase 1B work and the State Licensed Disposal Area. Brad provided an overview of the scope of Phase 1B of the decommissioning work. This work, which includes the removal of a number of below ground structures and a large volume of contaminated soil will take about 15 years to complete and is currently valued at three billion. Brad walked the Committee through the demolition of the fuel receiving and storage facility, the last above ground structure that was part of the main plant process building at West Valley, and described an extensive soil sampling campaign that is underway in and around the former main plant process building. This sampling campaign will provide information on subsurface geologic conditions and contamination levels and will be used to plan the upcoming removal activities.

Dan provided a brief update on recent work activities performed at the State Licensed Disposal Area, providing an update on the Trench 14 water infiltration controls and presented environmental data showing that the State Licensed Disposal Area waste disposal trenches are effectively containing the radioactive and chemical constituents present at the site. Dan informed the Committee that New York DEC found NYSERDA to be in compliance during the most recent part 380 radiation control permit review and that the State licensed disposal area is continuing to perform in a manner that is protective of the health and safety of the public, workers, and the environment. This concludes my report.

Audrey Zibelman:
Thank you. Any questions for Chuck? Okay, seeing none. We will also consider the resolution of the Committee's Charter as part of the consent agenda. So really then the next item on our agenda is the State Energy Plan. I see that John Williams and Carl Mas are just here with us, so I'll turn it over to you, John, and welcome.

John Williams:
Thank you, Chair. So you usually don't get a personal note when talking about State Energy Plan, but I'm going to do that. I've done State Energy Planning for a very long time, decades. We will just use that word. I will tell you I've never been more excited to launch a new State Energy Plan like we're about to do. Most of the Energy Plans we've done in the past have really been organized to help really inform policy direction setting, some decision making from various entities around the State just based on the assessments and the analysis that the Energy Plan does pull together. The current new approach that we will be implementing, and Doreen mentioned it, the Energy Infrastructure Development Plan, the EIDP, is really going to take our Energy Planning and make it a document that is actually actionable and will be guiding infrastructure investment decisions in the State, really, I would anticipate for a long time because we will be constantly looking at this plan and making sure that the foundations for those investments are based on the most recent types of information that we possibly have.

So it really is quite a pivot that we will be taking. I am very excited to see this new kind of impetus happen with the State Energy Plan. A lot of good information has been there in the past, but now we'll actually be putting a lot of that information to much more concrete use. And I'm going to hand it to Carl to describe how we're actually going to do that.

Carl Mas:
Great to be with you all today. I think I spoke to you when we put out the 2025 Energy Plan, so we're back to planning again. We can go to the next slide. So as President Harris and John mentioned as part of our next slide, large agenda, we have the launch of a new acronym, so it's the EDIP, and really it's a new planning framework where once again, I sort of put at the center of our activities. We can do one more slide. And so what I want to do is give you some insights into our early thinking in this space. We've only just kicked off a process. I'll highlight some of the next steps at the end, but just to reiterate what John said, what we're really kicking off is a new action blueprint. So it's a substantial pivot for the Energy Planning Board will now be overseeing this new planning process.

And on this approach, we know we're going to set the course for the safe energy system as we always do, but in a more actionable and investible way. So we're going to be developing new tools and processes to manage uncertainty through our traditional scenario planning approach and really look at optimizing our energy system. And we're speaking broadly about the energy system, so we do anticipate covering all fuels and all systems. Initially, we'll be looking at the electric grid and looking at how we can integrate those systems better. So everything from our neighborhood scale energy systems all the way up through the bulk energy systems. Next slide. So when we think about this new planning paradigm, we're looking at integrating our existing processes. So there's been a number of activities over the course of years that have brought

forward new planning approaches from the commission's coordinated grid planning process and a number of the ongoing processes there.

So we're going to look at integrating those and leveraging that work and building from it. We also recognize there are going to be other planning processes that will continue parallel. So the ISO will continue to do their reliability needs assessments. We're going to have to work and coordinate with those activities. But really what we're talking about, again, as John said, is how do we steer billions of dollars of needed infrastructure investments as we do Energy Plan balancing our system needs, looking at system age, looking at low growth that's been unprecedented, and the policy drivers that are changing our system. And so when we look at some of the outputs or outcomes that could come from a new planning paradigm, we've listed six of them here. It's ranging everything from dealing with our growing gap and our reliability needs, all the way to how infrastructure goals can be adapted and changed over time because they can't be static.

We've learned with the dynamic federal government, we have to adapt to those new world changes. What I'll focus on here are three of these outcomes. The first is the upper left-hand corner looking at our demand forecasts. We're really seeing this opportunity is to be able to, again, look at various futures to be able to bound the uncertainty, but then create for all agencies one common and consensus-based approach for what our demand energy might look like that can be leveraged in other processes. It also can be leveraged by our planning partners, whether it be at the utilities or at the ISO, to be able to have one centralized set that's stakeholder driven and analytically sound of our demand forecast. We have a lot of competing demand forecast now, which creates uncertainty for investment with uncertainty for policy outcomes. Another box I'll focus on in the center on the bottom row is looking at new tools.

As John mentioned, we're really pivoting from an Energy Plan that had a robust set of tools to help us say what could the future look like policy, and we recognize that with outcomes like to be like the Propel project, we've really helped to shape future policy outcomes. What we're turning to now is we need to have a new set of tools, both bringing industry standard tools, but developing some of our own to really be able to forecast what should happen to drive investments in the system. So it is a different paradigm that's going to need new tools. And then on the upright corner, it's one of our tried and true areas across the State families. How can we more efficiently, more effectively animate our demand side? And so we've already taken some really important steps through the value of DER to be able to bring forward storage and solar at the community scale.

And as life was beginning to lead looking at virtual power plants, how do we really begin to plan with those resources in mind and not have them added on after the fact? So next slide. So as we pull these outcomes and as these basic ideas together, we've formulated seven principles. And so we're really at this early stage of trying to lay out what are the guideposts by which this plan will begin to unfold. And many of these will be not surprising to you. They are principles who've had an Energy Plan and many own businesses. So we are looking for a comprehensive plan. And so what does that mean for us? We need to look at the whole system. We need to look everywhere from generation and transmission, distribution and demand management, and we'll look beyond our electric system. So we're looking at gas and grid coordination.

We also need a plan that's going to be aligned. So we're taking our goals and analysis and see how can we simultaneously meet our reliability needs, our affordability needs, and meeting our State policy goals all at the same time, which is one of our basic principles for our Energy Planning in 2025. Coordinated is another principle, and I mentioned this. So the ISO will continue to have really critical or important analyses that they'll be doing based on their FERC obligations and to make sure that the lights stay on. So we have to have close coordination and checkpoints with this other planning processes. So again, we can have shared inputs, but also be able to learn from each other. The fourth principle on this slide is a responsive plan. And so we recognize if we're going to have a sound plan, we're going to have to do planning in cycles.

And so the Energy Plan already is statutorily driven every four years. So we'll be taking a fresh look every four years. But we can't allow during that interim period for our plan to grow stagnant. And so what our approach is to be able to not only put forward a portfolio of recommended builds, but also what would be contingent triggers. So for example, we see load growing faster than we thought, we'll put in recommendations for how we can address that load with additional resources. Next slide. And so these are the last set of principles. And so principle five is around transparency. And so we are looking to maximize the amount of transparency in our system in the sets. We'll only have success if our stakeholders believe what we're doing and have buy-in into the incoming assumptions. So there will be some strategic periods of time for input assumptions around load forecasting during our scenario planning process, being able to take in a wide sense of loops to be able to shape how our scenarios are going to unfold.

And those scenarios drive our sixth principle, which is around managing risk. And our Energy Plan has already taken the approach of several scenarios. We're going to be looking at dozens of scenarios to be able to really look at different weather futures, price volatility, looking at siting uncertainty, looking at capital increases or technology changes. And then so we want to have a robust set of scenario planning to be able to, again, generate what would be our least risk outcome and then our contingencies that we need to build into that. And then finally, and perhaps most importantly, this is a new paradigm to try to drive action. And so our recommendations, we want to drive the procurement of resources that will be able to change with the changing circumstances. So those are the seven principles I think are comprehensive and are really kicking off this process, which will be unfolding in the coming months and years.

Next slide gives you just a little bit of a flavor at a very high level of the process flow that we're seeing. This is not uncommon to other IRP type of processes around the country. So we've been surveying what others are doing, learning from the work that we've done through CGPT, our coordinated planning process. And so the first step in this cycle at the top is around having a set of demand forecasts that look bound the uncertainty, but bring in inputs from our stakeholders. We need to build shared system characteristics. So what are the utilities dealing with their system? What is the ISOC for their technology? And be able to have that shared database to be able to build from. And then identifying what are the investment levers we can hold. So doing supply curves for our renewable energy resources, pulling from our nuclear master plan that you heard about earlier on the potential for advanced nuclear power.

Once we have that set of key input assumptions, then we go to the second block where we have our scenarios that we'll design, I guess a wide number of them, taking in stakeholder input as

well as expert opinion from our State agencies. And we'll run those through an integrated and iterative set of models. And so again, this is where we'll build from the models that we've already shared with you in the past, looking at past expansion models and production costs. Those are core electricity planning models. But going beyond that to some of the industry standards, looking at power flow and other tools to be able to both forecast over long term what are the future impacts, but then do very granular analysis working with the utilities and the ISO to be able to turn those into an investible set of outcomes. And so that's what leads to the third and the bottom slide or the bottom figure, which is our State Energy Plan Board will then review and approve our optimized system plan.

And it will be an investment portfolio, which I mentioned before, we'll have a contingent set of investments depending if load changes or other technologies evolve. And that will be handed off to a procurement phase. And we don't anticipate any singular entity doing all of that work, but we do think that the commission will be driving a majority of that outcome. And so as we've seen today with the commission directing our clean energy standard, we would see them taking action on that Energy Plan recommendation. And then we'll complete that cycle again. And so we'll be building next slide over the next months, benchmarking, working with our State Energy Plan colleagues, looking at other states and other nations for how they're doing new and advanced Energy Planning. We'll be reaching out to the ISO, to the utilities to learn their best practices and figuring out how we can best coordinate with them.

And the true launch, you're getting an early view and early insights will be at the end of the year. So December 9th, as President Harris mentioned, we'll have our first Energy Planning Board on this next cycle. And so we'll be launching formally this process where we'll have an update report at the end of 2027 and then our first comprehensive plan at the end of 2029. So with that, that's my sneak peek and what the future brings and happy to take any questions.

Audrey Zibelman:
Thanks Carl. Any questions for Carl? And before I turn it over to questions, I do want to note that Rory Christian and MarieTherese Dominguez have now joined us. So thank you and welcome. But any questions for Carl?

Kim Harriman:
Yeah.

Audrey Zibelman:
Go ahead.

Kim Harriman:
I think that for a number of years when we moved away from utility zoning generation and distribution transmission assets, we still had a requirement for integrated resource planning and the world changed. And then I've been in multiple states and at hearings where the grid operator, the regulator and the utility answered the question of who's got resource adequacy and everybody said, "Not me, not me, not me." Literally not me, not me, not me. And I think that the benefit of a plan like this is to look at an IRP style on a statewide basis. And so I applaud the

Governor for giving you the challenge. And Carl, you've done a lot of studies over, still scratching my head as anyway, Siemens and BGL and the transmission related.

Carl Mas:
We had a fantastic power grid study.

Kim Harriman:
We did have a good, yes. So now the question is looking at it holistically, which I think is long overdue, just two things. One is how do we ensure that the work that's being done is feeding into the New York commission process? You mentioned and how do we ensure that the utility's own study process, we do distribution area of load relief, comprehensive area studies. Because what would be challenging is if we have different assumptions and we come out with different conclusions and then I think we're not achieving the goal, which is to have a shared set of facts and at least an identification of solutions or a note of a need for a solution.

Carl Mas:
Yeah, no. So this is early days and we certainly want the utilities to be partners in planning, but we're already working with staff and thinking about the coordinated grid planning process. So it's about to kick off its second cycle. And so we need to think about how can that be optimized to then be incorporated into the IPP. So we do not anticipate there being in the long run parallel and competing modeling systems. We want to have one integrated statewide system. And I think that staff have done a great job of coordinating the local transmission planning with the bulk transmission through that CGPP platform. So we want to leverage that and be able to link into what the NISO is going to need to do under FERC and to be able to have whatever bulk analysis they're doing feed into our ultimate Energy Plan outcomes. But what's critical when you see article after article and it seems basic is how do you align the timing of these processes?

It's not just about having the right models, but how do you have the right sequence? And that's going to be part of the work here is to figure out how can the utility plans be able to feed into what we're doing. I think what CGPP has done, one example is they've been able to get upfront an analysis of the potential local transmission projects and distribution projects so they can feed into their overarching analysis. We want to also replicate that. So we want to be able to have characterization of potential projects and costs so we could feed that into our optimization and then have a pause point where we go back into the base and say, does this make sense?

Kim Harriman:
And I could gather together one last point is that the process that the New York ISF identifies where the grid has deficiency from a transmission level. And what you're talking about is really looking at both sides of the equation. And I think it's while you're training this great work, it's incumbent on all of us who care about energy policy in the State to think about that resource adequacy question because markets don't always produce the volume of supply we need and forecast whether it's electrification or eventually data center or reshoring manufacturing. We will have supply challenge at some point and making sure that we take the study and find the solution that somebody, whoever it is, has the Authority to direct the building of operation.

Audrey Zibelman:
Thanks.

Jay Koh:
Okay. Thank you. And I think all those points are very well comprehensive and connected part of the process. So three very quick points. The first is I'm very happy to see both the slide regarding the planning activities that focus on the reliability of the gap as well as the principle number six being this risk assessment. My focus in trying to bring a perspective to this Board Governance process has always really been about making sure we're very focused on resiliency of our energy economy and adapting to the inevitable trajectory of climate impact that's going to absolutely happen. So to the extent that those considerations become quantitative actionable considerations, particularly not just around the generation of electricity, but transmission and distribution and reliability, not just from the point of view of gap, but seeing that really as a potential competitive advantage for New York State, we have both reliable and most affordable continuous energy system, not just generation, storage, it's transmission, it's distribution, those two less sometimes sexy assets being really critical now to Board into intermittency demand, intermittent supply and an increasingly complicated environment.

So I would just reinforce the emphasis on focus on reliability and principle six really be on risk assessment. But the second two actual points there are really to make sure that we connect the dots between the analysis that NYSERDA is participating in New York's adaptation strategy and its climate resilience strategy for the state. So those set of assumptions directly inform our design of the grid, design of the energy system that we have, and to the point about timing and making sure we have a shared set of facts. If we have deep technical analysis about what the risk factors going forward are like, we should absolutely be applying that into the actual design energy system and to try to align those timeframes so we don't have an excellent reporting application over here and an after effect risk analysis that's done in stage six of some process as opposed to part of the criteria.

And the last point I would make is as someone served on the advisory Committee to the Green Bank since 2014, I really hope we can also as part of the actionability of this strategy, make sure we use the full tools of NYSERDA and the other agencies here in New York State to drive against these specific objectives design work that needs to be done or new technologies or a market interface has the most successful history of being able to do that in New York State and we put tools like that against this plans. So those three points, resiliency is the design criteria that's consistent, making sure we take the application fund that we're designing here on resiliency and aligning it with the strategy and using would all be a really supportive way of getting the most out of this class to the effort.

Carl Mas:
And to that last point, at first we were just going to frame this as going to drive a procurement strategy, which the commission may be executing on, but we took a broader lens and Green Bank is kind of a prime example where we often look at not just a procurement but execution strategies. So how do we compliment what the commission might be doing with other activities? And NYSERDA is a prime vehicle for that. So we do plan that the outcomes from this planning cycle will help to drive how many will shape programs and activities.

Jay Koh:
The only thing I'd add there is not just finance and technology, but also jobs. So NYSERDA's engagement about workforce development, building out the environment so that good jobs are work through this process that support the long term strategic advantage of this State from energy perspective. I think it's something that NYSERDA's demonstrated capability to do. And if we align our activity that way with this comprehensive effort and go on technology capital labor, then I think we have a much higher probability.

Audrey Zibelman:
Any other questions? I just wanted to add, first of all, I'm also super excited about this. I think it is a great move from Governor Hochul. There's always a Yoga Bear quote, but the Yogi Bear quote that I think makes sense is if you don't have a good plan, you'll never know if you're lost. And I think what we need is a really good plan and I'm ecstatic that the Governor has charged us with this opportunity or given us this opportunity. I think my perspective on this is that when I think about what we're about to do in the industry, and Jay and Kim, you've just talked about it, is the fact that we are at a point where the industry is fundamentally changing, the technology's fundamentally changing. And what we're asking NYSERDA to do or the State needs to do is actually planning for the rest of the 21st century and into the 22nd.

So it really is an opportunity to start looking at the technological evolution that we need to do vis-a-vis technology that's changing so quickly, but also the need to decarbonize and the need to think about affordability and the need to think about resiliency and the need to think about reliability. And I think that the penny has dropped that when we have, even in states that haven't restructured, if you don't think about this in a comprehensive way that goes across multiple systems, you're going to lose opportunities and that you also need to be thinking about it across multiple dimensions. So where I've seen the whole issue of energy transition actually get out of politics is when you have really robust plans that become the source of truth and then are robust in the sense that they're scenario-based and thinking about both pre-mortems and post-mortems so that you have least cost expansion plans.

And that'll make it easier for this speed to power because we'll have a plan that the Governor can point to that's gone through a robust analysis that is consulted across the industry, that's consulted with advocates and that people can get around that is free of sort of, well, of course you would say that because the State will be in the middle. So I think that I've arrived at the conclusion that for States to be able to navigate the transition well, they need to take a hold of this. They need to know exactly what the opportunities are, and then they need to allow the various actors to do what they need to do with the right type of alacrity. So I'm really hopeful. The other thing that I would say to the Board and Carl and John and Doreen and I have chatted about this several times, it's going to take a while.

We did this in Australia and it was really what was the great unlock for us, but the first plan was just the first plan. It's probably going to be the second or third. So I think one is we need to understand it's going to take time to develop the capability to get where we want to go. And that in 27 where we have to deliver the first plan, that's almost like tomorrow in planning stages. And so we're going to need to want to make sure we set the right expectations of what we can deliver when. And then I think as Carl mentioned, developing the right decision tools is really important.

No one has yet ever developed a comprehensive plan that looks at both transmission and distribution simultaneously and gas and electric. And so the ability, and I'm really applauding because I've had chance to meet with the staff, the way they've said about this with both the humility and also desire to get it right, I find it really exciting because I think we have an opportunity really in New York to lead and there's a lot of various initiatives now going around the country where people are saying, "Oh, maybe states should be doing this." And not surprisingly, New York is sort of the first to step forward and say, "We're going to do it and we're going to try to do it really right." So first of all, congratulations. I think it'll be very exciting for us to see and very, very much appreciative to Doreen of the way your team is going about this.

Anything further on that? I could spend the rest of the afternoon talking about that. Okay. Thank you for your time. Yeah. Good. Then this is only an informational item, but very exciting. Our next thing we're going to go to then is the consent agenda, and we're going to do that first before going onto the discussion agenda. There are three resolutions that we have to consider. Information of the items are included in your meeting materials. Resolution number 1818 and 1890 were recommended for approval by the Committees. These would be the Charters. Resolution number 1820 will approve the Periodic Contracts Report. Counsel's Office has prepared the list provided by the Members of entities with which each Member is associated and they believe they may enter into contracts with NYSERDA to the list of contracts in the Periodic Contracts Report. Counsel Office reports three potential conflicts. Specifically the Authority has entered or anticipates entering Vermont Energy Investment Corporation identified by Dale Bryk, New York Power Authority identified by Justin Driscoll, and Stony Brook University identified by JoAnne Hewett. Can we assume that three of you wish to abstain from the vote to approve contracts with that specified entity?

Dale Byrk, Justin Driscoll and JoAnne Hewett:
Yes. Yes. Yes.

Audrey Zibelman:
Yes. Thank you. Are there any questions on these items? So first, may I have a motion approving resolutions 1818 and 1820, which are... Thank you. Thank you. Any precision seeing none? Those have been approved. And we don't have a resolution for 1820.

Kim Harriman:
It's 1830.

Audrey Zibelman:
Oh, through 1820. That was 1818, so to note that. Thank you. All right. Well, we now can return to the discussion agenda and the next item concerns an executive session. Section 108 of the Public Officer's Law authorizes the Members to convene executive session to discuss the employment history of a particular person. And I have a motion for resolution 1821 to enter into an executive session to discuss the employment history of a particular person.

Charles Bell:
So moved.

Members of the Board:
Second.

Audrey Zibelman:
Thanks. So the Members will now enter into an executive session. During that time, the webcast will remain up and upon our return, we'll reconvene the meeting. Hi, I'm now going to reconvene our open session, but note that no formal action was taken on the private session or the executive session. Last item on the business is other business. Do we have any other business to come in front of the Board today? Anyone have anything they want to discuss? Seeing nothing, may I get a motion to adjourn?

Members of the Board:
So moved.

Audrey Zibelman:
Second?

Kim Harriman:
Second.

Audrey Zibelman:
Everyone in favor?

Members of the Board:
Aye.

Audrey Zibelman:
We are adjourned. Thank you very much. Thank