

Workforce and Supply Chain Technical Working Group (WSC-TWG)

Kickoff Meeting

Thursday, April 2, 2026; 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. EDT

Discussion Summary

Welcome and Project Staff Introductions

- The facilitator from Eastern Research Group ([ERG](#)) welcomed TWG members and reviewed the meeting agenda.
 - ERG is a NYSERDA contractor
- NYSERDA and DPS staff introduced themselves and explained that they are working together on the Master Plan for Responsible Advanced Nuclear Development in New York (Master Plan).

TWG Member Introductions

- TWG members introduced themselves.
- TWG members responded to an e-survey, asking what issues they hoped the TWG would address. Answers included:
 - Workforce size and what positions and skills are needed.
 - Workforce training timelines.
 - The development of in-state supply chains.
 - Spatial distribution of the supply chain.
 - Existing educational resources and what additional resources are needed.
 - Identification of barriers or restrictions that affect nuclear plant development.
 - Regional and geographic priorities.
 - Community concerns around nuclear power and how to address them.

Overview of Nuclear Energy in New York State

- NYSERDA provided a presentation on nuclear energy in New York State and the development of the Master Plan.
 - The state is experiencing a growing demand for clean, diverse electric generation resources. New York is working towards decarbonizing its electricity supply by 2040. The current planning scenario includes 2 to 3 gigawatts (GW) of new nuclear power by 2040, and 5 GW by 2050.
 - Governor Hochul directed NYPA to develop at least 1 GW of nuclear energy in Upstate New York.

TWG Charter Review and Ratification

- The facilitator reviewed key elements of the WSC-TWG Charter, including objectives, composition of the TWG, and member roles and responsibilities. Under the Charter, members agree not to disclose the identities of other members and what they say during meetings.
- TWG members agreed to the rules set forth by NYSERDA in that the TWG is invitation only. Members will not disclose the identity of anyone in the group or attribute quotes to an individual without their permission. Slides are draft findings and not for public distribution. NYSERDA will not disclose the identity of any TWG member without their expressed consent. Organizations involved in the meetings will be listed on publicly available notes and acknowledged in the study for contributing expertise.

WSC Study Overview—Objectives and Methodology

- NYSERDA reviewed the TWG objectives and methods and the plans for future meetings.
- ERG explained that members have been split into subcommittees—one focused on supply chain preliminary findings, the other focused on workforce preliminary findings. ERG invited attendees to reach out if they prefer to be on a different subcommittee or on both subcommittees.

Workforce Study Overview

- [BW Research \(BW\)](#), the contractor hired to research and write the Workforce and Supply Chain study for the Master Plan, presented on the workforce portion of the study. They shared the study objectives, described the work completed to date, and explained how TWG members may contribute. BW has already inventoried technologies and conducted industry interviews.
- NYSERDA asked TWG members about roles they believe are critical, based on direct experience.
- TWG member feedback:
 - Critical roles include those with a high level of competition from other industries.
 - Roles that require extended training timelines will need to be prioritized (e.g., jobs that require six years of training, rather than six months, or jobs that call for journey-level workers versus apprentices).
 - Looking at past growth does not always provide the information needed to effectively forecast the future. For example, forecasting the workers needed for advanced manufacturing has proven difficult.

Supply Chain Research—Objectives and Methodology

- BW presented the objectives of the supply chain study and went over work that has already been done, including mapping the supply chain and collecting data.
- TWG member feedback:
 - Any rollout of advanced nuclear energy should be mindful of labor peace agreements and community benefit agreements to avoid disrupting the

supply chain flow and to ensure that suppliers are good actors in the community and with their labor workforce. Local source hiring and job training are important.

- Because New York State has not built nuclear reactors in a while, existing supply chains are not mature, and existing businesses might not realize they are nuclear-adjacent.
- The study should include information on small modular reactors.
- The study should look at what the needs will be in the next five years, the next 10 years, the next 15 years, and beyond. The TWGs should look at how New York State is modeling the semiconductor industry.
- Manufacturers must go through qualifications, security, screenings, certifications, and other steps to be on the vendor list. Many manufacturers in adjacent industries will have to consider this extra work when deciding if they want to join the nuclear industry.

Moving Forward

- Future TWG meetings have not been scheduled, but a rough timeline was proposed.

Action Items and Next Steps

Task	Assigned to	Target date
Add TWG members to TWG subcommittees as requested	NYSERDA	4/7/2026
Invite TWG members to future subcommittee meetings	NYSERDA	4/16/2026
Incorporate suggestions into objectives	BW	4/16/2026
Interview TWG members for project	BW	As requested

Participants

Member Organizations

- AFL-CIO
- Capital Region Board of Cooperative Educational Services
- City University of New York
- Constellation
- GE Vernova
- International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers
- Lightbridge Corporation
- The Manufacturers Association of Central New York
- Operation Oswego County
- Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
- Soulful Synergy
- State University of New York (SUNY)
- SUNY Maritime
- United Steelworkers

Utility Workers Union of America
Workforce Development Institute

New York State Staff

Aaron Baltich-Schechter, New York State Department of State (DOS)
Aimee Bell-Pasht, New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA)
Alyse Peterson, NYSERDA
Andrew Kincaid, New York State Department of Public Service (DPS)
Dana Politis, New York State Department of Labor
Erich Scherer, NYSERDA
Jessica Dealy, NYSERDA
John Rhodes, DPS
Kevin Hale, NYSERDA
Liam McAuliff, NYSERDA
Michelle Clarke, Empire State Development
Rob Habermann, DPS
Sandra Bleckman, New York Power Authority (NYPA)
Susan Landfried, DOS
Talia Rosenberg, DPS
Theresa Smolen, NYSERDA
Thomas Madden, NYSERDA

Contract Teams

Cai Steger, BW Research (BW)
Charles Goodhue, ERG
Julian Ugalde, BW
Kaitlin Schneider, ERG
Kecil John, ERG
Philip Jordan, BW
Taylor Fenerty, BW