The Build-Ready Program

For Private Landowners





REDUCE project risk

ACCELERATE development

EARN revenue



Learn more at nyserda.ny.gov/Build-Ready

Turn underutilized land into revenue-generating clean energy projects.

Through the Build-Ready Program, the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) is working to advance the development of renewable energy resources and accelerate progress toward New York's nation-leading clean energy and climate goals.

Build-Ready helps private landowners transform underutilized properties into revenue-generating renewable energy projects by funding and overseeing the design and development process, making it simple and easy for landowners to revitalize their land at no cost to them.

Renewable energy projects developed under the Build-Ready Program can improve and protect the value of privately-owned land. These projects also make great neighbors by generating local clean energy and economic growth from previously underutilized properties just waiting to be tapped.

The Build-Ready process includes engagement with communities to foster and encourage understanding about the importance of renewable energy and the value it can bring, helping to ensure local support for the project development decision.

Benefits to Landowners

Build-Ready helps landowners make their properties work smarter, not harder.

The program is a turnkey cash flow solution for converting underutilized properties into renewable energy resources, customized to each site. NYSERDA and an expert development team make sites shovel-ready by taking responsibility for the process from start to finish without any cost to the landowner.

- Build-Ready gives landowners a reliable, hassle-free revenue stream from their land, generating revenue at the start of construction
- The Build-Ready team takes care of everything, making it simple and easy for landowners to participate at no cost to them—landowners just need to consent to developing on their property
- Participation in the Build-Ready program can improve and protect the value of private land
- Landowners who participate in the Build-Ready program can show their communities that they are committed to being a steward for local clean energy and economic growth
- Build-Ready is flexible, meaning a wide variety of landowners and sites are eligible

Municipal landowners can learn more about potential host community agreements, workforce training opportunities, and other public benefit projects from Build-Ready's factsheet for local governments.



How Build-Ready Works

Build-Ready sites are typically 50+ acres and need to be located in areas where the existing electrical grid has capacity for a new project.

Build-Ready gives priority to:

- Former industrial or commercial sites
- Closed landfills
- Brownfield sites
- Dormant electric generating sites
- Underutilized, abandoned, and vacant sites
- Other previously developed sites

Sites first go through an initial screening, then due diligence and project development phases, followed by the approval and permitting process. During this workstream, the landowner's sole responsibility is to provide basic site information and make their property available to NYSERDA and the extended team—NYSERDA takes care of all planning, design, permitting, and public engagement, working cooperatively with landowners to ensure success. NYSERDA will negotiate and enter into a lease option agreement with the landowner. Once a site has proven feasible through each project phase, NYSERDA will also oversee auctioning and contracting with a private developer for the construction and operation of the renewable energy facility.

Landowners can expect to receive lease option payments for the development of a Build-Ready project on their private land.

Ready to get started?

Visit nyserda.ny.gov/Build-Ready to learn more. Email us at buildready@nyserda.ny.gov. Submit site recommendations at nyserda.ny.gov/BR-site-form.

