Clean Energy Communities Market Evaluation: Program Years 2019-2023

Final Appendix

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NYSERDA Contract#: 151668 November 2025

NYSERDA Record of Revision

Document Title
Clean Energy Communities Market Evaluation Program Years 2019-2023 Final Appendix November 2025

Revision Date	Description of Changes	Revision on Page(s)
November 2025	Original Issue	Original Issue

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Appendix A Research Objectives

Table A-1 presents the research objectives, research questions, and research methods guiding the Market Evaluation.

Table A-1. Market Evaluation Research Objectives

Objective	Research Question	Method
Characterize participation and indirect impact estimates in Disadvantaged Communities (DAC) and non-DACs between 2019-2023.	Are at least 75% of communities in NYS taking advantage of the tools and resources provided by the CEC program?	Survey of communities; Website analytics
	How many DACs and non-DACs have created an energy or sustainability task force because of the CEC program?	Survey of communities; review of program data
	How many DACs and non-DACs have completed High Impact Actions (HIA) influenced by CEC?	Survey of communities; review of program data; review of Climate Smart Communities website
	What are the estimated energy impacts for HIAs for program years 2019-2023?	Survey of communities; review of program data
	What are the estimated energy impacts for DACs and non-DACs from 2019-2023?	Survey of communities; review of program data
Document which aspects of the CEC Program are most valuable to communities.	Have any HIAs become standard practice in NYS?	Survey of communities; review of program data
	How capable are communities to complete clean energy actions without the program's tools and resources?	Survey of communities
	What program resources have been the most valuable in communities' participation in the CEC program?	Survey of communities

Table A-2 presents the research questions, indicators, and data collection activities guiding the grants analysis.

Table A-2. Grants Analysis Research Questions

Research Questions	Indicators	Data Collection Activity
How many designation grants, point-based grants, and action grants have been earned by communities between 2019 and 2023?	Number of different grant types awarded between 2019 and 2023	Review of Program Grant Project Data
What types of projects are funded through designation grants, point-based grants, and action grants between 2019 and 2023?	Characterization of the types of projects completed using grant funding between 2019 and 2023	Review of Program Grant Project Data
How many HIAs were partially funded or funded through designation grants, point-based grants, and action grants between 2019 and 2023?	Number of HIAs funded or partially funded by grants between 2019 and 2023	Review of Program Grant Project Data
What are the impacts for grant-funded projects for program years 2019-2023?	Energy impacts from CEC grant-funded projects	Review of Program Grant Project Data, desk reviews, and interviews of communities (where needed)

Appendix B Grants Analysis

This Appendix presents an overview of the grants awarded through the CEC Program.

Through participation in the CEC Program, communities can earn grants to use toward additional clean energy projects. The Program offers three main types of grants: designation, points-based, and action grants. Designation grants have been offered since the Program's inception in 2016. Communities can receive a designation grant when they complete four high-impact actions (HIAs) and are designated as a Clean Energy Community. Points-based grants became available in 2020 and are awarded for reaching milestones of 3,000, 4,000, and 5,000 points by completing additional HIAs. Finally, action grants were also introduced in 2020 and are available to communities that complete Community Campaigns or adopt the NY Stretch Energy Code.[1] Funding amounts for points-based and action grants vary based on community size: small and medium communities (populations under 40,000) and large communities (over 40,000). Communities with a proposed grant project in a Disadvantaged Community (DAC) may be eligible for a bonus grant.

The rest of Appendix B presents the results of an analysis of CEC grants awarded to New York State communities between 2019 and 2023.

Projects Funded by Grant Types

This section describes the types of clean energy projects funded by the CEC grants. Once communities are eligible for a grant, they submit a grant project application for approval. The level of project details required in the grant project application varies by the funding amount rather than the grant type. Therefore, the Contractor team has organized this section by project types using those grant project descriptions.

For grants of $5,001 or more, communities submit a detailed proposal for a custom project or pre-approved project; there are six pre-approved project types: Solar, Electric Vehicles, Charging Stations, LED Streetlights, Building Upgrades, and Electric Landscaping Equipment. Once awarded, a contract is created between NYSERDA and the community. For grants $5,000 or less, there is no contract, and communities do not write a full proposal; instead, they provide a brief

[1] Adopting the NYStretch Energy Code was offered as an HIA in 2020 and 2021, and completing this action made communities eligible for an action grant in those years.

description of their plans for utilizing the grant funds. The Contractor team refers to these projects with limited details and no contract as "5K Projects" in this memo.

If a community receives multiple CEC grants, including grants of different types, they can combine them to fund larger projects. For example, one community combined a total of $360,000 in grant funding to support a multi-year custom project aimed at transitioning away from gas-powered landscaping equipment. The funds were used to hire contractors for community outreach and public education, establish a rebate program for electric landscaping equipment, and purchase electric equipment for municipal use.

The Contractor team analyzed 577 grants awarded between 2019 and 2023 and 674 of their corresponding application files. As shown in Table B-5, points-based and action grants funded most pre-approved and custom projects, while designation grants funded more than half of the 5K Projects.

Between 2019 and 2023, there were 22 grants of $5,001 or greater that had very limited project descriptions in their grant project applications and associated application files. This includes the previously mentioned 17 designation grants over $5,000 awarded in 2019 in addition to four grants awarded between 2022 and 2023. The limited information prevented the Contractor team from being able to assign the funded project to a known project type and therefore are listed as an Unclassified project type in Table B-1 (though some details on grant project activities are known). Since some projects use multiple grants, the total number of grants for each project type may not equal the number of projects.

Table B-1. Grant Funding by Project Type

Project Type	Total Projects	Number of Grants Funding Project Types		
		Designation Grants	Points-Based Grants	Action Grants
5K Projects	401	268	0	146
Pre-approved Projects	94	4[a]	82	58
Custom Projects	9	0	13	6
Unclassified	20	17	4	1
Total	**524**	**289**	**99**	**211**

5K Projects

The Clean Energy Community designation is available to communities that complete four high-impact actions. Communities that earn the Clean Energy Community designation and did not receive a previous designation grant are eligible to apply for a one-time $5,000 grant. There were 414 $5,000 grants that contributed to 401 unique 5K Projects (268 designation grants and 146 action grants).[2] Based on keyword analysis of the grant application project descriptions and project database project descriptions, many of these grants funded projects that aligned with pre-defined High Impact Actions and Grant Project Types, such as EV charging stations, LED streetlight conversions, and electric landscaping equipment (Table B-2).

Table B-2. Characterization of 5K Grant Award Projects

Project Description	Number of Projects[a]
Building Upgrades (e.g. interior LED streetlights, building efficiency upgrades, solar array, etc.)	172
Charging Stations	52
LED Streetlight Conversions	45
Electric Landscaping Equipment	32
Electric Vehicles	33
Other Sustainability Projects	129

[a] One project may represent more than one project type and is represented in the table more than once: reasoning for the projects total of 463.

In addition to the above project types, there were 129 "5K projects" that supported unique sustainability and clean energy initiatives. These projects could not be organized into categories like the pre-approved project types based on the keywords in the project description. Instead, the Contractor team summarized those descriptions, the projects funded by these 5K projects include:

- Home composting campaign
- Planting a pollinator garden in public space
- LED light bulb giveaway for homeowners
- Community tree planting campaigns

[2] Fourteen $5,000 grants were paired with another $5,000 grant to fund the same project. Although the grant project applications were submitted separately, they supported the same activities and are therefore counted as seven unique projects spread across multiple communities.

- Hiring green energy interns or consultants
- Installing bike racks or bus shelters
- Building energy audits or engineering plans

Custom Projects

Between 2019 and 2023, communities used 13 points-based grants and six action grants to complete nine custom projects. On average, communities used 2.1 grants per custom project. Four of these projects focused on electric landscaping programs, including town-wide initiatives encouraging residents to switch to electric landscaping equipment. Three projects supported the launch of new clean and efficient energy programs, such as energy rebate and benchmarking initiatives. The remaining two projects involved holiday LED lighting and bike rack installations. The average grant funding used for custom projects was $77,778, with an average total project cost including municipal contributions and other incentives of $94,870 for these nine projects.

Pre-Approved Projects

Pre-approved grants are available for certain project types, types included are conversion of streetlights to LED, installation of solar, purchase of electric vehicles, installation of electric vehicle charging stations, and implementation of energy efficiency projects[3]. From 2019 to 2023, 69 communities completed 94 pre-approved projects using 144 different CEC grants. Table B-3 below summarizes the pre-approved projects.

[3] There are some exceptions for custom project types, those requirements are outlined in the PON 3298 guidance documents.

Table B-3. Pre-Approved Grant Project Details

Pre-Approved Project Type	Projects Funded	CEC Grants Awarded Per Project (Average)	CEC Grant Dollars Awarded to Project (Average)	Project Cost Including Non-Grant Funds (Average)
Building Upgrades	32	1.7	$31,719	n/a[a]
Electric Vehicles	28	1.5	$27,679	$49,564
Charging Stations	13	1.5	$45,769	$144,255
Solar	9	1.6	$30,278	$99,539
Combined Project Types	5	1.4	$69,000	$94,870
Electric Landscaping Equipment	4	1	$12,500	$15,021
LED Streetlights	3	1.3	$11,667	$20,448
Total	**94**	**1.5**	**$32,846**	**$76,794**

[a] The Contractor team extracted total project costs from the grant application files for most pre-approved projects but was unable to extract additional cost information for building upgrade projects.

Building Upgrades

Between 2019 and 2023, the most common type of project funded by CEC grants was building upgrades. A total of 36 building upgrade projects received funding during this period, including 32 stand-alone projects and four that were combined with other project types. These projects included 32 energy study and project implementation initiatives, 10 air-source heat pump installations, and one ground-source heat pump installation. Many of the project implementation efforts focused on energy efficiency improvements, such as upgrading interior lighting to LED and enhancing building envelopes. The average CEC grant funding awarded for building upgrade projects was $31,719.

Electric Vehicles

A total of 29 electric vehicle (EV) projects were funded through CEC grants awarded during the evaluation period. Of these, 28 were stand-alone EV projects, and one was combined with a charging station project. These projects supported the purchase of 34 EVs for municipal use. The most frequently purchased make & model was the Chevrolet Bolt, with nine purchased across all

projects. On average, CEC grant funding covered $27,679 per project, while the average total project cost including municipal contributions and other incentives was $49,564.

Charging Stations

Between 2019 and 2023, CEC grants funded 16 charging station projects. Of these, 13 were stand-alone charging station projects, and three were combined with other project types. Collectively, these projects supported the installation of 113 Level 2 charging stations and two DC Fast Charging stations. On average, each project received $45,769 in CEC grant funding. However, the average total project cost was $144,255, which included contributions from municipalities and other funding sources.

Solar

A total of nine solar projects were funded through CEC grants awarded during the evaluation period. On average, CEC grant funding covered $30,278 per project, while the average total project cost, including NY-Sun and other incentives, was $99,539.

Electric Landscaping Equipment

Four electric landscaping projects were funded by CEC grants during the evaluation period. The average grant funds utilized for these projects was $12,500. The average total project cost, including contributions from the municipality and other sources, was $15,021. Similar to LED Streetlight projects, many Electric Landscaping Equipment projects were submitted as 5K projects without other project information like overall cost.

LED Streetlights

Only four LED Streetlight Conversion Projects received funding between 2019 and 2023, including three stand-alone projects and one that was combined with a building upgrade project. Collectively, these projects replaced 1,010 cobra-head luminaires and 1,081 non-cobra-head luminaires. The average grant funding used was $11,667, while the average total project cost, including utility incentives and municipal contributions, was $20,448. Many other LED streetlight conversion projects were $5,000 or less, so communities were not required to provide details on their overall cost and the number of streetlights replaced are unknown.

HIAs Funded Through Grants

One of the evaluation objectives was to determine the number of HIAs that were fully or partially funded by CEC grants between 2019 and 2023. The Contractor team was unable to fully answer this question due to a lack of documentation that could link grant funds to HIAs. While many pre-approved grant project types align with HIA activities, there was no way for the Contractor team to determine whether specific CEC grant projects were used to complete HIAs.

Nonetheless, the Contractor team was able to incorporate pertinent questions into a survey of communities used for another CEC evaluation task. This survey asked community representatives to report which funding sources, including CEC grants, utility incentives, municipal funds, or other non-NYSERDA grants, were used to complete each HIA. The survey results showed that using CEC grants to support HIA completion was relatively uncommon. Across all HIAs reported in the survey, fewer than one-fifth (38 of 273; 14%) were supported by CEC grant funding (Table B-4). When CEC grants were used, they most frequently supported HIAs that require capital investments and equipment purchases, such as Clean Heating and Cooling Demo, Clean Fleets – Light/Medium Duty EVs, and LED streetlight upgrades. These HIAs also align closely with the pre-approved grant project types.

Please note that small survey sample sizes for some HIAs limit the generalizability of results.

Table B-4. HIAs Funded or Partially Funded by NYSERDA CEC Grants

HIA	Communities That Used CEC Grants	n[a]	Percent That Used CEC Grants
Clean Heating and Cooling Demonstration	2	5	40%
Climate Smart Communities	8	21	38%
Clean Fleets – Light/Medium Duty Electric Vehicles	3	8	36%
Clean Energy Upgrades	4	15	27%
Clean Fleets – Level 2 Chargers	3	12	25%
Benchmarking – Municipal Buildings	8	41	20%
LED Streetlights – Decorative	2	12	17%
LED Streetlights – Cobra-Head	4	37	11%
Community Solar Campaign	1	13	8%
Unified Solar Permit	2	29	7%
Energy Code Enforcement Trainings	1	39	3%
Electric Vehicle Campaign	0	7	0%
Clean Heating and Cooling Campaign	0	17	0%
County-Hosted Trainings	0	2	0%

Community Choice Aggregation (CCA)	0	6	0%
PACE Financing	0	7	0%
Clean Fleets – Heavy-Duty Electric Vehicles	No data	0	No data
Clean Fleets – DC Fast Charging	No data	0	No data
100% Renewable Energy	No data	0	No data
Total	**38**	**273**	**14%**

[a] Cost data were only collected for HIAs that program records showed the community had completed, resulting in varying response counts across HIAs.

Impact of Grant Projects

This section provides additional impacts from additional analysis of grant types.

Custom and Unclassified Projects

Custom projects, supported by 13 points-based grants and six action grants, accounted for the smallest portion of the grants project savings, as they have the least total count of projects of the four categories, as seen in Table B-5. Landscaping equipment-type projects were most common (4 of the 9 custom projects), and one of those four communities' projects included a charging station. However, despite being the most common, these projects produced the least amount of CO2e savings compared to building upgrade projects (2 of the 9 custom projects). The Contractor team did not award savings to the remaining three custom projects because there was no submitted documentation as proof of project completion. Table 3-11 shows the savings breakdown organized by the different types of HIAs on which the custom projects are based.

Table B-5. Impacts for Custom Project Types

Project Type	Efficiency MWh Savings annual	Natural Gas MMBtu Savings annual	Renewable MWh Generation annual	Gasoline MMBtu Savings annual	Beneficial Electrification MWh annual	MTCO2e annual
Building Upgrades	59	190	7.6	0	0	69
Electric Landscaping Equipment	0	0	0	328	17	15
Combined Project Types	0	0	0	170	10	7
Total	**59**	**190**	**7.6**	**498**	**27**	**91**

As shown in Table B-1, there were 20 projects that were not categorized into the three known project types. In the documentation provided by the CEC Program, these projects had information on the grants and limited information on the project measures but contained insufficient details to map them to the known project types (5K, pre-approved, or custom). While they are labeled as Unclassified project types, the Contractor team was able to use the limited information on measures for 15 of the 20 projects to identify a project type. The savings were predominantly driven by streetlighting conversions (71% of CO2e savings) and building upgrades (24% of CO2e savings). The savings for the 15 Unclassified projects are shown below in Table B-6.

Table B-6. Impacts for Unclassified Project Types

Project Type	Efficiency MWh Savings annual	Natural Gas MMBtu Savings annual	Renewable MWh Generation annual	Gasoline MMBtu Savings annual	Diesel MMBtu Savings annual	Beneficial Electrification MWh annual	MTCO2e annual
LED Streetlight Conversions	2,158	0	0	0	0	0	1,079
Building Upgrades	306	988	39.5	0	0	0	359
Combined Project Types	36	9	0.39	84	0	6	23
Other Sustainability Projects	91	7	0.26	52	40	7	50
Total	**2,591**	**1,004**	**40**	**137**	**40**	**13**	**1,511**

Pre-Approved Projects

The pre-approved grant projects saved a total of 17,441 MWh of energy efficiency and 58,109 MMBtus in energy savings. This led to 20,388 metric tons of CO2e through 94 completed projects. Savings were mainly driven by the clean energy upgrade projects, Combined Project Types of multiple HIAs, and sustainability projects including electric vehicles, LED streetlighting conversions, and electric vehicle charging stations. The savings for pre-approved projects are broken down below in Table B-7.

Table B-7. Impacts for Pre-Approved Grant Projects

Project Type	Efficiency MWh Savings annual	Natural Gas MMBtu Savings annual	Renewable MWh Generation annual	Gasoline MMBtu Savings annual	Beneficial Electrification MWh annual	MTCO2e annual
Building Upgrades	15,049	48,591	1,941	25	2	17,638
Combined Project Types	1,971	6,364	1,971	1,055	70	2,350
Other Sustainability Projects	422	693	214	1,381	91	408
Total	**17,441**	**55,648**	**2,223**	**2,461**	**163**	**20,397**

* 58,109 total MMBtu savings for Pre-Approved grant projects.

Table B-8 gives different insights into the amount of CO2e avoided by grant type. In most cases, to calculate savings for each grant project, the project type was connected to an HIA in the forecasting workbook to determine savings. In Table B-8, the CO2e savings are shown by project type and by grant type.

Table B-8. Overview of MTCO2e Savings by Grant and Project Type

Project Type	Total Projects	Total MTCO2e Savings of Each Grant Funding Type			
		Designation Grants	Points-Based Grants	Action Grants	Total Savings
5K Projects	401	5,637	0	2,691	**8,327**
Pre-approved Projects	94	6	2,928	17,454	**20,397**
Custom Projects	9	0	57	35	**91**
Unclassified	20	1,509	2	0	**1,511**
Total Savings	**524**	**7,152**	**2,996**	**20,179**	**30,327**

This section provides insight into the impacts by the grant project types. Table B-9 provides impacts for Grants awarded for the 5k projects. These projects saved a total of 10,260 MWh and 21,422 MMBtus in energy savings (including 13,188 MMBtus of natural gas).

Table B-9. Impacts for 5K Grant Award Projects

Project Description	Efficiency MWh Savings annual	Natural Gas MMBtu Savings annual	Fuel Oil MMBtu Savings annual	Propane MMBtu Savings annual	Renewable MW Generation annual	Renewable MWh Generation annual	Gasoline MMBtu Savings annual	Beneficial Electrification MWh annual	MTCO2e annual
Building Upgrades	3,584	10,585	1	0	0	3,269	0	0	3,991
LED Streetlight Conversions	3,839	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,920
Combined Project Types	2,391	2,272	200	23	0.04	522	4,246	473	1,773
Other Sustainability Projects	446	330	12	0	0.29	460	3,751	279	643
Total	**10,260**	**13,188**	**213**	**23**	**0.33**	**4,252**	**7,998**	**752**	**8,327**

*21,422 total MMBtu savings for 5k project types

Custom and Unclassified Projects

Custom projects, supported by 13 points-based grants and six action grants, accounted for the smallest portion of the grants project savings, as they have the least total count of projects of the four categories, as seen in Table B-10. Landscaping equipment-type projects were most common (4 of the 9 custom projects), and one of those four communities' projects included a charging station. These projects saved a total of 59 MWh in energy efficienHowever, despite being the most common, these projects produced the least amount of CO2e savings compared to building upgrade projects (2 of the 9 custom projects). The Contractor team did not award savings to the remaining three custom projects because there was no submitted documentation as proof of project completion. Table B-10 shows the savings breakdown organized by the different types of HIAs on which the custom projects are based.

Table B-10. Impacts for Custom Project Types

Project Type	Efficiency MWh Savings annual	Natural Gas MMBtu Savings annual	Renewable MWh Generation annual	Gasoline MMBtu Savings annual	Beneficial Electrification MWh annual	MTCO2e annual
Building Upgrades	59	190	59	0	0	69
Electric Landscaping Equipment	0	0	0	328	17	15
Combined Project Types	0	0	0	170	10	7
Total	**59**	**190**	**59**	**498**	**27**	**91**

*688 total MMBtu savings for Custom grant projects.

As shown in Table B-10, there were 20 projects that were not categorized into the three known project types. In the documentation provided by the CEC Program, these projects had information on the grants and limited information on the project measures, but insufficient details to map them to the known project types (5K, pre-approved, or custom). While they are labeled as Unclassified project types, the Contractor team was able to use the limited information on measures for 15 of the 20 projects to identify a project type as shown in the lefthand column of Table B-13. The savings were predominantly driven by streetlighting conversions (71% of CO2e savings) and building upgrades (24% of CO2e savings). The savings for the 15 projects are shown below in Table B-11.

Table B-11. Impacts for Unclassified Project Types

Project Type	Efficiency MWh Savings annual	Natural Gas MMBtu Savings annual	Renewable MWh Generation annual	Gasoline MMBtu Savings annual	Diesel MMBtu Savings annual	Beneficial Electrification MWh annual	MTCO2e annual
LED Streetlight Conversions	2,158	0	0	0	0	0	1,079
Building Upgrades	306	988	306	0	0	0	359
Combined Project Types	36	9	3	84	0	6	23
Other Sustainability Projects	91	7	2	52	40	7	50
Total	**2,591**	**1,004**	**311**	**137**	**40**	**13**	**1,511**

Pre-Approved Projects

The pre-approved projects saved a total of 20,388 metric tons of CO2e through 94 completed projects. Savings were mainly driven by the clean energy upgrade projects, with 17,630 metric tons of CO2e saved (86% of total CO2e savings). Communities that did multiple HIAs, listed as Combined Project Types, made up 12% the total savings with 2,350 metric tons of CO2e saved. Other sustainability projects, which include electric vehicles, LED streetlighting conversions, and electric vehicle charging stations, account for the remaining 2% of CO2e savings. The savings for pre-approved projects are broken down below in Table B-12.

Table B-12. Impacts for Pre-Approved Grant Projects

Project Type	Efficiency MWh Savings annual	Natural Gas MMBtu Savings annual	Renewable MWh Generation annual	Gasoline MMBtu Savings annual	Beneficial Electrification MWh annual	MTCO2e annual
Building Upgrades	15,049	48,591	15,046	25	2	17,638
Combined Project Types	1,971	6,364	1,971	1,055	70	2,350
Other Sustainability Projects	422	693	214	1,381	91	408
Total	**17,441**	**55,648**	**17,232**	**2,461**	**163**	**20,397**

Of the three types of grants offered, the action grants contributed the most with 20,179 metric tons of CO2e saved (66% of the grant-related savings). Designation grants, the most common type of grant awarded, accounted for 24% of CO2e savings, and Points-Based grants, the newest of the awarded grant types, accounted for 10% of the CO2e savings. The impacts of the grant projects are summarized in Table B-13 and grouped by grant type, community size, and region.

Table B-13. Overview of Impacts by Grant Type, Community Size, and Region

Category	Item	Annual MTCO2e	MTCO2e per capita	Awarded Dollars/Annual MTCO2e
Grant Type	Points-Based	2,996	0.00105	$984.71
	Designation	7,152	0.00108	$371.22
	Action	20,179	0.00176	$79.91
Community Size	Small	6,905	0.00224	$605.00
	Large	23,422	0.00131	$129.79
Region	Mid-Hudson	3,415	0.00098	$738.74
	Capital Region	2,306	0.00162	$431.49
	Southern Tier	1,223	0.00183	$731.59
	Finger Lakes	2,132	0.00118	$358.78
	North Country	739	0.00232	$866.29
	Western New York	2,186	0.00067	$176.13
	Central New York	746	0.00191	$462.26
	Mohawk Valley	652	0.00173	$390.92
	Long Island	638	0.00063	$368.46
	New York City	16,290	0.00199	$11.05
Total		**30,327**	**0.00145**	**$237.99**

Each category in Table B-13 also provides insight into the amount of CO2e avoided by grant type, community size, and region. For example, action grants were the most cost-effective producing savings of $79.91 per metric ton of CO2e. While large communities produced the most CO2e savings overall, the small communities performed better on a per-capita basis. Over half of the region-level savings are from the New York City region, with 16,290 (54% of the Program's savings), and the best savings per capita are seen in the North Country region.

This section will discuss impacts per project type. In Table B-14, the CO2e savings are shown by project type and by grant type.

Table B-14. Overview of MTCO2e Savings by Grant and Project Type

Project Type	Total Projects	Total MTCO2e Savings of Each Grant Funding Type			
		Designation Grants	Points-Based Grants	Action Grants	Total Savings
5K Projects	401	5,637	0	2,691	**8,327**
Pre-approved Projects	94	6	2,928	17,454	**20,397**
Custom Projects	9	0	57	35	**91**
Unclassified	20	1,509	2	0	**1,511**
Total Savings	**524**	**7,152**	**2,996**	**20,179**	**30,327**

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Appendix C Descriptions of High Impact Actions

Table C-1 presents the descriptions of the High Impact Actions offered between 2019 and 2023.

Table C-1. Descriptions of High Impact Actions

High Impact Action	Brief Description
Benchmarking - Municipal Buildings	Municipalities adopt a policy to report on the energy use of municipal buildings on an annual basis.
Benchmarking - Advanced Reporting	Municipalities adopt a policy to report on the energy use of municipal buildings on an annual basis and, submit a screenshot of the applying municipality's website where at least 2-years' worth of energy use information is made available to the public.
Benchmarking - Large Private Buildings	Applicable to large communities which adopt legislation requiring the annual disclosure of energy use in large private buildings.
Clean Energy Upgrades	Municipalities achieve a 10 percent reduction in the greenhouse gas emissions from municipal buildings through energy efficiency upgrades and renewable energy.
LED Street Lights - Cobra Head	Municipalities convert at least half of the municipal "cobra-head" style streetlights within the jurisdictions to energy-efficient light-emitting diode (LED) technology.
LED Street Lights - Decorative	Municipalities convert at least half of the municipal "decorative" style streetlights within their jurisdictions to energy-efficient light-emitting diode (LED) technology.
Clean Fleets – Charging Station	Municipalities increase the deployment of alternative fuel vehicles by installing electric vehicle charging stations.
Clean Fleets – Light/Medium Duty Vehicles	Municipalities increase the deployment of alternative fuel vehicles by deploying a qualifying light/medium duty electric vehicle in the municipality's fleet.
Clean Fleets – Heavy Duty Vehicles	Municipalities increase the deployment of alternative fuel vehicles by deploying a qualifying heavy duty electric vehicle in the municipality's fleet.
Community Campaigns	Municipalities undertake a campaign to increase the number customers of electric vehicles, demand response, community solar, or clean heating and cooling equipment in the jurisdictions through group purchasing, locally-organized community education and outreach, and a limited time offer.
Unified Solar Permit	Municipalities pass an ordinance to adopt the New York State Unified Solar Permit to reduce costs and delays for solar projects in the jurisdictions.
Energy Code Enforcement Training	Municipalities' code compliance officers and other municipal officials are educated in best practices in energy code enforcement through training, collaborative plans reviews, and joint on-site inspections of local construction projects.
Climate Smart Communities (CSC) Certification	Municipalities earn CSC Certification at the certified, bronze, silver, and gold levels through compliance with this robust, comprehensive rating system.
Community Choice Aggregation (CCA)	Municipalities transition to a cleaner, more affordable energy supply by passing an ordinance to allow for the aggregated purchase of 100% renewable electric supply for residential and commercial customers within the jurisdictions on an opt-out basis.

High Impact Action	Brief Description
Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) Financing	Municipalities help property owners undertake clean energy improvements to commercial properties by passing an ordinance to establish a PACE financing program.
PACE Projects	Municipalities submit documentation demonstrating the closing of at least one Open C-PACE project in its jurisdiction.
County-Hosted Trainings	County governments host a training in coordination with NYSERDA Clean Energy Community Coordinators to help local governments advance clean energy development in their communities. County training courses available include Overview of the Model Solar Energy Law, Overview of the Model Battery Energy Storage System Law, Clean Energy and Your Comprehensive Plan, Battery Energy Storage for First Responders, and/or Solar PV Permitting and Inspecting.
Clean Heating and Cooling Demo	Municipalities convert or build municipal buildings to use a heat pump as the primary heating and cooling system and install an educational kiosk or display to benefit municipal staff and the public about the benefits of electrification.
100% Renewable Electricity	Municipalities purchase renewable energy for all of their electricity needs by matching municipal electricity loads with New York renewable energy certificates (RECs).

Appendix D Completions by Action

Table D-1 presents the number of communities completing all HIAs between 2019 and 2023. It should be noted that while CEC Program data indicates that 713 New York State communities (45%) had not completed at least one HIA through the Clean Energy Communities Program, only 6% of the communities that responded to the market survey (102 of 1,596) had not completed an HIA through the Program. Hence, the numbers reported in Table D-1 likely reflect this response bias, and as such, may inflate the number of HIAs completed. The Climate Smart Communities (CSC) Certification is the one exception to this potential bias, as the numbers are based on CSC program data.

Table D-1. Percent of Communities Completing HIAs Between 2019-2023

HIA	DAC (N=208)	Non-DAC (N=1,388)	Total (N=1,596)
Codes & Legislation			
Energy Code Enforcement Training	123 (59%)	898 (65%)	1,021 (64%)
Unified Solar Permit	57 (27%)	495 (36%)	551 (35%)
Community Choice Aggregation	38 (18%)	118 (9%)	156 (10%)
PACE Financing Authorization	19 (9%)	121 (9%)	140 (9%)
PACE Projects	10 (5%)	7 (1%)	16 (1%)
Clean Fleets			
Clean Fleets - Charging Stations	33 (16%)	150 (11%)	183 (12%)
Clean Fleets - Light/Medium Duty Vehicles	33 (16%)	145 (10%)	178 (11%)
Clean Fleets - Heavy Duty Vehicles	0 (0%)	7 (1%)	7 (0%)
LED Streetlights			
LED Streetlights - Cobra Head	99 (48%)	897 (65%)	996 (62%)
LED Streetlights - Decorative	52 (25%)	236 (17%)	288 (18%)
Benchmarking			
Benchmarking - Municipal Buildings	66 (32%)	513 (37%)	579 (36%)
Benchmarking - Advanced Reporting	19 (9%)	266 (19%)	285 (18%)
Benchmarking - Large Private Buildings	0 (0%)	7 (1%)	7 (0%)
Community Campaigns			
Community Campaigns – Community Solar	33 (16%)	372 (27%)	405 (25%)
Community Campaigns - Clean Heating and Cooling	19 (9%)	365 (26%)	384 (24%)

Community Campaigns - Electric Vehicles	14 (7%)	111 (8%)	125 (8%)
Community Campaigns - Demand Response	9 (5%)	81 (6%)	90 (6%)
Municipal Energy Use			
Climate Smart Communities Certification	43 (21%)	67 (5%)	110 (7%)
Clean Energy Upgrades	28 (14%)	254 (18%)	282 (18%)
Clean Heating and Cooling Demonstration	9 (5%)	168 (12%)	178 (11%)
100% Renewable Electricity	9 (5%)	56 (4%)	65 (4%)
County-Hosted Trainings[a]			
County Hosted Training - Solar	0 (0%)	34 (2%)	34 (2%)
County Hosted Training - Clean Energy	0 (0%)	34 (2%)	34 (2%)
County Hosted Training - Energy Storage	0 (0%)	27 (2%)	27 (2%)
County Hosted Training - Battery	0 (0%)	13 (1%)	13 (1%)

[a]County-hosted training courses are only available as an HIA for the 56 NYS counties to complete.

Table D-2 reports the HIAs uncovered through the Market Survey. In total, 528 HIAs were reported through the survey.

Table D-2. Percent of Communities Completing Survey-Reported HIAs Between 2019-2023

HIA	DAC (N=208)	Non-DAC (N=1,388)	Total (N=1,596)
Codes & Legislation			
Unified Solar Permit	9 (5%)	19 (1%)	28 (2%)
Energy Code Enforcement Training	0 (0%)	13 (1%)	13 (1%)
Community Choice Aggregation	0 (0%)	19 (1%)	19 (1%)
PACE Financing Authorization	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Clean Fleets			
Clean Fleets - Light/Medium Duty Vehicles	19 (9%)	75 (6%)	95 (6%)
Clean Fleets - Charging Stations	19 (9%)	32 (2%)	51 (3%)
Clean Fleets - Heavy Duty Vehicles	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
LED Streetlights			
LED Streetlights - Cobra Head	9 (5%)	56 (4%)	65 (4%)
LED Streetlights - Decorative	0 (0%)	44 (3%)	44 (3%)
Benchmarking			
Benchmarking (Municipal Buildings)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Community Campaigns			

Community Campaigns - Solar	0 (0%)	74 (5%)	74 (5%)
Community Campaigns - Electric Vehicles	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Community Campaigns - Clean Heating and Cooling	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Municipal Energy Use			
Clean Heating and Cooling Demonstration	0 (0%)	74 (5%)	74 (5%)
Clean Energy Upgrades	9 (5%)	37 (3%)	46 (3%)
100% Renewable Electricity	0 (0%)	19 (1%)	19 (1%)

Appendix E CEC Points Earned

Table E-1 contains metrics indicating how many of the 1,596 NYS communities have earned at least 3,000 points, 4,000 points, or 5,000 points. NYSERDA CEC Program data indicate that 187 communities had earned at least 3,000 points. Communities earn points by completing Hight Impact Actions.

Table E-1. Points Earned by Community Type[4]

Community Description	Earned 3,000 Points	Earned 4,000 Points	Earned 5,000 Points
DAC (N=208)	31 (15%)	16 (8%)	14 (7%)
Non-DAC (n=1,388)	156 (11%)	70 (5%)	59 (4%)
Total (n=1,596)	187 (12%)	86 (5%)	73 (5%)

Appendix F Market Survey Sample Details

Appendix F presents additional information for the market survey sampling methods. As a reminder, the Market Contractor team determined whether a municipality was categorized as a DAC if 50% or more of its population resided in census tracts identified as DACs.[5]

Table F-1 shows the sampling frame used for market survey.

Table F-1. Sampling Frame

DAC Classification	Community Size	Sampling Frame (N=1,596)	Percent of Population (100%)	Target Sample (n=127)	Percent of Sample (100%)
DAC	Large (40,000+)	19	1%	8	6%
	Small (<40,000)	189	12%	44	35%
Non-DAC	Large (40,000+)	74	5%	10	8%
	Small (<40,000)	1,315	82%	65	51%

Table F-2 contains a breakdown of the community characteristics in the population and in the survey sample.

Table F-2. Population and Sample Characteristics Breakdown

Size	Population						Surveyed Sample			
	Total		DAC		Non-DAC		DAC		Non-DAC	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	n	%	n	%
Large	97	6%	90	93%	7	7%	21	95%	1	5%
Small	1,498	94%	250	17%	1,248	83%	23	15%	131	85%
Total	1,595	100%	340	21%	1255	79%	44	25%	132	75%

[5] See this webpage for information on DACs: https://climate.ny.gov/resources/disadvantaged-communities-criteria/

Appendix G Survey Instrument

NYSERDA Clean Energy Communities

November 2024

Market Evaluation Survey

Study Overview

Table 1 includes key characteristics about the instrument.

Table 1. Study Overview

Descriptor	This Instrument
Instrument Type	Phone survey
Estimated Time to Complete	25 - 30 minutes
Population Description	New York Communities/Local Governments
Sampling Strata Definitions	NYS Region and Community Size (small ≤ 40,000; large > 40,000)
Population Size	1,600 communities
Contact List Size	~900
Completion Goal(s)	127
Contact List Source	NYSERDA
Type of Sampling	Stratified random
Contact Sought	Local government staff person most familiar with their municipality's clean energy efforts, up to two contacts.
Incentive Types and Amounts	None
Outreach Methods	Email and Phone Calls

Research Objectives

Table 2 maps the research objectives and questions to specific questions in the instrument.

Table 2. Research Objectives

Research Questions	Associated Instrument Section/Questions
What are the indirect impacts for program years 2021-2023?	Q1-Q138
How many communities have created an energy or sustainability task force because of the CEC program?	Q140-Q142
How many communities have completed High Impact Actions (HIA)?	Q1-Q138
Have any high impact actions become standard practice in NYS?	Q9, Q25, Q37, Q45, Q52, Q59, Q64, Q71, Q79, Q87, Q90, Q95, Q103, Q109, Q115, Q124, Q131, Q138
How capable would your community be to take energy & sustainability action without the program tools & resources? How do you value the program coordinators efforts?	Q143-Q147

Programming Information

Programming note style conventions in this document:

[PROGRAMMING] Programming instructions are in bracketed CAPS.

[*Interviewer notes*] Onscreen interviewer instructions are in italics.

<Piped value> Database inputs are inside <greater and less than symbols>

The variables listed in Table 3 and Table 4 are from the sample, database, or other external data source. The variables listed in Table 5 are to be generated/calculated within the instrument.

Table 3. Variables from Sample or Database

Sample Variable Name	Variable Description and Values
Action	See Table 5 below
Size	Small ≤ 40,000; Large > 40,000)
DAC_Classification	Disadvantaged Community (DAC): 50%+ of population in DAC Census Tract = 1 <50% of population in DAC Census Tract = 0
Region	Capital District; Central New York; Finger Lakes; Long Island; Mid-Hudson; Mohawk Valley; New York City; North Country; Southern Tier; Western New York

Table 4. Table of Actions and Associated Variable Name

Action Name	Variable Name	Action Name	Variable Name
Unified Solar Permit	USP_1	Benchmarking – Large Private Buildings	Bench_10_LPB
LED Street Lights	LED_3	Clean Heating and Cooling Demo	Clean_Heat_11
LED Streetlights Cobrahead	LED_3_CH	County-Hosted Trainings	Training_12
LED Streetlights Decorative	LED_3_D	County-Hosted Trainings - Battery Energy Storage for First Responders	Training_12_Battery
Energy Cody Enforcement Training	Code_4	County-Hosted Trainings - Clean Energy and Your Comprehensive Plan	Training_12_CleanEnergy
PACE Financing	PACE_5	County-Hosted Trainings - Overview of the Model Solar Energy Law	Training_12_Solar
PACE Financing: Open C-PACE Authorization	PACE_5_Auth	County-Hosted Trainings - Overview of the Model Battery Energy Storage System Law	Training_12_EnergyStorage
Pace Financing: PACE Projects	PACE_5_PP	Community Campaigns	Campaign_13
Community Choice Aggregation	CCA_6	Community Campaigns - Clean Heating and Cooling Tier 1	Campaign_13_CH1
Community Choice Aggregation - 100% Renewable Default Supply Mix	CCA_6_Renew	Community Campaigns - Clean Heating and Cooling Tier 2	Campaign_13_CH2
Community Choice Aggregation - Opt-Out CDG	CCA_6_OptOut	Community Campaigns - Clean Heating and Cooling Tier 3	Campaign_13_CH3
Climate Smart Communities	CSC_7	Community Campaigns - Community Solar Tier 1	Campaign_13_Solar1
Clean Fleets	Fleet_8	Community Campaigns - Community Solar Tier 2	Campaign_13_Solar2
Clean Fleets – EV Charging Stations	Fleet_8_Charg	Community Campaigns - Community Solar Tier 3	Campaign_13_Solar3
Clean Fleets - Light/Medium Duty Electric Vehicles	Fleet_8_LM	Community Campaign - Demand Response	Campaign_13_Demand
Clean Fleets - Heavy Duty Electric Vehicles	Fleet_8_H	Community Campaigns - Electrical Vehicles Tier 1	Campaign_13_EV1
Clean Energy Upgrades	Upgrade_9	Community Campaigns - Electrical Vehicles Tier 2	Campaign_13_EV2

Action Name	Variable Name		Action Name	Variable Name
Benchmarking	Bench_10		Community Campaigns - Electric Vehicles Tier 3	Campaign_13_EV3
Benchmarking – Advanced Reporting	Bench_10_AR		100% Renewable Electricity	Renewable_14
Benchmarking – Municipal Buildings	Bench_10_MB		Benchmarking – Large Private Buildings	Bench_10_LPB

Table 5. Variables Generated in Instrument

Sample Variable Name	Variable Description and Values
PRIOR_PARTICPANT	= 1 if the community has completed any HIAs between 2019 and 2023
PROGRAM_AWARE	=1 if Q1=1 or 2

Interviewer Information

Program Description

The Clean Energy Communities initiative provides grants, direct technical support, including tools and resources, and recognition to local governments that demonstrate leadership in the area of clean energy. This support helps to reduce the resources communities need to advance clean energy in their neighborhoods, demonstrate the benefits of such investments, and encourage replication throughout communities and across the State.

Under PON 3298, NYSERDA has identified high-impact actions (HIAs) that local governments can take to save money, foster a vibrant economy, and improve the environment. Communities that complete at least four high-impact actions earn initial Clean Energy Communities designation and are eligible to apply for grants to fund additional clean energy projects. Once a community earns a certain number of points, it becomes eligible for 1 to 5-Star Designations and larger grant awards.

Outreach Materials

[INSERT OUTREACH EMAILS, LETTERS, OR PHONE SCRIPTS BELOW, OR PROVIDE THEM IN A SEPARATE DOCUMENT]

If someone answers:

Hi. My name is _____ and I'm calling from Opinion Dynamics on behalf of NYSERDA, the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority. My firm is working with NYSERDA to learn about clean energy and energy efficiency actions that local governments and communities have taken. I understand you might be a good person to speak with about clean energy actions your municipality is involved with. Is that right?

If no → Who would be a good person to talk to?

If yes → The questions I have should take about 25 minutes depending on how much you have to say. Is now a good time or should we schedule a time to talk in the next week or so?

If needed → We're having these conversations as part of our evaluation of NYSERDA's Clean Energy Communities Program. [Coordinator Name] suggested you would be a good person to speak to.

If voicemail:

Hi, my name is _____ and I'm calling from Opinion Dynamics on behalf of NYSERDA, the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority. My firm is working with NYSERDA to understand the clean energy work that local governments are engaged in. I understand you might be a good person to speak with about your municipality's clean energy work. Please give me a call back so we can schedule a time to chat. We would need about 25 minutes. If you are not the best person to speak with, I would still appreciate a call back to help me identify the right person. You can reach me at XXX-XXX-XXXX. Thank you very much.

Instrument

Introduction/Landing Page

Hi. Thank you for taking the time to talk with me today. As I mentioned, I'm working with NYSERDA to learn about clean energy and energy efficiency actions that municipalities are taking. I will be asking about specific actions NYSERDA is interested in. Finally, I'll ask about how useful NYSERDA resources were and about any local working groups on these topics. If the activity is not applicable to your jurisdictional responsibilities, just let me know. I'll be taking notes as we talk, but I'd like to record this conversation to ensure the accuracy of my notes. Is that okay with you? We will not identify you by name in what we report to NYSERDA.

Any questions for me before we get started?

[QUALTRICS: PUT THESE INTERVIEWER NOTES BELOW ON THE SAME SCREEN AS THE QUESTION ABOVE]

IF NEEDED: Your answers will help NYSERDA to improve its programs that support local governments with their clean energy efforts.

IF NEEDED: If you have not done much clean energy activity, we still want to hear from you. It is important that our survey represents all types of communities throughout the state.

IF NEEDED: I'm happy to set up a time that works well for you and call you back then to do the survey.

Program Awareness

[SINGLE OPTION]

Q1. [ASK ALL] How familiar are you with NYSERDA's Clean Energy Communities Program that specifies High Impact Actions through which governments earn points toward a grant?

[*DO NOT READ*]

1. Very familiar→[Program_Aware =1]
2. Somewhat familiar→[Program_Aware =1]
3. Not at all familiar→[Program_Aware =0]

Next we're going to walk through specific clean energy and energy efficiency actions that NYSERDA is interested in

Benchmarking

Municipal Buildings

[SINGLE OPTION]

Q2. [**SKIP TO Q9 IF Bench_10_MB=1**] The first question is about benchmarking energy usage in your municipality's buildings. Have you adopted legislation that would require benchmarking and reporting of the energy use of municipal buildings 1,000 square feet or larger? (If needed: benchmarking legislation would require the public disclosure of municipal buildings' energy use.; Legislation refers to a resolution, ordinance, or local law. Executed contracts or agreements are also acceptable.)

1. Yes
2. No → Skip to next action
3. Not applicable → Skip to next action
98. Don't know → Who should we talk to about this? → Skip to next action

[SINGLE OPTION]

Q3. [IF Q2 = 1] And, does that legislation require you to make the benchmarking information publicly available on the internet?

1. Yes
2. No → Skip to next action
98. Don't know → Who should we talk to about this? → Skip to next action

[SINGLE OPTION]

Q4. [IF Q3 = 1] Do you enter this data into an ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager Account?

1. Yes
2. No, we use a different system
3. No, we don't use a portfolio manager → Skip to next action
98. Don't know → Who should we talk to about this? → Skip to next action

[SINGLE OPTION]

Q5. [If Q4 = 1] When did you adopt this legislation? [IF NEEDED: Your best estimate is fine.]

1. Prior to 2019 [ENTER DATE] → Skip to next action
2. Between 2019-2023 [ENTER DATE] → go to Q6
3. In 2024 [ENTER DATE] → Skip to next action
98. Don't know → go to Q6

Q6. [If Q5 = 2 OR 98] I'd like to know what might've influenced your decision to adopt the legislation and benchmark the buildings. Using a scale of 1 to 7 where 1 is "Not at all influential" and 7 is "Very influential" How influential was….

[READ. SINGLE RESPONSE: SCALE]

Items	1. Not at all influential	2	3	4	5	6	7. Very Influential	97. N/A	98. Don't know
1. [DISPLAY IF PROGRAM_AWARE = 1] Resources from the Clean Energy Communities Program, such as its									

website, step by step guides, or Program Coordinator

2. [DISPLAY IF PRIOR_PARTICIPANT = 1] Prior experience with the Clean Energy Communities Program

3. Observing another community's success with the same activity

[ASK IF ANY IN Q6 >4]

Q7. Imagine you did not have… [PIPE IN ALL rated >4 in Q6]. What is the likelihood you would have benchmarked the buildings and published the information? Please use a 1 to 7 scale where 1 is "Not at all likely" and 7 is "Very likely." [IF NEEDED: Please answer to the best of your ability, given what you know.]

[DO NOT READ; SINGLE RESPONSE]

1. 1
2. 2
3. 3
4. 4
5. 5
6. 6
7. 7
98. Don't know

Q8. [IF Q6_3 >4] Can you please tell me the names of the municipalities you observed have success benchmarking their municipal buildings?

1. [OPEN-END TEXT BOX]

[SINGLE OPTION, ASK ALL]

Q9. I'd like to know how common you think it is for other municipalities to do this. Of the municipalities you know, about what percent require benchmarking and reporting of the energy use of municipal buildings 1,000 square feet or larger?

1 [PERCENT BOX]
2 [OPEN-END TEXT BOX FOR NOTES]
98. Don't know.

[SHOW ON SAME PAGE AS ABOVE QUESTION] Optional comments:

Q10. [Intentionally blank to preserve question numbering]

Q11. [Intentionally blank to preserve question numbering]

Q12. [Intentionally blank to preserve question numbering]

Q13. [Intentionally blank to preserve question numbering]

Q14. [Intentionally blank to preserve question numbering]

Q15. [Intentionally blank to preserve question numbering]

Q16. [Intentionally blank to preserve question numbering]

Q17. [Intentionally blank to preserve question numbering]

Q18. [Intentionally blank to preserve question numbering]

Q19. [Intentionally blank to preserve question numbering]

Q20. [Intentionally blank to preserve question numbering]

Q21. [Intentionally blank to preserve question numbering]

Q22. [Intentionally blank to preserve question numbering]

Q23. [Intentionally blank to preserve question numbering]

Q24. [Intentionally blank to preserve question numbering]

Clean Energy Upgrades

[SINGLE OPTION]

Q25. [**SKIP TO Q28 IF Q4=1; SKIP TO Q37 IF Upgrade_9=1**] Does someone at your municipality enter energy usage data for your municipal buildings into a portfolio manager or benchmarking system? (If needed: A common tool is the ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager online tool.)

1. Yes
2. No → Skip to next action
98. Don't know → Who should we talk to about this? → Skip to next action

[SINGLE OPTION]

Q26. [IF Q25 = YES] What type of portfolio manager or benchmarking system does your municipality use?

1. ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager Online Tool
2. Other (Please specify): _____ [OPEN RESPONSE]
3. 98. Don't know → Who should we talk to about this?

[SINGLE OPTION]

Q27. [IF Q25 = YES] To the best of your knowledge, does your municipality enter data for all municipal buildings 1,000 square feet or larger into the ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager system?

1. Yes
2. No
3. Not applicable, no municipal buildings larger than 1000 sf. → Skip to next action
98. Don't know → Who should we talk to about this? → Skip to next action

[SINGLE OPTION]

Q28. Have you completed energy-saving upgrades or renewable energy projects at any of your municipal buildings or facilities? (If needed: this might include adding insulation, installing a high-efficiency furnace, or adding rooftop solar).

1. Yes
2. No → Skip to next action
98. Don't know → Who should we talk to about this? → Skip to next action

[SINGLE OPTION]

Q29. [IF Q28 = YES] When were any of those upgrades or renewable energy projects completed?

1. Prior to 2019 [ENTER DATE] → Skip to next action
2. Between 2019 and 2023 [ENTER DATE] → GO TO Q30
3. In 2024 [ENTER DATE] → Skip to next action

98. Don't know → Who should we talk to about this? → Skip to next action

[SINGLE OPTION]

Q30. [IF Q29 = 2] Have you noticed a reduction in your buildings' energy use or greenhouse gas emissions since the completion of those upgrades/renewable energy projects?

1. Yes
2. No → Skip to next action
98. Don't know → Who should we talk to about this? → Skip to next action

[SINGLE OPTION]

Q31. [IF Q30 = YES] Was that reduction in greenhouse gas emissions at least 10% compared to the baseline?

1. Yes
2. No → Skip to next action
98. Don't know → Who should we talk to about this? → Skip to next action

[SINGLE OPTION]

Q32. [IF Q31 = YES] Was the baseline a history of at least 12 months of building energy usage data?

1. Yes → go to Q33
2. No → Skip to next action
98. Don't know → Who should we talk to about this? → Skip to next action

Q33. [If Q32 = 1] I'd like to ask about things that might've influenced your decision to do those upgrades and track the greenhouse gas emission reductions. Using a scale of 1 to 7 where 1 is "Not at all influential" and 7 is "Very influential" How influential was....

[READ. SINGLE RESPONSE: SCALE]

Items	1. Not at all influential	2	3	4	5	6	7. Very Influential	97. N/A	98. Don't know
1. [DISPLAY IF PROGRAM_AWARE = 1] Resources from the Clean Energy Communities Program, such as its website, step by step guides, or Program Coordinator									
2. [DISPLAY IF PRIOR_PARTICIPANT= 1] Prior experience with the Clean Energy Communities Program									
3. Observing another community's success with the same activity									

[SINGLE OPTION]

Q34. [ASK IF ANY IN Q33 > 4] Imagine you did not have... [PIPE IN ALL rated >4 in Q33]. What is the likelihood you would have completed those upgrades and tracked the greenhouse gas emission reductions? Please use a 1 to 7 scale where 1 is "Not at all likely" and 7 is "Very likely." [IF NEEDED: Please answer to the best of your ability, given what you know.]

[DO NOT READ; SINGLE RESPONSE]

1. 1
2. 2

3. 3
4. 4
5. 5
6. 6
7. 7
98. Don't know

Q35. [SHOW ON SAME PAGE AS ABOVE QUESTION] Optional comments:

Q36. [IF Q33_3 >4] Can you please tell me the names of the municipalities you observed have success with clean energy upgrades at their municipal buildings?

1. [OPEN-END TEXT BOX]

[SINGLE OPTION]

Q37. [ASK ALL] I'd like to know how common you think it is for other municipalities to do this. Of the municipalities you know, about what percent have completed energy efficiency or renewable energy upgrades to their buildings that achieve a 10% reduction in GHG emissions? [YOUR BEST GUESS IS FINE]

1. [PERCENT BOX]
2. [OPEN-END TEXT BOX FOR NOTES]
98. Don't know.

LED Streetlights

[SINGLE OPTION]

Q38. [**SKIP TO Q45 IF LED_3_CH _5=1 AND LED_3_D=1**] Now, let's discuss your streetlights. Does your municipality pay for the electricity for most streetlights within your jurisdiction?

1. Yes
2. No → Skip to next action
98. Don't know → Who should we talk to about this? → Skip to next action

LED Streetlights: Cobra-Head

[SINGLE OPTION]

Q39. [IF Q38= 1 AND LED_3_CH = 0] What percent of your cobra-head streetlights are LED lights?

1. [PERCENT BOX]
2. None (0%) → Skip to Q46
98. Don't know → Who should we talk to about this? → Skip to Q46

[IF Q39_1 percent is less than 50%, Skip to Q46. If 50% or more, go to next question]

[SINGLE OPTION]

Q40. When were those cobra-head LED streetlights installed? [IF NEEDED: Your best estimate is fine.]

1. Prior to 2019 [ENTER DATE] → Skip to next action
2. Between 2019 and 2023 [ENTER DATE] → GO TO Q41
3. In 2024 [ENTER DATE] → Skip to next action
98. Don't know → go to Q41

Q41. [If Q40= 2 OR 98] I'd like to ask about things that might've influenced your decision to install LED cobra-head streetlights. Using a scale of 1 to 7 where 1 is "Not at all influential" and 7 is "Very influential" How influential was….

[READ. SINGLE RESPONSE: SCALE]

Items	1. Not at all influential	2	3	4	5	6	7. Very Influential	97. N/A	98. Don't know
1. [DISPLAY IF PROGRAM_AWARE = 1] Resources from the Clean Energy Communities Program, such as its website, step by step guides, or Program Coordinator									
2. [DISPLAY IF PRIOR_PARTICIPANT = 1] Prior experience with the Clean Energy Communities Program									
3. Observing another community's success with the same activity									

[SINGLE RESPONSE: ASK IF ANY IN Q41 RATED >4]

Q42. Imagine you did not have… [PIPE IN ALL rated >4 in Q41]. What is the likelihood you would have completed the streetlight retrofit? Please use a 1 to 7 scale where 1 is "Not at all likely" and 7 is "Very likely." [IF NEEDED: Please answer to the best of your ability, given what you know.]

[DO NOT READ; SINGLE RESPONSE]

1. 1
2. 2
3. 3
4. 4
5. 5
6. 6
7. 7

98. Don't know

Q43. [SHOW ON SAME PAGE AS ABOVE QUESTION] Optional comments:

Q44. [IF Q41_3 >4] Can you please tell me the names of the municipalities you observed have success with a streetlight conversion to LED?

1. [OPEN-END TEXT BOX]

[SINGLE OPTION]

Q45. [ASK ALL] I'd like to know how common you think it is for other municipalities to do this. Of the municipalities you know, about what percent have installed cobra-head LED lights in at least half of their streetlights? [YOUR BEST GUESS IS FINE]

1. [PERCENT BOX]
2. [OPEN-END TEXT BOX FOR NOTES]

98. Don't know.

LED Streetlights: Decorative

[IF LED_3_D _5=1 go to Q53, and IF LED_3_D _5=0 go to next question]

[SINGLE OPTION]

Q46. [IF Q38 = 1 AND LED_3_D = 0] What percent of your decorative streetlights are LED lights?

1. [PERCENT BOX]
2. None (0%) → SKIP TO Q53
98. Don't know → Who should we talk to about this? → SKIP TO Q53

[IF Q39_1 percent is less than 50%, Skip to Q53. If 50% or more, go to next question]

[SINGLE OPTION]

Q47. When were those decorative LED streetlights installed? [IF NEEDED: Your best estimate is fine.]

1. Prior to 2019 [ENTER DATE] → Skip to Q52
2. Between 2019 and 2023 [ENTER DATE] → go to Q48
3. In 2024 [ENTER DATE] → Skip to Q52
98. Don't know → go to Q48

Q48. [If Q47 = 2 OR 98] I'd like to ask about things that might've influenced your decision to install decorative LED streetlights. Using a scale of 1 to 7, where 1 is "Not at all influential" and 7 is "Very influential," How influential was....

[READ. SINGLE RESPONSE: SCALE]

Items	1. Not at all influential	2	3	4	5	6	7. Very Influential	97. N/A	98. Don't know
1. [DISPLAY IF PROGRAM_AWARE = 1] Resources from the Clean Energy Communities Program, such as its website, step by step guides, or Program Coordinator									
2. [DISPLAY IF PRIOR_PARTICIPANT = 1] Prior experience with the Clean Energy Communities Program									
3. Observing another community's success with the same activity									

[ASK IF ANY IN Q48 RATED >4]

Q49. Imagine you did not have... [PIPE IN ALL rated >4 in Q48]. What is the likelihood you would have completed the streetlight retrofit? Please use a 1 to 7 scale where 1 is "Not at all likely" and 7 is "Very likely." [IF NEEDED: Please answer to the best of your ability, given what you know.]

[DO NOT READ; SINGLE RESPONSE]

1. 1
2. 2
3. 3
4. 4
5. 5
6. 6

7. 7
98. Don't know

Q50. [SHOW ON SAME PAGE AS ABOVE QUESTION] Optional comments:

Q51. [IF Q48_3 >4] Can you please tell me the names of the municipalities you observed have success with a decorative streetlight conversion to LED?

1. [OPEN-END TEXT BOX]

Q52. [SINGLE RESPONSE: ASK ALL] I'd like to know how common you think it is for other municipalities to do this. Of the municipalities you know, about what percent have installed LED lights in at least half of their decorative streetlights? [YOUR BEST GUESS IS FINE]

1. [PERCENT BOX]
2. [OPEN-END TEXT BOX FOR NOTES]
98. Don't know

Clean Fleets

[SINGLE OPTION]

Q53. [**SKIP TO Q54A IF Fleet_8_Charg=1 AND Fleet_8_LM=1 AND Fleet_8_H=1]** Next, I want to ask about your municipality's vehicle fleet. Does your municipality have at least one electric vehicle in its fleet of vehicles? [If needed: Qualifying electric vehicles include plug-in hybrid vehicles, which plug in and run on electricity but have a gasoline engine as backup, and battery-electric vehicles or fully-electric vehicles.[If needed: Vehicles may be light-duty, medium-duty, or heavy-duty vehicles and must be able to go at least 55 miles per hour – not golf cart type vehicles.]

1. Yes
2. No → Skip to Q72
3. Not applicable (does not have a vehicle fleet) Skip to Q72
98. Don't know → Who should we talk to about this? Skip to Q72

[SINGLE OPTION]

Q54. [IF Q53 = 1] What type of electric vehicle do you currently have in your fleet?

1. Light/Medium Duty [If needed: smaller vehicles such as cargo van, SUV, pickup truck, step van, smaller delivery trucks/walk-ins)
2. Heavy Duty [If needed: Includes Class 7 or 8 vehicles, school buses, public transit vehicles such as minibuses and transit buses, refuse trucks, furniture trucks/semi-trucks, cement trucks, dump trucks]
3. Both Light/Medium Duty and Heavy Duty Vehicles
98. Don't know

Q54A. [DISPLAY IF Q54=1,2, or 3 OR Fleet_8_LM=1 OR Fleet_8_H=1] Program data indicates your community has at least one electric vehicle in its fleet of vehicles.] How many of those electric vehicles do you have in your fleet?

1. [DISPLAY IF Q54 = 1 or 3 or Fleet_8_LM=1] Light/medium duty: [Enter number]
2. [DISPLAY IF Q54 = 2 or 3 or Fleet_8_H=1] Heavy duty: [Enter number]

Light/Medium Duty Electric Vehicles

[SINGLE OPTION]

Q55. [SKIP TO Q59 IF Fleet_8_LM=1. ELSE, ASK IF Q54= 1 OR 3] When did you add the Light/Medium Duty EV to your fleet? [IF NEEDED: Your best estimate is fine.]

1. Prior to 2019 [ENTER DATE] → Skip to Q65
2. Between 2019 and 2023 [ENTER DATE] → Go to Q56
3. In 2024 [ENTER DATE] → Skip to Q65
98. Don't know → go to Q56

Q56. [If Q55= 2 OR 98] I'd like to ask about things that might've influenced your decision to add a light/medium duty EVs to your fleet. Using a scale of 1 to 7 where 1 is "Not at all influential" and 7 is "Very influential" How influential was....

[READ. SINGLE RESPONSE: SCALE]

Items	1. Not at all influential	2	3	4	5	6	7. Very Influential	97. N/A	98. Don't know
1. [DISPLAY IF PROGRAM_AWARE = 1] Resources from the Clean Energy Communities Program, such as its website, step by step guides, or Program Coordinator									
2. [DISPLAY IF PRIOR_PARTICIPANT = 1] Prior experience with the Clean Energy Communities Program									
3. Observing another community's success with the same activity									

[SINGLE RESPONSE: ASK IF ANY IN Q56 >4]

Q57. Imagine you did not have... [PIPE IN ALL rated >4 in Q56]. What is the likelihood you would have added that vehicle to your fleet? Please use a 1 to 7 scale where 1 is "Not at all likely" and 7 is "Very likely." [IF NEEDED: Please answer to the best of your ability, given what you know.]

[DO NOT READ; SINGLE RESPONSE]

1. 1
2. 2
3. 3
4. 4
5. 5
6. 6
7. 7
98. Don't know

Q58. [IF Q56_3 >4] Can you please tell me the names of the municipalities that you observed have success with adding an EV to their fleet?

[OPEN-END TEXT BOX]

Q59. [SINGLE RESPONSE: ASK ALL] I'd like to know how common you think it is for other municipalities to do this. About what percent of the municipalities you know have light/medium duty EVs in their fleet? [YOUR BEST GUESS IS FINE]

1. [PERCENT BOX]
2. [OPEN-END TEXT BOX FOR NOTES]
98. Don't know.

[IF Fleet_8_H=1 go to Q64, and if Fleet_8_H=0 go to next question]

Heavy Duty Electric Vehicles

[SINGLE OPTION]

Q60. [SKIP TO Q64 IF Fleet_8_H=1. ELSE, ASK IF Q54= 2 OR 3] When did you add the Heavy Duty EV to your fleet? [IF NEEDED: Your best estimate is fine.]

1. Prior to 2019 [ENTER DATE] → Skip to Q65
2. Between 2019 and 2023 [ENTER DATE] → Go to Q61
3. In 2024 [ENTER DATE] → Skip to Q65

98. Don't know → Who should we talk to about this? → go to Q61

[SINGLE OPTION]

Q61. [If Q60= 2 OR 98] I'd like to ask about things that might've influenced your decision to add an heavy duty EV to your fleet. Using a scale of 1 to 7 where 1 is "Not at all influential" and 7 is "Very influential" How influential was....

[READ. SINGLE RESPONSE: SCALE]

Items	1. Not at all influential	2	3	4	5	6	7. Very Influential	97. N/A	98. Don't know
1. [DISPLAY IF PROGRAM_AWARE = 1] Resources from the Clean Energy Communities Program, such as its website, step by step guides, or Program Coordinator									
2. [DISPLAY IF PRIOR_PARTICIPANT = 1] Prior experience with the Clean Energy Communities Program									
3. Observing another community's success with the same activity									

[ASK IF ANY IN Q61 >4]

Q62. Imagine you did not have... [PIPE IN ALL rated >4 in Q61]. What is the likelihood you would have added that heavy duty vehicle to your fleet? Please use a 1 to 7 scale where 1 is "Not at all likely" and 7 is "Very likely." [IF NEEDED: Please answer to the best of your ability, given what you know.]

[DO NOT READ; SINGLE RESPONSE]

1. 1
2. 2
3. 3
4. 4
5. 5
6. 6

7. 7
98. Don't know

Q63. [IF Q61_3 >4] Can you please tell me the names of the municipalities that you observed have success with adding a heavy duty EV to their fleet?

[OPEN-END TEXT BOX] → SKIP TO NEXT ACTION

[SINGLE OPTION]

Q64. [ASK ALL] I'd like to know how common you think it is for other municipalities to do this. About what percent of the municipalities you know have heavy-duty electric vehicles within their fleet? [YOUR BEST GUESS IS FINE]

1. [PERCENT BOX]
2. [OPEN-END TEXT BOX FOR NOTES]
3.
98. Don't know.

Q64_Comments. Optional comments [OPEN-END TEXT BOX]

EV Charging Stations

[SINGLE OPTION]

Q65. [SKIP TO NEXT QUESTION IF Fleet_8_Charg=1] Has your municipality provided at least one electric vehicle charging station that is currently active? (If needed: Electric vehicle charging stations must consist of either two or more Level 2 charging ports or one or more DC fast charge ports.)

1. Yes
2. No → Skip to next action
98. Don't know → Who should we talk to about this? → Skip to next action

Q65A. [DISPLAY IF Q65= 1 OR Fleet_8_Charg=1] Program data indicates your community has provided at least one electric vehicle charging station. How many of those charging stations has your municipality provided?

1. [ENTER NUMBER]
98. Don't know
99.

[F Fleet_8_Charg=1 go to Q71, and if Fleet_8_Charg=0 go to next question]

[SINGLE OPTION]

Q66. When was that charging station added? [IF NEEDED: Your best estimate is fine.]

1. Prior to 2019 [ENTER DATE] → Skip to next action
2. Between 2019 and 2023 [ENTER DATE] → Go to Q67
3. In 2024 [ENTER DATE] → Skip to next action
98. Don't know → go to Q67

Q67. [If Q66 = 2 OR 98] I'd like to know what might've influenced your decision to install the charging station. Using a scale of 1 to 7 where 1 is "Not at all influential" and 7 is "Very influential" How influential was….

[READ. SINGLE RESPONSE: SCALE]

Items	1. Not at all influential	2	3	4	5	6	7. Very Influential	97. N/A	98. Don't know

1. [DISPLAY IF PROGRAM_AWARE = 1] Resources from the Clean Energy Communities Program, such as its website, step by step guides, or Program Coordinator
2. [DISPLAY IF PRIOR_PARTICIPANT = 1] Prior experience with the Clean Energy Communities Program
3. Observing another community's success with the same activity

[ASK IF ANY IN Q67 >4]

Q68. Imagine you did not have…[PIPE IN ALL rated >4 in Q67]. What is the likelihood you would have installed the charging station? Please use a 1 to 7 scale where 1 is "Not at all likely" and 7 is "Very likely." [IF NEEDED: Please answer to the best of your ability, given what you know.]

[DO NOT READ; SINGLE RESPONSE]

1. 1
2. 2
3. 3
4. 4
5. 5
6. 6
7. 7
98. Don't know

Q69. [SHOW ON SAME PAGE AS ABOVE QUESTION] Optional comments:

Q70. [IF Q67_3 >4] Can you please tell me the names of the municipalities that you observed have success with installing a charging station?

1. [OPEN-END TEXT BOX]

[SINGLE OPTION]

Q71. [ASK ALL] I'd like to know how common you think it is for other municipalities to do this. About what percent of the municipalities you know have installed EV charging stations? [YOUR BEST GUESS IS FINE]

1. [PECENT BOX]
2. [OPEN-END TEXT BOX FOR NOTES]
98. Don't know.

Clean Heating and Cooling Demo

[SINGLE OPTION]

Q72. [SKIP TO Q79 IF Clean_Heat_11=1] Have at least one of your municipal buildings been converted or built to use a ground-source or air-source heat pump as the building's primary heating and cooling system?

1. Yes
2. No → Skip to next action
98. Don't know → who should we talk to about this? → Skip to next action

[SINGLE OPTION]

Q73. Was the building at least 1,000 square feet and open to the public all year long?

1. Yes
2. No → Skip to next action
98. Don't know → who should we talk to about this? → Skip to next action

[SINGLE OPTION]

Q74. Is there an education kiosk, display or other materials intended to educate municipal staff and the public about the benefits of electrification?

1. Yes
2. No → Skip to next action
98. Don't know → who should we talk to about this? → Skip to next action

[SINGLE OPTION]

Q75. When did the heat pump become operational?

1. Prior to 2019 [ENTER DATE] → Skip to next action
2. Between 2019 and 2023 [ENTER DATE] → GO TO Q76
3. In 2024 [ENTER DATE] → Skip to next action
98. Don't know → GO TO Q76

[ASK IF Q75 = 2 or 98]

Q76. I'd like to know what might've influenced your decision to install a heat pump at one of your municipal buildings. Using a scale of 1 to 7 where 1 is "Not at all influential" and 7 is "Very influential" How influential was….

[READ. SINGLE RESPONSE: SCALE]

Items	1. Not at all influential	2	3	4	5	6	7. Very Influential	97. N/A	98. Don't know
1. [DISPLAY IF PROGRAM_AWARE = 1] Resources from the Clean Energy Communities Program, such as its website, step by step guides, or Program Coordinator									
2. [DISPLAY IF PRIOR_PARTICIPANT = 1] Prior experience with the Clean Energy Communities Program									
3. Observing another community's success with the same activity									

[ASK IF ANY IN Q76 >4]

Q77. Imagine you did not have… [PIPE IN ALL rated >4 in Q76]. What is the likelihood you would have installed a heat pump at one of your municipal buildings? Please use a 1 to 7 scale where 1 is "Not at all likely" and 7 is "Very likely." [IF NEEDED: Please answer to the best of your ability, given what you know.]

[DO NOT READ; SINGLE RESPONSE]

1. 1
2. 2
3. 3

4. 4
5. 5
6. 6
7. 7
98. Don't know

Q78. [IF Q76_3 >4] Can you please tell me the names of the municipalities that you observed have success with installing ground- or air-source heat pumps?

1. [OPEN-END TEXT BOX]

[SINGLE OPTION]

Q79. [ASK ALL] I'd like to know how common you think it is for other municipalities to do this. About what percent of the municipalities you know have converted or built municipal buildings to use a ground-source or air-source heat pump as the primary heating and cooling system? [YOUR BEST GUESS IS FINE]

1. [PERCENT BOX]
2. [OPEN-END TEXT BOX FOR NOTES]
98. Don't know.

Q80. [SHOW ON SAME PAGE AS ABOVE QUESTION] Optional comments:

Unified Solar Permit

[SINGLE OPTION]

Q81. [**SKIP TO Q87 IF USP_1=1**] Have you adopted the Unified Solar Permit? (If needed: The Unified Solar Permit is a standardized permit application designed to streamline the approval process for installing solar in the community that was revised in October 2016)

1. Yes → Go to Q82
2. No → Skip to next action
98. Don't know → Who should we talk to about this? → Skip to next action

[SINGLE OPTION]

Q82. When was the Unified Solar Permit adopted into legislation [If needed: local law, ordinance, resolution? Your best estimate is fine.]

1. Prior to 2019 [ENTER DATE] → Skip to next action
2. Between 2019 and 2023 [ENTER DATE] → Go to Q83
3. In 2024 [ENTER DATE] → Skip to next action
98. Don't know → Go to Q83

[SINGLE OPTION]

Q83. Has the Unified Solar Permit been used in the application process for solar installations in your community?

1. Yes → Go to Q84
2. No → Skip to next action
3. Don't know → go to Q84

Q84. [If Q82= 2 OR 98] I'd like to know what might've influenced your decision to adopt the Unified Solar Permit. Using a scale of 1 to 7 where 1 is "Not at all influential" and 7 is "Very influential" How influential was….

[READ. SINGLE RESPONSE: SCALE]

Items	1. Not at all influential	2	3	4	5	6	7. Very Influential	97. N/A	98. Don't know
1. [DISPLAY IF PROGRAM_AWARE = 1] Resources from the Clean Energy Communities Program, such as its website, step by step guides, or Program Coordinator									
2. [DISPLAY IF PRIOR_PARTICIPANT = 1] Prior experience with the Clean Energy Communities Program									
3. Observing another community's success with the same activity									

[ASK IF ANY IN Q84 >4]

Q85. Imagine you did not have… [PIPE IN ALL rated >4 in Q84]. What is the likelihood you would have adopted the Unified Solar Permit? Please use a 1 to 7 scale where 1 is "Not at all likely" and 7 is "Very likely." [IF NEEDED: Please answer to the best of your ability, given what you know.]

[DO NOT READ; SINGLE RESPONSE]

1. 1
2. 2
3. 3
4. 4
5. 5
6. 6
7. 7
98. Don't know

Q86. [SINGLE OPTION: IF Q84>4] Can you please tell me the names of the municipalities that you observed have success with adopting the Unified Solar Permit?

1. [OPEN-END TEXT BOX]

Q87. [SINGLE OPTION: ASK ALL] I'd like to know how common you think it is for other municipalities to do this. About what percent of the municipalities you know have adopted the Unified Solar Permit? [YOUR BEST GUESS IS FINE]

1 [PERCENT BOX]
2 [OPEN-END TEXT BOX FOR NOTES]
98. Don't know.

[SHOW ON SAME PAGE AS ABOVE QUESTION] Optional comments:

Community Campaigns

Next, we'll talk about Community Campaigns.

Q88. [**SKIP TO Q95 IF ALL COMMUNITY CAMPAIGNS ARE COMPLETED IN PROGRAM DATA**]. Have you or someone at your municipality started a campaign within your community to promote community solar, electric vehicles, or heat pumps? I can explain what those are, if needed. [***If yes, ask which one.*** If needed: *Clean heating and cooling technologies include ground source heat pumps or air source heat pumps. *A campaign is a local effort, spearheaded by the municipality that includes outreach to get a group of homes or businesses to install specific equipment or sign up for a service (e.g., community solar). *Commonly referred to as Community Solar,

Community Distributed Generation (CDG) is a renewable energy project that will typically offer guaranteed cost savings to subscribers. CDG projects may include solar, wind, or hydro facilities. *The community campaign for electric vehicles involves local governments partnering with organizations and volunteers to initiate and develop partnerships with car dealerships, platform providers, and/or other EV industry partners to offer local residents and businesses a variety of makes and models of electric vehicles.]

[MULTIPLE RESPONSE]

1. [Intentionally blank to preserve question numbering]
2. Yes, community solar
3. Yes, electric vehicles
4. Yes, heat pumps (clean heating and cooling)

5. No → Skip to next action [MAKE EXCLUSIVE]
6. Not applicable → Skip to next action [MAKE EXCLUSIVE]
98. Don't know → Who should we talk to about this? → Skip to next action [MAKE EXCLUSIVE]

Campaigns: Community Solar

Q89. [SINGLE RESPONSE: IF Q88 = 2 AND Campaign_13_Solar1=0. SKIP TO Q95 if Campaign_13_Solar=1] When was the Community Solar campaign launched?

1. Prior to 2019 [ENTER DATE] → Skip to next action
2. Between 2019-2023 [ENTER DATE] → GO TO Q90
3. In 2024 [ENTER DATE] → Skip to next action
98. Don't know → Who should we talk to about this? → GO TO Q90

Q90. [SINGLE-RESPONSE] Did the campaign offer households the opportunity to sign up for community solar at no cost to them? [Solar for All Campaign was available in 2019 and provided monthly credits on electric bills to offset participation in community solar for income-eligible household only]

1. Yes
2. No → Skip to next action
98. Don't know → Who should we talk to about this?

Q91. [ASK IF Large Community; SINGLE-RESPONSE] Did you have at least 25 residents sign up for community solar or community distributed generation for renewable energy as a result of the campaign?

1. Yes
2. No
98. Don't know → Who should we talk to about this?

Q92. [ASK IF Small Community; SINGLE RESPONSE] Did you have at least 10 residents sign up for community solar or community distributed generation for renewable energy as a result of the campaign?

1. Yes
2. No
98. Don't know → Who should we talk to about this?

Q93. [If Q1=1 OR 2] I'd like to know what might've influenced your decision to conduct the Community Solar [May also be called Solarize or Solar for All] campaign and achieve that number of participants. Using a scale of 1 to 7 where 1 is "Not at all influential" and 7 is "Very influential" How influential was....

[READ. SINGLE RESPONSE: SCALE]

Items	1. Not at all influential	2	3	4	5	6	7. Very Influential	97. N/A	98. Don't know
1. [DISPLAY IF PROGRAM_AWARE = 1] Resources from the Clean Energy Communities Program, such as its website, step by step guides, or Program Coordinator									
2. [DISPLAY IF PRIOR_PARTICIPANT = 1] Prior experience with the Clean Energy Communities Program									
3. Observing another community's success with the same activity									

[ASK IF ANY IN Q93>4]

Q94. Imagine you did not have… [PIPE IN ALL rated >4 in Q93]. What is the likelihood you would have conducted the rooftop solar community campaign and achieved that number of participants? Please use a 1 to 7 scale where 1 is "Not at all likely" and 7 is "Very likely." [*IF NEEDED: Please answer to the best of your ability, given what you know*.]

[DO NOT READ; SINGLE RESPONSE]

1. 1
2. 2
3. 3
4. 4
5. 5
6. 6
7. 7
98. Don't know

Q94A. [IF Q111_3 >4] Can you please tell me the names of the municipalities that you observed conduct a Community Solar campaign?

[OPEN-END TEXT BOX]

Q95. [SINGLE RESPONSE: ASK ALL] I'd like to know how common you think it is for other municipalities to do this. Of the municipalities you know, about what percent have conducted the Community Solar campaign? [YOUR BEST GUESS IS FINE]

1. [PERCENT BOX]
2. [OPEN-END TEXT BOX FOR NOTES]
98. Don't know.

[IF Campaign_13_EV=1 go to Q103, and if Campaign_13_EV=0 go to next question]

Q96. [Intentionally blank to preserve question numbering]

Campaigns: Electric Vehicles

Q97. [IF Q88 = 3 AND Campaign_13_EV=0] When was the Electric Vehicles campaign launched?

1. Prior to 2019 [ENTER DATE] → Skip to next action
2. Between 2019-2023 [ENTER DATE] → Go to Q98 or Q99
3. Before 2019 or in 2024 [ENTER DATE] → Skip to next action
4. Don't know → Who should we talk to about this? → Go to Q98 or Q99

Q98. [ASK IF Large Community; SINGLE-RESPONSE] Did you have at least 10 local residents or businesses buy a new electric vehicle as a result of the campaign?

1. Yes
2. No
98. Don't know → Who should we talk to about this?

Q99. [ASK IF Small Community; SINGLE-RESPONSE] Did you have at least 5 local residents or businesses buy a new electric vehicle as a result of the campaign as a result of the campaign?

1. Yes
2. No
98. Don't know → Who should we talk to about this?

Q100. [If Q99 OR Q100 =2 or 98] I'd like to know what might've influenced your decision to conduct the Electric Vehicles community campaign and achieve that number of participants. Using a scale of 1 to 7 where 1 is "Not at all influential" and 7 is "Very influential" How influential was....

[READ. SINGLE RESPONSE: SCALE]

Items	1. Not at all influential	2	3	4	5	6	7. Very Influential	97. N/A	98. Don't know
1. [DISPLAY IF PROGRAM_AWARE = 1] Resources from the Clean Energy Communities Program, such as its website, step by step guides, or Program Coordinator									
2. [DISPLAY IF PRIOR_PARTICIPANT = 1] Prior experience with the Clean Energy Communities Program									
3. Observing another community's success with the same activity									

[ASK IF ANY IN Q100>4]

Q101. Imagine you did not have... [PIPE IN ALL rated >4 in Q100]. What is the likelihood you would have conducted the electric vehicle community campaign and achieved that number of participants? Please use a 1 to 7 scale where 1 is "Not at all likely" and 7 is "Very likely." [*IF NEEDED: Please answer to the best of your ability, given what you know*.]

[DO NOT READ; SINGLE RESPONSE]

1. 1
2. 2
3. 3
4. 4
5. 5
6. 6
7. 7
98. Don't know

Q102. [IF Q100_3 >4] Can you please tell me the names of the municipalities that you observed conduct a rooftop solar community campaign?

1. [OPEN-END TEXT BOX]

Q103. [ASK ALL] I'd like to know how common you think it is for other municipalities to do this. Of the municipalities you know, about what percent have conducted the Electric Vehicles Community campaign? [YOUR BEST GUESS IS FINE]

1. [PERCENT BOX]
2. [OPEN-END TEXT BOX FOR NOTES]
98. Don't know.

[IF Campaign_13_CH=1 go to Q109, and if Campaign_13_CH=0 go to next question]

Campaigns: Clean Heating and Cooling and Energy Efficiency

Q104. [IF Q88 = 4 AND Campagin_13_CH=-0] When was the Clean Heating and Cooling and Energy Efficiency campaign launched?

1. Prior to 2019 [ENTER DATE] → Skip to next action
2. Between 2019-2023 [ENTER DATE] → GO TO Q105
3. In 2024 [ENTER DATE] → Skip to next action
98. Don't know → Who should we talk to about this? → GO TO Q105

Q105. [ASK IF Q104=2 OR 98; SINGLE RESPONSE] Did you have at least [PIPE-IN "5" FOR SMALL COMMUNITIES; "10" FOR LARGE] installations for a clean heating and cooling technology?

1. Yes
2. No
98. Don't know → Who should we talk to about this? → Skip to next action

Q106. [If Q105 =2 or 98] I'd like to know what might've influenced your decision to conduct the Clean Heating and Cooling and Energy Efficiency Community Campaign and achieve that number of participants. Using a scale of 1 to 7 where 1 is "Not at all influential" and 7 is "Very influential" How influential was....

[READ. SINGLE RESPONSE: SCALE]

Items	1. Not at all influential	2	3	4	5	6	7. Very Influential	97. N/A	98. Don't know
1. [DISPLAY IF PROGRAM_AWARE = 1] Resources from the Clean Energy Communities Program, such as its website, step by step guides, or Program Coordinator									
2. [DISPLAY IF PRIOR_PARTICIPANT = 1] Prior experience with the Clean Energy Communities Program									
3. Observing another community's success with the same activity									

[ASK IF ANY IN Q106>4]

Q107. Imagine you did not have... [PIPE IN ALL rated >4 in Q106]. What is the likelihood you would have conducted the Clean Heating and Cooling and Energy Efficiency Community Campaign and achieved that number of participants? Please use a 1 to 7 scale where 1 is "Not at all likely" and 7 is "Very likely." [*IF NEEDED: Please answer to the best of your ability, given what you know*.]

[DO NOT READ; SINGLE RESPONSE]

1. 1
2. 2
3. 3
4. 4
5. 5
6. 6
7. 7
98. Don't know

Q108. [IF Q106_3 >4] Can you please tell me the names of the municipalities that you observed conduct a Clean Heating and Cooling and Energy Efficiency Community Campaign?

1. [OPEN-END TEXT BOX]

Q109. [ASK ALL] I'd like to know how common you think it is for other municipalities to do this. Of the municipalities you know, about what percent have conducted Clean Heating and Cooling and Energy Efficiency Community Campaign? [YOUR BEST GUESS IS FINE]

1. [PERCENT BOX]
2. [OPEN-END TEXT BOX FOR NOTES]
98. Don't know.

Energy Code Enforcement

[SINGLE RESPONSE]

Q110. [**SKIP TO Q115 IF Code_4=1 and SKIP TO Q116 Comm_Type=County**] Did your Code Enforcement Officer participate in NYSERDA's energy code enforcement training specifically designed for the Clean Energy Communities program?

1. Yes → Go to Q111
2. No → Skip to next action
3. Not applicable (doesn't do energy code enforcement) → Skip to next action
98. Don't know → Who should we talk to about this? → Skip to next action

[SINGLE RESPONSE]

Q111. [If Q110= 1] When was this training completed? [IF NEEDED: If your staff have taken the training more than once, did anyone attend between 2021 and 2023?]

1. Prior to 2019 → Skip to next action
2. Between 2019 and 2023 [ENTER DATE] → Go to Q112
3. In 2024 [ENTER DATE] → Skip to next action
98. Don't know → Go to Q112

Q112. [If Q111=2 or 98] I'd like to know what might've influenced the code enforcement officials to attend an energy code training. Using a scale of 1 to 7 where 1 is "Not at all influential" and 7 is "Very influential" How influential was....

[READ. SINGLE RESPONSE: SCALE]

Items	1. Not at all influential	2	3	4	5	6	7. Very Influential	97. N/A	98. Don't know
1. [DISPLAY IF PROGRAM_AWARE = 1] Resources from the Clean Energy Communities Program, such as its website, step by step guides, or Program Coordinator									
2. [DISPLAY IF PRIOR_PARTICIPANT = 1] Prior experience with the Clean Energy Communities Program									
3. Observing another community's success with the same activity									

[ASK IF ANY IN Q112>4]

Q113. Imagine you did not have… [PIPE IN ALL rated >4 in Q112]. What is the likelihood the code officials would have attended a training on enforcing energy codes? Please use a 1 to 7 scale where 1 is "Not at all likely" and 7 is "Very likely." [IF NEEDED: Please answer to the best of your ability, given what you know.]

[DO NOT READ; SINGLE RESPONSE]

1. 1
2. 2
3. 3
4. 4
5. 5
6. 6
7. 7
98. Don't know

Q114. [IF Q112_3 >4] Can you please tell me the names of the municipalities that you observed have success having their code enforcement officials attend the training?

1. [OPEN-END TEXT BOX]

[SINGLE RESPONSE]

Q115. [ASK ALL] I'd like to know how common you think it is for other municipalities to do this. Of the municipalities you know, about what percent have sent their code officials to this energy code enforcement training? [YOUR BEST GUESS IS FINE]

1. [PERCENT BOX]
2. [OPEN-END TEXT BOX FOR NOTES]
98. Don't know.

[SHOW ON SAME PAGE AS ABOVE QUESTION] Optional comments:

Community Choice Aggregation

[SINGLE RESPONSE]

Q116. [Skip to Q124 if CCA_6_Renew=1]. We have a few more topics to discuss. Next up is community choice aggregation. Has your community adopted legislation authorizing its participation in an **opt-out** community choice aggregation program? (*Note to interviewer: If respondent says no, ask if they have considered it.* If needed: Community Choice Aggregation is an energy procurement model that replaces the utility as the default supplier of electricity within your jurisdiction. Communities pool demand and negotiate lower rates with private energy suppliers. Confirm the model is offered on an opt-out basis.)

1. Yes → go to Q119
2. No → Skip to next action
98. Don't know → Who should we talk to about this? → Skip to next action

[SINGLE RESPONSE]

Q117. [IF Q116=1 AND CCA_6_Renew=0] Have you contracted with an energy service company (ESCO) to provide the energy?

1. Yes
2. No → Skip to next action
98. Don't know → Who should we talk to about this? → Skip to next action

[SINGLE RESPONSE]

Q118. [IF Q117=1] Is the default option 100% renewable energy?

1. Yes
2. No → Skip to next action
98. Don't know → Who should we talk to about this? → Skip to next action

[SINGLE RESPONSE, ASK IF Q118 =1]

Q119. When did your community complete the agreement with that ESCO to authorize participation in the CCA?

1. Prior to 2019 [ENTER DATE] → Skip to next action
2. Between 2019-2023 [ENTER DATE] → go to Q117
3. In 2024 [ENTER DATE] → Skip to next action
4. Don't know → Who should we talk to about this? → go to Q117

100% Renewable Default Supply Mix

Q120. [If Q119=2 or 98] I'd like to know what might've influenced your decision to adopt the legislation and join a CCA. Using a scale of 1 to 7 where 1 is "Not at all influential" and 7 is "Very influential" How influential was….

[READ. SINGLE RESPONSE: SCALE]

Items	1. Not at all influential	2	3	4	5	6	7. Very Influential	97. N/A	98. Don't know
1. [DISPLAY IF PROGRAM_AWARE = 1] Resources from the Clean Energy Communities Program, such as its website, step by step guides, or Program Coordinator									
2. [DISPLAY IF PRIOR_PARTICIPANT = 1] Prior experience with the Clean Energy Communities Program									

3. Observing another community's success with the same activity

[ASK IF ANY IN Q120 >4]

Q121. Imagine you did not have… [PIPE IN ALL rated >4 in Q120]. What is the likelihood you would have adopted the legislation to join a CCA? Please use a 1 to 7 scale where 1 is "Not at all likely" and 7 is "Very likely." [IF NEEDED: Please answer to the best of your ability, given what you know.]

[DO NOT READ; SINGLE RESPONSE]

1. 1
2. 2
3. 3
4. 4
5. 5
6. 6
7. 7
98. Don't know

Q122. [IF Q120_3 >4] Can you please tell me the names of the municipalities you observed joining a CCA?

[OPEN-END TEXT BOX]

Q123. [SHOW ON SAME PAGE AS ABOVE QUESTION] Optional comments:

[SINGLE RESPONSE]

Q124. [ASK ALL] I'd like to know how common you think it is for other municipalities to do this. Of the municipalities you know, about what percent participate in a community choice aggregator with 100% renewable default supply mix?

1. [PERCENT BOX]
2. [OPEN-END TEXT BOX FOR NOTES]
98. Don't know.

PACE Financing

Open C-PACE Authorization

[SINGLE RESPONSE]

Q125. [SKIP TO Q131 if PACE_5_Auth=1] Has your community adopted legislation to authorize the establishment of Open C-PACE financing? (If needed: PACE is Property Assessed Clean Energy financing that allows property owners to pay back the cost of clean energy upgrades through a special charge on their property tax bill.)

1. Yes
2. No → go to Q133
98. Don't know → go to Q133

[SINGLE RESPONSE]

Q126. Did you authorize Open C-PACE with the Energy Improvement Corporation (EIC) or with a non-EIC PACE program?

1. With EIC

2. Non-EIC program → Are you aware of which one?[ENTER TEXT OPTION]
98. Don't know

[SINGLE RESPONSE]

Q127. When did your municipality adopt the PACE program?

1. Prior to 2019[ENTER DATE] → Skip to Q133
2. Between 2019-2023 [ENTER DATE] → Go to Q128
3. In 2024 [ENTER DATE] → Skip to Q133
98. Don't know → Go to Q128

Q128. [If Q127= 2 OR 98] I'd like to know what might've influenced your decision to adopt the legislation to allow PACE financing. Using a scale of 1 to 7 where 1 is "Not at all influential" and 7 is "Very influential" How influential was....

[READ. SINGLE RESPONSE: SCALE]

Items	1. Not at all influential	2	3	4	5	6	7. Very Influential	97. N/A	98. Don't know
1. [DISPLAY IF PROGRAM_AWARE = 1] Resources from the Clean Energy Communities Program, such as its website, step by step guides, or Program Coordinator									
2. [DISPLAY IF PRIOR_PARTICIPANT = 1] Prior experience with the Clean Energy Communities Program									
3. Observing another community's success with the same activity									

[ASK IF ANY IN Q128>4]

Q129. Imagine you did not have... [PIPE IN ALL rated >4 in Q128]. What is the likelihood you would have adopted the legislation to allow PACE financing? Please use a 1 to 7 scale where 1 is "Not at all likely" and 7 is "Very likely." [IF NEEDED: Please answer to the best of your ability, given what you know.]

[DO NOT READ; SINGLE RESPONSE]

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
98. Don't know

Q130. [IF Q128_3 >4] Can you please tell me the names of the municipalities you observed adopt PACE financing (Energize NY Finance)?

[OPEN-END TEXT BOX]

[SINGLE RESPONSE]

Q131. [ASK ALL] I'd like to know how common you think it is for other municipalities to do this. Of the municipalities you know, about what percent offer C-PACE financing?

[PERCENT BOX]

2. [OPEN-END TEXT BOX FOR NOTES]
98. Don't know.

Q132. [SHOW ON SAME PAGE AS ABOVE QUESTION] Optional comments:

100% Renewable Electricity

[SINGLE RESPONSE]

Q133. [**SKIP TO Q138 IF Renewable_14=1**] Now, I have some questions about the use of renewable electricity in your municipality. Has your community matched the average annual load of all municipal electricity accounts with New York renewable energy certificates (RECs) that have been or will be retired in the New York Generation Attributes Tracking System (NYGATS)? In other words, has your municipality purchased renewable energy for 100% of its electricity needs? [*IF NEEDED: RECs represent the attributes of one megawatt hour of electricity generated from a renewable source.]*

1. Yes → Go to Q134
2. No → Skip to next action
98. Don't know → Who should we talk to about this? → Skip to next action

[SINGLE RESPONSE]

Q134. [If Q133=1 When did your municipality purchase renewable energy for 100% of its electricity needs?

1. Prior to 2020 → Skip to Q140
2. Between 2020 and 2023 [ENTER DATE] → go to Q135
3. Prior to 2020 or in 2024 [ENTER DATE] → Skip to Q140
98. Don't know → go to Q135

Q135. [If Q134= 2 OR 98] I'd like to ask about things that might've influenced your decision to utilize 100% renewable electricity in your community. Using a scale of 1 to 7 where 1 is "Not at all influential" and 7 is "Very influential" How influential was….

[READ. SINGLE RESPONSE: SCALE]

Items	1. Not at all influential	2	3	4	5	6	7. Very Influential	97. N/A	98. Don't know
1. [DISPLAY IF PROGRAM_AWARE = 1] Resources from the Clean Energy Communities Program, such as its website, step by step guides, or Program Coordinator									
2. [DISPLAY IF PRIOR_PARTICIPANT = 1] Prior experience with the Clean Energy Communities Program									
3. Observing another community's success with the same activity									

[ASK IF ANY IN Q135 RATED >4]

Q136. Imagine you did not have… [PIPE IN ALL rated >4 in Q135]. What is the likelihood you would have purchased 100% renewable electricity in your community? Please use a 1 to 7 scale where 1 is "Not at all likely" and 7 is "Very likely." [IF NEEDED: Please answer to the best of your ability, given what you know.]

[DO NOT READ; SINGLE RESPONSE]

1. 1
2. 2
3. 3
4. 4
5. 5
6. 6
7. 7

98. Don't know

Q137. [IF Q135_3 >4] Can you please tell me the names of the municipalities you observed purchasing 100% renewable electricity?

1. [OPEN-END TEXT BOX]

Q138. [ASK ALL; SINGLE-RESPONSE] I'd like to know how common you think it is for other municipalities to do this. Of the municipalities you know, about what percent source 100% of their electricity from renewable energy?

1. [PERCENT BOX]
2. [OPEN-END TEXT BOX FOR NOTES]

98. Don't know.

Q139. [SHOW ON SAME PAGE AS ABOVE QUESTION] Optional comments:

Working Groups + Coordinator

We're close to the end of the survey. Let's switch gears a little bit.

Q140. [ASK ALL] Are you aware of any working groups or taskforces seeking to advance clean energy locally? They could be community-based, within your municipality, or in collaboration with other municipalities.

[MULTIPLE RESPONSE]

1. Yes – within our government
2. Yes – in collaboration with other governments
3. Yes – community-based
4. Yes – other
5. No

98. Don't know

[SINGLE RESPONSE]

Q141. [IF Q140=1 or 2 or 3 or 4] Was this task force created due to the Clean Energy Communities program?

1. Yes
2. No

98. Don't know

Q142. [IF Q141= 1] Please tell me a little bit about who is in that group and what they work on. (*Be sure to capture whether municipality is participating or not; do staff members/elected officials go and participate?)*

1. [OPEN-ENDED RESPONSE]

[SINGLE RESPONSE]

Q143. Have you utilized any of the tools and resources provided on the NYSERDA CEC Website?

1. Yes → Go to Q144

2. No → Skip to Q145
98. Don't know → Skip to Q145

Q144. [IF Q143=1] Which of the following CEC tools & resources have you utilized?

[MULTIPLE RESPONSE]

1. HIA Toolkits or resources on the CEC website Clean Energy Communities Guidance Document (also known as the Program Opportunity Notice, PON3298)
2. CEC Coordinator
96. Other, please specify: [OPEN END RESPONSE]
98. Unsure

Q145. Finally, my last two questions are about your interactions with your Clean Energy Communities Coordinator <pipe in: **CEC Coordinator: Full Name**>. Thinking about whether your awareness and understanding of the benefits of energy efficiency and renewable energy has changed since working with your coordinator, would you say your coordinator has:

[*READ 1 to 3. If they answer not at all, then ask whether they interact with the coordinator. Then select 3 or 4 as appropriate*]

1. Greatly improved your understanding
2. Somewhat improved your understanding
3. Not improved your understanding at all (with interaction)
4. Not improved your understanding at all (without regular interaction)
5. Never interacted with coordinator/don't know coordinator (with no interaction)

Q146. [IF Q145= 1 OR 2] In what ways has your coordinator been most helpful?

[MULTIPLE RESPONSE – DO NOT READ; PROBE TO CODE]

1. Accessing technical services/engineers to complete projects
2. Accessing financial incentives or financing to complete projects
3. General awareness of benefits/general education
4. Keeping clean energy top of mind/a priority/making sure they don't forget
5. Generating community support (e.g., attending public meetings, encouraging elected officials to take action, etc.)
96. Other, please specify: [OPEN-ENDED RESPONSE]
98. Don't know

Q147. How capable would your community be to take energy and sustainability action without the CEC program's tools & resources? Would you say…

1. Completely
2. Very
3. Somewhat
4. A little
5. Not at all

Closing

Those are all the questions I have for you.

Q148. Is there anything else you think is important for me to know about your municipality's clean energy or energy efficiency work?

1. Yes:

2. No
98. Don't know
99. Refused

Thank you very much for your time and feedback!

Appendix H Energy Benefits Comparison

Table H-1 presents the evaluated indirect energy benefits compared to the CEC Program's forecasted indirect energy benefits for the evaluation period of 2019—2023.

Table H-1. Comparison of Forecasted to Evaluated Indirect Energy Benefits

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Realization Rate
Annual Electricity Savings - MWh						
Forecasted	40,318	10,972	35,887	15,279	11,628	248%
Evaluated	13,534	5,958	152,550	54,180	57,237	
Annual Fuel Savings - MMBtu						
Forecasted	135,700	25,735	110,693	37,525	9,587	112%
Evaluated	6,439	2,713	137,019	70,182	140,078	
Annual Renewable Energy - MWh						
Forecasted	118,437	5,982	27,395	7,443	5,495	194%
Evaluated	1,811	384	260,236	46,936	10,769	
Annual Renewable Energy - MW						
Forecasted	183.0	0.0	32.0	9.0	2.0	177%
Evaluated	5.9	1.6	234.8	137.2	20.7	