



**Resources Available for the Clean Energy Industry:**

**CARES Act, Small Business Loans, and Related Business Assistance**

**April 7, 2020**

Dear Members of the Clean Energy Industry:

On behalf of the New York State Energy team, we are committed to doing everything we can to provide you with the necessary support and technical assistance in the weeks and months ahead. Energy, climate, and economic development objectives remain core to our respective missions and maintaining stability in these critical areas will be key for economic recovery after this health crisis subsides.

Over the past two weeks, we have held a half dozen stakeholder input sessions to better understand some of the pressing challenges your businesses are facing now. One of the clear needs is to ensure that clean energy businesses have access to available federal/state COVID-19 assistance programs, including programs that are part of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act. To assist you in understanding and accessing these programs, NYSERDA has worked with the Business Council of New York State to make available two webinars.

- **April 8, 2020 11:00 a.m.– 1:00 p.m.:** The Business Council of New York will be hosting a free webinar on The CARES Federal Relief Bill: *Assistance in Applying for Business Loans*. This session will feature experts from the US Chamber, the Small Business Administration, Banking services and Human Resources who will discuss the bill and guide you through the process of applying for assistance. To sign up for the webinar [Click Here](#). Capacity is limited so please limit participation to one representative per company.
- **April 16, 2020:** NYSERDA and the Business Council of New York will co-host a webinar to discuss COVID-19 state/federal assistance programs available for clean energy businesses, including a recap of the April 8, 2020 webinar mentioned above on the CARES Federal Relief Bill. Additional information on this webinar will be available soon on NYSERDA’s COVID-19 [Guidance](#) page.

NYSERDA has also identified the following resources to assist you:

- **Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC):** Guidance for you and your employees on how to protect yourself and what to do if you’re sick: [Click Here](#)

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**New York City**  
1359 Broadway  
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**West Valley Site  
Management Program**  
9030-B Route 219  
West Valley, NY  
14171-9500  
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- *CARES Act's Paycheck Protection Program: Authorizes up to \$349 billion for small businesses to be applied towards job retention and certain other expenses. Small businesses and eligible non-profit organizations, Veterans organizations, and Tribal businesses described in the Small Business Act, as well as individuals who are self-employed or are independent contractors, are eligible if they also meet program size standards.*
  - Overview of the program: [Click Here](#)
  - If you are a borrower: [Click Here](#)
  - Top SBA Lenders in New York State: [Click Here](#)
  - Quick Preparation Guide for SBA 7(a) Loan application for CARES Act (PPP) loans: [Click Here](#)
- **New York State Resources and Information on Small Business Administration Loans**, including links to New York's statewide community of Small Business Development Centers, Entrepreneurship Assistance Centers, and Community Development Financial Institutions who are available to help guide your business through the SBA loan process: [Click Here](#)
- *The Small Business Administration is offering **low interest federal disaster loans** for working capital to small businesses and private, non-profit organizations all U.S. States and territories. Learn more [here](#).*
- The **Families First Coronavirus Recovery Act (FFCRA)**, signed on March 18, 2020 authorizes the U.S. Department of Labor to disburse \$1 billion in grant funding to states for the administration of unemployment insurance programs. The funding is available to states in two allocations. 23 states have applied for the first round of funding, and the U.S. Department of Labor is working with the Department of Treasury to certify the funds.
  - The U.S. Department of Labor (U.S. DOL) published additional guidance to provide information to employees and employers about how each will be able to take advantage of the protections and relief offered by the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) which went into effect on April 1. More information [here](#).
  - The FFCRA also authorized emergency paid sick leave and an expansion of the Family and Medical Leave Act. On April 1, 2020, U.S. DOL issued a [temporary rule](#) codifying in regulation previously issued [guidance](#) regarding the implementation of the new leave benefits.
- **New York State Department of Labor** Guidance on **unemployment insurance and benefits**: [Click Here](#)
- The U.S. Department of Labor announced availability of up to \$100 million in **National Health Emergency Dislocated Worker Grants** (DWGs) in response to COVID-19. The DWGs are intended to provide eligible participants with both disaster-relief employment and employment training services. These participants can include dislocated workers, workers who were laid-off as a result of the disaster, self-employed individuals who are unemployed or underemployed as a result of the disaster, and long-term unemployed individuals. Learn more [here](#).
- **Empire State Development COVID-19 Business FAQ**: [Click here](#)

On behalf of NYSERDA, we look forward to our continued partnership to sustain the progress we have made over the last decade, and to developing a shared roadmap for a resilient economic recovery. Excelsior.