

# NY-Sun Initiative Quarterly Performance Report to the Public Service Commission

**Quarter Ending December 31, 2017** 

**Final Report** 

February 2018 Revised May 2018

# **NYSERDA's Promise to New Yorkers:**

NYSERDA provides resources, expertise, and objective information so New Yorkers can make confident, informed energy decisions.

### **Mission Statement:**

Advance innovative energy solutions in ways that improve New York's economy and environment.

### **Vision Statement:**

Serve as a catalyst – advancing energy innovation, technology, and investment; transforming New York's economy; and empowering people to choose clean and efficient energy as part of their everyday lives.

### **NYSERDA Record of Revision**

#### **Document Title**

#### NY-Sun Initiative Quarterly Performance Report to the Public Service Commission Quarter Ending December 31, 2017

| Revision Date | Description of Changes  | Revision on Page(s) |  |  |
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| 2/14/2018     | Original Issue  | Original Issue      |  |  |
| 5/1/2018      | Updated tables 2-1, 2-2, and 2-3 to remove MWh's, MW's and dollars associated with PON 2860, which predates NY-Sun. | 3,4,5               |  |  |
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## NY-Sun Initiative Quarterly Performance Report to the Public Service Commission

**Quarter Ending December 31, 2017** 

Final Report

Prepared by:

#### New York State Energy Research and Development Authority

Albany, NY

February 2018 Revised May 2018

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### 1 Overview of NY-Sun

### 1.1 Introduction

NY-Sun is a \$1 billion initiative to expand solar capacity throughout New York State by utilizing public funds in a strategic manner to build a self-sustaining solar market. NY-Sun provides financial support to qualified solar installation contractors as well as a comprehensive approach to reducing solar costs and barriers. NY-Sun's goal, referred to as the 3 Gigawatts Goal, is to install three gigawatts (GW) of solar electric capacity by 2023 while building a self-sustaining solar industry.

Through December 31, 2017, 972 megawatts (MW) of solar have been installed statewide with NYSERDA funding, and an additional 1,096 MW are in the pipeline. The NYSERDA-funded solar capacity installed statewide as of December 31, 2017 generates approximately 1,124,881 megawatthours (MWh) of electricity each year, reducing annual carbon dioxide equivalent (CO<sub>2</sub>e) emissions by 592,043 metric tons (MT).<sup>1</sup>

#### 1.2 High-Level Accomplishments During This Quarter

- Green Jobs Green New York financing is still available for Long Island residents. As of the fourth quarter of 2017, 761 financing only Long Island projects have been completed and 113 additional Long Island financing only project applications have been received or approved.
- The first stakeholder meeting for the redesign of the Small Commercial and Commercial-Industrial MW Block programs was held during Q4 2017. Additional in-person meetings are planned for Q1 2018, with the redesign anticipated to take effect during Q2 2018.
- From 11 competitive PV projects sited at schools and local governments, 23 MW were installed during Q4 2017.
- Uptake for the Affordable Solar Residential Onsite program, which provides additional incentives for on-site residential projects for low- to moderate-income homeowners, during Q4 2017 was comparable to Q4 2016. Through Q4 2017, 296 installations were completed with 53 more in the pipeline. More than 65 NY-Sun contractors have submitted Affordable Solar projects to date.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Clean Energy Fund Investment Plan Budget Accounting and Benefits Chapter was submitted on February 22, 2016, in which NYSERDA adopted the NYS Public Service Commission's recommendation in its January 21, 2016 Order Establishing the Benefit Cost Analysis Framework. NYSERDA fulfilled the recommendation that New York State's greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions factor methodology shift from an average grid emission profile to a marginal grid emission profile. Due to this shift, New York State's factor to calculate GHG emissions reductions has changed from 625 pounds CO<sub>2</sub>e/MWh to 1,160 pounds CO<sub>2</sub>e/MWh. The emissions reductions calculated for this quarterly report reflect the new factor of 1,160 pounds CO<sub>2</sub>e/MWh.

- The Affordable Solar Predevelopment and Technical Assistance program, which provides funding to support the development of community solar projects serving low- to moderate-income households as well as solar serving multifamily affordable housing properties, approved eight project applications through Q4 2017, with six predevelopment projects under contract.
- The total installed PV capacity in New York through Q4 2017 represents a 1,000 percent growth from December 2011.
- New York now ranks 3rd nationally in solar jobs, demonstrating 11% year over year growth from 2016.<sup>2</sup>
- The Investment Plan for the Clean Energy Siting and Soft Cost Reduction initiative, which seeks to reduce soft cost barriers inhibiting the deployment of clean energy technologies, was filed by NYSERDA in Q4 2017.
- The Investment Plan for the Low-Income Community Solar Initiative, which will expand access to community solar for approximately 10,000 low-income households, was filed in Q4 2017.
- The application for communities to participate in the fourth round of Solarize was opened in Q4 2017. The new round will include campaigns with a focus on community solar projects. Campaigns will launch during Q1 and Q2 2018. Results for the third round of Solarize campaigns will be reported during Q1 2018.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> National Solar Job Sensus, https://www.thesolarfoundation.org/national/

### 2 **Progress and Results**

#### Table 2-1. Capacity toward 3GW Goal through December 31, 2017 (MW)<sup>3,4</sup>

| Program                        | Projects Completed<br>(Installed Units) with<br>Adjustments through<br>12/31/16 | Projects Completed<br>(Installed Units)<br>1/1/17 - 12/31/17 | Projects Completed<br>(Installed Units)<br>through<br>12/31/17 | Applications Approved<br>but Not Yet Contracted<br>(Current Pipeline) | Projects Contracted<br>but Not Yet Completed<br>(Current Pipeline) | Total (Current Pipeline<br>+ Installed Units)<br>through<br>12/31/17 |
|--------------------------------|---|--|--|---|--|--|
| Residential / Small Commercial | 260.50  | 112.94   | 373.44   | 4.79  | 80.72  | 458.94   |
| Commercial / Industrial        | 18.33   | 31.03  | 49.35  | 12.94   | 919.89   | 982.18   |
| Competitive PV                 | 21.22   | 41.34  | 62.56  | 0.00  | 69.34  | 131.91   |
| Grand Total                    | 300.04  | 185.31   | 485.35   | 17.73   | 1,069.95   | 1,573.03   |

 $<sup>^3</sup>$  1,000 MW equals one GW.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Changes in numbers for previously reported completed projects are due to lagged data and/or QA/QC.

| Program                        | Projects Completed<br>(Installed Units) with<br>Adjustments through<br>12/31/16 | Projects Completed<br>(Installed Units)<br>1/1/17 - 12/31/17 | Projects Completed<br>(Installed Units)<br>through<br>12/31/17 | Applications Approved<br>but Not Yet Contracted<br>(Current Pipeline) | Projects Contracted<br>but Not Yet Completed<br>(Current Pipeline) | Total (Current Pipeline<br>+ Installed Units)<br>through<br>12/31/17 |
|--------------------------------|---|--|--|---|--|--|
| Residential / Small Commercial | 305,784   | 132,570  | 438,354  | 5,617   | 94,747   | 538,719  |
| Commercial / Industrial        | 21,512  | 36,421   | 57,933   | 15,192  | 1,079,801  | 1,152,927  |
| Competitive PV                 | 24,908  | 48,532   | 73,440   | 0   | 81,399   | 154,838  |
| Grand Total                    | 352,204   | 217,523  | 569,727  | 20,810  | 1,255,948  | 1,846,484  |

#### Table 2-2. Production Associated with 3GW Goal through December 31, 2017 (MWh)<sup>5, 6, 7</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Changes in numbers for previously reported completed projects are due to lagged data and/or QA/QC.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Note that the megawatt-hours included in Table 2-2 are estimated amounts based on a statewide capacity factor. NYSERDA does not, by filing this report, make any claim to the environmental attributes associated with those megawatt-hours.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> The NY-Sun program does not determine the delivery or use of solar energy (MWh) from projects that receive funding. Generation from NY-Sun–funded projects may be used by customers for their own voluntary use or used toward meeting State requirements to deliver renewable energy to electricity customers in New York, depending on ownership of the environmental attributes and/or renewable energy certificates (RECs) from those projects. Where NYSERDA has not acquired the RECs from a NY-Sun–funded project, NYSERDA makes no claim to the environmental attributes of that energy.

### Table 2-3. Budget and Financial Status for NY-Sun Programs as of December 31, 2017 (in dollars)<sup>8</sup>

| Program                         | Pre-<br>encumbrances | Open<br>Encumbrances | Expended<br>Funds | Grand Total | Budgeted Funds<br>2014-2023 |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-------------------|-------------|-----------------------------|
| Residential/Small<br>Commercial | 1,731,710            | 30,309,723           | 217,138,772       | 249,180,205 | 533,522,000                 |
| Commercial/Industrial           | 4,490,844            | 296,650,856          | 6,861,016         | 308,002,716 | 473,804,532                 |
| Competitive PV                  | -                    | 50,380,644           | 9,336,824         | 59,717,468  | 59,717,468                  |
| Program Implementation          | 336,993              | 1,778,101            | 3,168,650         | 5,283,744   | 32,600,000                  |
| Low-Moderate Income             | 8,406                | 853,046              | 654,642           | 1,516,094   | 13,000,000                  |
| Consumer Education              | -                    | 3,108,708            | 391,292           | 3,500,000   | 3,500,000                   |
| Administration                  | -                    | 361,812              | 6,051,267         | 6,413,079   | 38,706,000                  |
| Evaluation                      | -                    | 72,114               | 77,886            | 150,000     | 2,500,000                   |
| NYS Cost Recovery Fee           | -                    | -                    | 1,426,126         | 1,426,126   | 19,250,000                  |
| Total                           | 6,567,953            | 383,515,004          | 245,106,475       | 635,189,432 | 1,176,600,000               |

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Administration, Evaluation, and NYS Cost Recovery Fee are for NY-Sun funds only.

NYSERDA, a public benefit corporation, offers objective information and analysis, innovative programs, technical expertise, and support to help New Yorkers increase energy efficiency, save money, use renewable energy, and reduce reliance on fossil fuels. NYSERDA professionals work to protect the environment and create clean-energy jobs. NYSERDA has been developing partnerships to advance innovative energy solutions in New York State since 1975.

To learn more about NYSERDA's programs and funding opportunities, visit nyserda.ny.gov or follow us on Twitter, Facebook, YouTube, or Instagram.

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