

Clean Energy Communities Market Evaluation: Program Years 2018-2020

Final Appendix

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Appendix A Research Objectives

Table A-1 presents the research objectives, research questions, and research methods guiding the Time 2 Market Evaluation. NYSERDA also requested that the Time 2 market assessment findings stratify results by whether the municipality contained a disadvantaged community.¹

Table A-1. Research Objectives

Objective	Question	Method
Measure the number of High Impact Actions completed	How many High Impact Actions have you completed?	Phone surveys of community representatives and secondary data review
	What High Impact Actions have you completed?	Phone surveys of community representatives and secondary data review
	What are the impacts of the completed actions?	Phone surveys of community representatives
	What was the program influence for High Impact Actions completed that were not reported to the program?	Phone surveys of community representatives
Measure the number of communities that indicate clean energy is a priority	Do you consider clean energy a priority within your community?	Phone surveys of community representatives

¹ For more information on how a disadvantaged community is defined by New York State, please see: <https://www.nyseda.ny.gov/ny/disadvantaged-communities>

Appendix B Survey Sample Characteristics

Table B-1 contains a breakdown of the community characteristics in the population and in our surveyed sample, including their community types and whether they contain a disadvantaged community (DAC). A DAC is measured at the census tract level, while the municipalities under study are aggregates of census tracts. The data provided by NYSERDA to the research team indicated whether a municipality contained a disadvantaged community or not.

Table B-1. Population and Sample Characteristics Breakdown

Characteristics	Population						Surveyed Sample			
	Total		Contains DAC		Does not contain DAC		Contains DAC		Does not contain DAC	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	n	%	n	%
Total	1,595	100%	340	21%	1255	79%	44	25%	132	75%
Type										
County	57	4%	52	91%	5	9%	9	75%	3	25%
City	62	4%	59	95%	3	5%	12	86%	2	14%
Town	932	58%	146	16%	786	84%	18	21%	67	79%
Village	544	34%	83	15%	461	85%	5	8%	60	92%
Region										
Mid-Hudson	205	13%	67	33%	138	67%	10	33%	20	67%
Finger Lakes	199	12%	48	24%	151	76%	3	18%	14	82%
Southern Tier	197	12%	47	24%	150	76%	8	35%	15	65%
North Country	194	12%	21	11%	173	89%	2	12%	15	88%
Western New York	194	12%	53	27%	141	73%	4	24%	13	76%
Mohawk Valley	174	11%	33	19%	141	81%	2	13%	14	87%
Capital Region	167	10%	32	19%	135	81%	3	17%	15	83%
Central New York	150	9%	17	11%	133	89%	3	14%	18	86%
Long Island	114	7%	21	18%	93	82%	8	50%	8	50%
New York City	1	<1%	1	100%	0	0%	1	100%	0	0%
Size										
Large	97	6%	90	93%	7	7%	21	95%	1	5%
Small	1,498	94%	250	17%	1,248	83%	23	15%	131	85%

Appendix C Outcomes of Completed Actions

The evaluation team gave community representatives an opportunity to share any outcomes they have noticed from the High Impact Actions they have completed. Below is a summary of their statements.

Clean Energy Upgrades: Most of the communities that shared outcomes specified that their LED lighting upgrades resulting in operational savings (4 of 5; the fifth did not specify the type of upgrade). One said they save \$50–\$100 per month, another reported their project had a five-year payback, and another cited lower maintenance costs.

LED Streetlights: Communities reported numerous benefits from their streetlight conversions. Overwhelmingly, energy savings resulting in bill savings were the most reported outcome of LED streetlight conversions (35 of 43). Communities were very satisfied with the cost savings; eight communities reported bill savings between 40% and 65%. A few participants mentioned maintenance savings from reduced light bulb changes. Other benefits unrelated to cost were improved light quality, less light pollution, and positive community feedback.

Clean Fleets: Communities, overall, reported positive impacts from completing this action. Participants noted reduced tailpipe emissions, sensed that the availability of chargers encouraged EV/hybrid purchases, and observed use of the EV charging stations by community members and out-of-towners. When discussing the outcomes from this action, a city representative stated, “Not only does it provide a smaller carbon footprint, it also sends a message to the community and letting people know we are taking our policy and plans seriously.” A couple communities indicated that they had not seen specific benefits.

Community Campaigns: Communities reported mixed outcomes from completing this action. While some saw success and expanded access to solar in the community, others were challenged to staff their campaigns and meet the required number of installations. One representative boasted their Clean Heating and Cooling campaign had “dramatically” influenced their new construction industry.

Unified Solar Permit: Though a quarter of communities reported slow uptake after adopting the USP (11 of 40), most of the other communities reported positive effects from its adoption. Community representatives said that the USP has sped up the permit approval process at the municipality and has made it easier for residents and businesses to add rooftop solar. As one

respondent said, “Now that we have a few solar projects coming through, it is handy and makes it easy for both parties.” Two respondents, though, expressed concern that the USP would lead to out-of-town companies building solar farms and using up the limited vacant land.

Energy Code Enforcement: In general, community representatives said that the training was helpful in increasing their code officials’ awareness of energy codes and the importance of enforcing them (20 of 33). As one respondent stated, “Ongoing training is important for our code officials to learn and re-enforce what they learned, and helps us further our objectives.” The remainder were unsure of the training’s impact or reported minimal benefits due to their low level of new construction activity.

Climate Smart Communities: A majority of communities reflected positively on the CSC certification, the recognition it brought them, and the ability it provided them to apply for other grants (14 of 17). A few mentioned that achieving certification has expanded the capacity of the local government to do energy actions, while two others noted an engaged community as a result. Those who did not report positive impacts noted that it was paperwork heavy and required a lot of staff time.

Community Choice Aggregation: All 11 communities reported positive benefits from joining a CCA—primarily the greater use of renewable energy. One respondent stated “every resident loves the CCA, and town has also saved some money. People want to counter climate change, so people are very happy about it.” Two community representatives noted that the opt-out process was confusing for customers in the beginning, but after the initial confusion, things were going well.

Benchmarking: Of the 36 community representatives providing comments, a majority (29 of 36) reported numerous positive benefits from benchmarking their municipal buildings. By tracking the energy use, municipalities were able to see the impacts of the energy efficiency upgrades they made and could show that data to staff or the Town Board. One respondent who shared the data with operations staff described it as “Very motivating to have a story to tell about their actions.” Others found the data generated to be informative, helping them identify buildings for future upgrades and where they can best spend their funds. One respondent said, “It’s very useful to see where we were losing energy and where can do better. This has been the best thing of the [program] actions so far.” Additionally, three representatives said that the public reporting of data helped to establish transparency with their communities.

Those who had not seen benefits said it was due to their own irregular reporting, or not being able to review the reports to identify opportunities. These communities cited a lack of staffing preventing them from going further with this action.

PACE Financing: Of the 10 communities commenting on this action, six said there hadn't been any projects or very few projects to use the PACE financing. The communities who reported multiple projects said they have had PACE financing for a while, and one was proud to offer the financing to their community.

Appendix D Survey Instrument

NYSERDA: Clean Energy Communities Survey Instrument 2021

Introduction/Landing Page Text

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 the relative priority of clean energy at your municipality and specific actions NYSERDA is interested in. At the end, I'll ask about the outcomes of the completed actions. 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?

EE Prioritization

Q1. **[ASK ALL]** First, I'd like to get a sense of your municipality's experience with clean energy and energy efficiency. Does your municipality have either an Energy Action Plan or an energy chapter in your general plan? [Note to interviewer – any type of climate action plan/sustainability plan counts]

1. Yes – Energy Action Plan
2. Yes – Energy chapter in general plan
3. No – No EAP, no chapter in their general plan
4. Not applicable – No general plan (and no EAP)
98. Don't know → Who should we talk to about this?

Q2. Does your municipality have a procurement policy that prioritizes the purchase of energy efficiency equipment or products? (If needed: This may include LED light bulbs or ENERGY STAR- rated equipment like a furnace)

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

Q3. Does your municipality have an energy manager or someone explicitly responsible for pursuing energy efficiency in your facilities and operations?

1. Yes

- 2. No
- 3. Not applicable
- 98. Don't know

Q4. I'd like you to tell me whether you agree or disagree with the following statement and then tell me why: Clean energy is a priority at my municipality. So first, do you agree or disagree? Why do you say that? (IF NEEDED: clean energy refers to policies or projects that save energy or use non-polluting sources like solar or wind.)

- 1. Agree (please specify why): [OPEN-END TEXT]
- 2. Disagree (please specify why): [OPEN-END TEXT]
- 98. Don't know

Q4A. [ASK ALL] How familiar are you with NYSEERDA's Clean Energy Communities Program that specifies High Impact Actions through which governments earn points toward a grant?

[DO NOT READ]

- 1. Very familiar
- 2. Somewhat familiar
- 3. Not at all familiar

[CODE PROGRAM_AWARE = 1 IF Q4A = 1 or 2]

Next, I'll ask about specific actions that the Clean Energy Communities Program promotes. The focus of these questions is about clean energy actions that your municipality may have completed, but the program does not know about.

Clean Energy Upgrades

Q5. **[Skip to Q14 if Upgrade_9 = N/A or Submittal or Approval or Rejection]** 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

Q6. [IF Q5 = YES] To the best of your knowledge, does your municipality enter data for all municipal buildings 1,000 square feet or larger into the 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

Q7. Have you completed energy-saving upgrades or renewable energy projects at any of your municipal buildings? (If needed: this might include changing out lighting for LEDs, or installing a high-efficiency furnace, occupancy sensors, or programmable thermostats).

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

Q8. [IF Q7 = YES] Were any of those upgrades or renewable energy projects completed after July 2016?

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

Q9. [IF Q8 = YES] Let's focus on those upgrades completed after July 2016. 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

Q10. [IF Q9 = 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

Q11. [IF Q10 = YES] Was the baseline a history of at least 12 months of building energy usage data?

- 1. Yes → go to Q12
- 2. No → Skip to next action
- 98. Don't know → Who should we talk to about this? → Skip to next action

Q12. [If Q11 = 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
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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. Recommendation from other municipalities

Q13. [ASK IF ANY IN Q12 > 4] Imagine you did not have... [PIPE IN ALL rated >4 in Q12]. 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

Q13A. [SHOW ON SAME PAGE AS ABOVE QUESTION] Optional comments:

Q13B. [IF Q12_3 >4] Can you please tell me the names of the municipalities that recommended energy efficient upgrades?

1. [OPEN-END TEXT BOX]

LED Streetlights

Q14. [Skip to Q18 if LED_3 = N/A or Submittal or Approval or Rejection] 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

Q15. [IF Q14 = 1] Are at least half of your cobra-head streetlights LED lights?

1. Yes → go to Q16
2. No → Skip to next action
98. Don't know → Who should we talk to about this? → Skip to next action

Q16. Were those LED streetlights installed after August 1, 2016? [IF NEEDED: Your best estimate is fine.]

1. Yes → go to Q16A
2. No → Skip to next action
98. Don't know → go to Q16A

Q16A. [If Q16= 1 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
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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. Recommendation from other municipalities

[ASK IF ANY IN Q16A RATED >4]

Q16B. Imagine you did not have... [PIPE IN ALL rated >4 in Q16A]. 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

Q17. [SHOW ON SAME PAGE AS ABOVE QUESTION] Optional comments:

Q17B. [IF Q16A_3 >4] Can you please tell me the names of the municipalities that recommended a streetlight conversion to LED?

- 1. [OPEN-END TEXT BOX]

Clean Fleets

Q18. [Skip to Q23 if Fleet_8 = N/A or Submittal or Approval or Rejection] Next, I want to ask about your municipality's vehicle fleet. Does your municipality have at least one active alternative fuel vehicle in its fleet of vehicles? (If needed: Qualifying alternative fuel vehicles include plug-in electric vehicles, battery-electric vehicles, and CNG vehicles. 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 Q20
- 3. Not applicable (does not have a vehicle fleet) Skip to Q20
- 98. Don't know → Who should we talk to about this? Skip to Q20

Q19. Was that vehicle added after August 1, 2016? [IF NEEDED: Your best estimate is fine.]

- 1. Yes → go to Q19A
- 2. No → Skip to Q20
- 98. Don't know → go to Q19A

Q19A. [If Q19= 1 OR 98] I'd like to ask about things that might've influenced your decision to add an alternative fuel vehicle 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
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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. Recommendation from other municipalities

[ASK IF ANY IN Q19A >4]

Q19B. Imagine you did not have... [PIPE IN ALL rated >4 in Q19A]. 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

Q19C. [IF Q19A_3 >4] Can you please tell me the names of the municipalities that recommended you add an EV to your fleet?

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

Q20. Has your municipality provided at least one electric vehicle charging station or compressed natural gas fueling station that is currently active? (If needed: Electric vehicle charging stations must consist of either two (2) or more Level 2 charging ports or one (1) or more DC fast charge ports.)

1. Yes → Go to Q21
2. No → Skip to next action
98. Don't know → Who should we talk to about this? → Skip to next action

Q21. Was that charging station added after August 1, 2016? [IF NEEDED: Your best estimate is fine.]

1. Yes → go to Q21A
2. No → Skip to next action
98. Don't know → go to Q21A

Q21A. [If Q21= 1 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
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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. Recommendation from other municipalities

[ASK IF ANY IN Q21A >4]

Q21B. Imagine you did not have...[PIPE IN ALL rated >4 in Q21A]. 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

Q22. [SHOW ON SAME PAGE AS ABOVE QUESTION] Optional comments:

Q22B. [IF Q21A_3 >4] Can you please tell me the names of the municipalities that recommended you install a charging station?

- 1. [OPEN-END TEXT BOX]

Solarize, Clean Heating and Cooling, or Solar for All Campaign

Q23. [Skip to Q36 if Solarize_2 = N/A or Submittal or Approval or Rejection]. Have you or someone at your municipality started a campaign within your community to promote rooftop solar, community solar, or clean heating and cooling technologies? 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, air source heat pumps, solar

heating and cooling, or biomass. *A campaign is a local effort, spearheaded by the municipality that includes outreach to get a group of homes or businesses to install the equipment or sign up for the community solar.]

[MULTIPLE RESPONSE]

1. Yes, rooftop solar
2. Yes, community solar
3. Yes, clean heating and cooling
4. No → Skip to next action [MAKE EXCLUSIVE]
5. 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]

Q24. [IF Q23 = ONLY 1, 2 OR 3] Was that campaign launched after August 1, 2016? [SINGLE RESPONSE]

1. Yes, Rooftop Solar [SKIP TO Q25]
2. Yes, Community Solar [SKIP TO Q26]
3. Yes, Clean heating and cooling [SKIP TO Q27]
4. No → Skip to next action
98. Don't know → Who should we talk to about this?

Q24A. [IF Q23= MULTIPLE 1, 2, AND/OR 3] Were any campaigns launched after August 1, 2016? [MULTIPLE RESPONSE]

1. Yes, Rooftop Solar
2. Yes, Community Solar
3. Yes, Clean heating and cooling
4. No → Skip to next action
98. Don't know → Who should we talk to about this?

Q25. [IF Q24 OR Q24A=1 or 98 and Q23 = 1] Did you have at least 10 solar installations resulting from that rooftop solar campaign?

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

Q26. [IF Q24 OR Q24A =2 or 98 and Q23 = 2] Did you have at least [PIPE-IN "10" FOR SMALL & MEDIUM COMMUNITIES; "25" FOR LARGE] residents sign up for the community solar?

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

Q27. [IF Q24 OR Q24A =3 or 98 and Q23 = 3] Did you have at least [PIPE-IN "5" FOR SMALL & MEDIUM 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

Q28. [If Q25, Q26, or Q27 =1] I'd like to know what might've influenced your decision to conduct the 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. Recommendation from other municipalities

[ASK IF ANY IN Q28>4]

Q29. Imagine you did not have... [PIPE IN ALL rated >4 in Q28]. What is the likelihood you would have conducted that 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

Q30. [IF Q28_3 >4] Can you please tell me the names of the municipalities that recommended you conduct such a community campaign?

1. [OPEN-END TEXT BOX]

Q31. [SHOW ON SAME PAGE AS ABOVE QUESTION] Optional comments:

Q32. [Intentionally blank to preserve question numbering]

Q33. [Intentionally blank to preserve question numbering]

Q34. [Intentionally blank to preserve question numbering]

Q35. [Intentionally blank to preserve question numbering]

Unified Solar Permit

Q36. **[Skip to Q40 if USP_1 = N/A or Submittal or Approval or Rejection]** 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.)

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

Q37. Was the Unified Solar Permit adopted after August 1, 2016? [IF NEEDED: Your best estimate is fine.]

- 1. Yes → go to Q37A
- 2. No → Skip to next action
- 98. Don't know → go to Q37A

Q37A. [If Q37= 1 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. Recommendation from other municipalities

[ASK IF ANY IN Q37A >4]

Q37B. Imagine you did not have... [PIPE IN ALL rated >4 in Q37A]. 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

Q38. [IF Q37A_3 >4] Can you please tell me the names of the municipalities that recommended you adopt the Unified Solar Permit?

1. [OPEN-END TEXT BOX]

Q39. [SHOW ON SAME PAGE AS ABOVE QUESTION] Optional comments:

Energy Code Enforcement

Q40. [Skip to Q45 if Code_4= N/A or Submittal or Approval or Rejection] Did your Code Enforcement Officer participate in NYSEDA's energy code enforcement training specifically designed for the Clean Energy Communities program? [IF SIZE = LARGE: This involves your local code enforcement officer and two government officials attending the NYSEDA Clean Energy Communities training, reviewing a set of building plans together, a joint onsite inspection, and close out meeting.]

1. Yes
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

Q41. Did the code enforcement officer and two other staff participate in the preliminary meeting and close out meeting?

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

Q42. [If Q41= 1] Was this training completed after August 1, 2016? [IF NEEDED: Your best estimate is fine.]

1. Yes → go to Q42A
2. No → Skip to next action
98. Don't know → go to Q42A

Q42A. [If Q42= 1 OR 98] I'd like to know what might've influenced the code enforcement officials attended 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
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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. Recommendation from other municipalities

[ASK IF ANY IN Q42A >4]

Q42B. Imagine you did not have... [PIPE IN ALL rated >4 in Q42A]. 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

Q42C. [IF Q42A_3 >4] Can you please tell me the names of the municipalities that recommended your code enforcement officials attend the training?

- 1. [OPEN-END TEXT BOX]

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

Climate Smart Communities

Q44. INTENTIONALLY BLANK TO PRESERVE NUMBERING

DISPLAY Q45 IF CSC_Indirect = 1. ELSE SKIP to Q52]

Q45. My records indicate your municipality is a certified Climate Smart Community. I'd like to ask a few questions about this. How familiar are you with the Climate Smart Communities program, including its actions and point system? Would you say you're very familiar, somewhat familiar, or not at all familiar?

1. Very familiar
2. Somewhat familiar
3. Not at all familiar

Q46. Did you become certified after August 1, 2016? [IF NEEDED: Your best estimate is fine.]

1. Yes → go to Q46A
2. No → Skip to next action
98. Don't know → go to Q46A

Q46A. [If Q46= 1 OR 98] I'd like to know what might've influenced your decision to become a certified Climate Smart 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
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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. Recommendation from other municipalities

[ASK IF ANY IN Q46A >4]

Q46B. Imagine you did not have... [PIPE IN ALL rated >4 in Q46A]. What is the likelihood you would have done the actions to earn Climate Smart Community certification? 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

Q46C. [IF Q46A_3 >4] Can you please tell me the names of the municipalities that recommended becoming a certified Climate Smart Community?

- 1. [OPEN-END TEXT BOX]

Q47. [SHOW ON SAME PAGE AS ABOVE QUESTION] Optional comments:

Community Choice Aggregation

Q48. INTENTIONALLY BLANK TO PRESERVE NUMBERING

Q49. INTENTIONALLY BLANK TO PRESERVE NUMBERING

Q50. INTENTIONALLY BLANK TO PRESERVE NUMBERING

Q51. INTENTIONALLY BLANK TO PRESERVE NUMBERING

[DISPLAY Q52 IF CCA_Indirect = 1; ELSE SKIP TO Q54]

Q52. [If **Error! Reference source not found.**= 1] My records indicate your municipality participates in a community choice aggregator. I'd like to ask a few questions about this. Did you join the CCA after August 1, 2016? [IF NEEDED: Your best estimate is fine.]

- 1. Yes → go to Q52A
- 2. No → Skip to next action
- 98. Don't know → go to Q52A

Q52A. [If Q52= 1 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
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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. Recommendation from other municipalities

[ASK IF ANY IN Q52A >4]

Q52B. Imagine you did not have... [PIPE IN ALL rated >4 in Q52A]. 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

Q52C. [IF Q52A_3 >4] Can you please tell me the names of the municipalities that recommended joining a CCA?

1. [OPEN-END TEXT BOX]

Q53. [SHOW ON SAME PAGE AS ABOVE QUESTION] Optional comments:

Benchmarking

Q54. [Skip to Q66 if Bench_10 = N/A or Submittal or Approval or Rejection] Now, I have some questions about benchmarking energy usage in your municipality's buildings. Have you adopted or are you in the process of adopting 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 – already adopted
2. Yes – in the process of adopting → Skip to Q56
3. No → Skip to next action
4. Not applicable → Skip to next action
98. Don't know → Who should we talk to about this? → Skip to next action

Q55. [IF Q54 = 1.YES – already adopted] And, does that legislation require you to make the benchmarking information publicly available on the internet?

1. Yes → Skip to Q60
2. No → Skip to Q57
98. Don't know → Who should we talk to about this? → Skip to next action

Q56. [IF Q54 = 2. YES – in the process of adopting] Can you please describe for me where you are in the process?

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

Q57. [IF Community Size = Large Community AND Q55=2 OR Q54=2, else skip to Q66] Have you adopted or are you in the process of adopting legislation that requires owners of commercial and multifamily buildings of 25,000 square feet or more to report their buildings' energy use through the ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager system?

1. Yes – already adopted
2. Yes – in the process of adopting → Skip to Q58
3. No → Skip to next action
4. Not applicable → Skip to next action
98. Don't know → Who should we talk to about this? → Skip to next action

Q58. [IF Q57= 2. YES – in the process of adopting] Can you please describe for me where you are in the process?

1. _____ → SKIP TO NEXT ACTION
98. Don't know → Who should we talk to about this? Skip to next action

Q59. [IF Q57 = 1] And, does that legislation require you to make the benchmarking information publicly available on the internet?

1. Yes → Skip to Q60
2. No → Skip to next action
98. Don't know → Who should we talk to about this? → Skip to next action

Q60. [If Q55 OR Q59= 1] Did you adopt this legislation after August 1, 2016? [IF NEEDED: Your best estimate is fine.]

1. Yes → go to Q60A
2. No → Skip to next action
98. Don't know → go to Q60A

Q60A. [If Q60= 1 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
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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. Recommendation from other municipalities

[ASK IF ANY IN Q60A >4]

Q60B. Imagine you did not have... [PIPE IN ALL rated >4 in Q60A]. 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

Q60C. [IF Q60A_3 >4] Can you please tell me the names of the municipalities that recommended benchmarking?

1. [OPEN-END TEXT BOX]

Q61. [SHOW ON SAME PAGE AS ABOVE QUESTION] Optional comments:

Energize New York Finance

Q62. INTENTIONALLY BLANK TO PRESERVE NUMBERING

Q63. INTENTIONALLY BLANK TO PRESERVE NUMBERING

Q64. INTENTIONALLY BLANK TO PRESERVE NUMBERING

Q65. INTENTIONALLY BLANK TO PRESERVE NUMBERING

[DISPLAY Q66 IF PACE_Indirect = 1; ELSE Skip to Q68]

Q66. [If Error! Reference source not found.= 1] My records indicate your municipality offers PACE financing. I'd like to ask a few questions about this. Did you establish the PACE financing after August 1, 2016? [IF NEEDED: Your best estimate is fine.]

1. Yes → go to Q66A
2. No → Skip to next action
98. Don't know → go to Q66A

Q66A. [If Q66= 1 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
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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. Recommendation from other municipalities

[ASK IF ANY IN Q66A >4]

Q66B. Imagine you did not have... [PIPE IN ALL rated >4 in Q66A]. 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. 1
2. 2
3. 3
4. 4
5. 5
6. 6
7. 7
98. Don't know

Q66C. [IF Q66A_3 >4] Can you please tell me the names of the municipalities that recommended PACE financing (Energize NY Finance)?

1. [OPEN-END TEXT BOX]

Q67. [SHOW ON SAME PAGE AS ABOVE QUESTION] Optional comments:

Impact Question

Q68. [ASK IF ALL_Actions= 1]

This is my last question. Of the clean energy actions that your municipality *has* completed, what outcomes or effects have you noticed since completing them? These effects can be positive or negative, or can be energy savings or non-energy benefits. The actions we have on record as being completed are...

[DISPLAY "Clean Energy Upgrades" IF Upgrade_9 = APPROVAL, SUBMITTAL, OR REJECTION
DISPLAY "LED Streetlights" IF LED_3 = APPROVAL, SUBMITTAL, OR REJECTION

DISPLAY "Clean Fleets" IF Fleet_8 = APPROVAL, SUBMITTAL, OR REJECTION

DISPLAY "Solarize, Clean Heating and Cooling, or Solar For All" IF Solarize_2 = APPROVAL, SUBMITTAL, OR REJECTION

DISPLAY "Unified Solar Permit" IF USP_1 = APPROVAL, SUBMITTAL, OR REJECTION

DISPLAY "Energy Code Enforcement" IF Code_4 = APPROVAL, SUBMITTAL, OR REJECTION

DISPLAY "Climate Smart Communities" IF CSC_7 = APPROVAL, SUBMITTAL, OR REJECTION, OR if CSC_Indirect = 1

DISPLAY "Community Choice Aggregation" IF CCA_6 = APPROVAL, SUBMITTAL, OR REJECTION, OR if CCA_Indirect = 1

DISPLAY "Benchmarking" IF Bench_10= APPROVAL, SUBMITTAL, OR REJECTION

DISPLAY "Energize New York Finance" IF PACE_5 = APPROVAL, SUBMITTAL, OR REJECTION, OR PACE_Indirect = 1

1. [OPEN-ENDED RESPONSE]

Closing [ASK ALL]

Those are all the questions I have for you.

Q69. 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!