

NEW YORK STATE POLICIES DRIVING RENEWABLE ENERGY DEVELOPMENT

The Energy to Lead—2015 New York State Energy Plan (SEP) <https://energyplan.ny.gov/>

The 2015 SEP includes three targets:

- A 40% reduction in GHG emissions from 1990 levels, with a longer term goal of decreasing total carbon emissions 80% by 2050;
- 50% of electricity generation must come from renewable energy sources by 2030; and
- A 23% decrease in energy consumption in buildings from 2012 levels.

Reforming the Energy Vision (REV) <https://rev.ny.gov/>

In April, 2014, the Public Service Commission initiated REV, a plan to accommodate and integrate both advanced large-scale energy technologies and greater amounts of distributed energy resources (DER) into the grid, and transition New York to a clean energy economy. DERs are “behind-the-meter” power generation and storage resources typically located on an end-use customer’s premises and operated for the purpose of supplying all or a portion of the customer’s electric load. “Behind-the-meter” refers to energy resources that are generally not connected on the bulk or wholesale electric power system, but are connected behind a customer’s retail access point (the meter).

The Renewable Energy Standard (RES)

Currently, 25% of total electricity used in New York comes from renewable sources. The RES, which is part of the Clean Energy Standard (CES) <https://www.nysed.ny.gov/All-Programs/Programs/Clean-Energy-Standard> , is meant to increase that to 50% by 2030 in accordance with the SEP. The RES provides incentives for the development of both distributed energy renewable sources and grid-connected renewable energy supply. Eligible new renewable energy resources under the RES include biogas, biomass, biofuel, fuel cell, hydroelectric, solar, tidal/ocean and wind facilities

Valuing Distributed Energy Resources (DER) <https://www.nysed.ny.gov/VDER>

The PSC has initiated a separate proceeding to develop a new valuation system to support New York’s renewable energy goals. The plan is to transition DER away from “net-metering” (which pays for electricity sent back to the grid by behind-the-meter sources at a retail rate) to a different payment structure that more closely represents what they contribute to the grid in terms of energy, capacity, environmental benefits and demand reduction value.

The Clean Energy Fund (CEF) <https://www.nysed.ny.gov/About/Clean-Energy-Fund>



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In 2016, the state established a 10-year, \$5-billion CEF to “reduce the cost of clean energy by accelerating the adoption of energy efficiency to reduce load while increasing renewable energy to meet demand.” Funds will go to market development of energy efficiency and other behind-the-meter clean energy solutions, provide certainty for the growing solar market, provide capital for clean energy projects through private partnerships, and invest in innovation and research for new clean energy technologies.