



*Clean Energy Resources Development and Incentives*

# "Build-Ready" Program

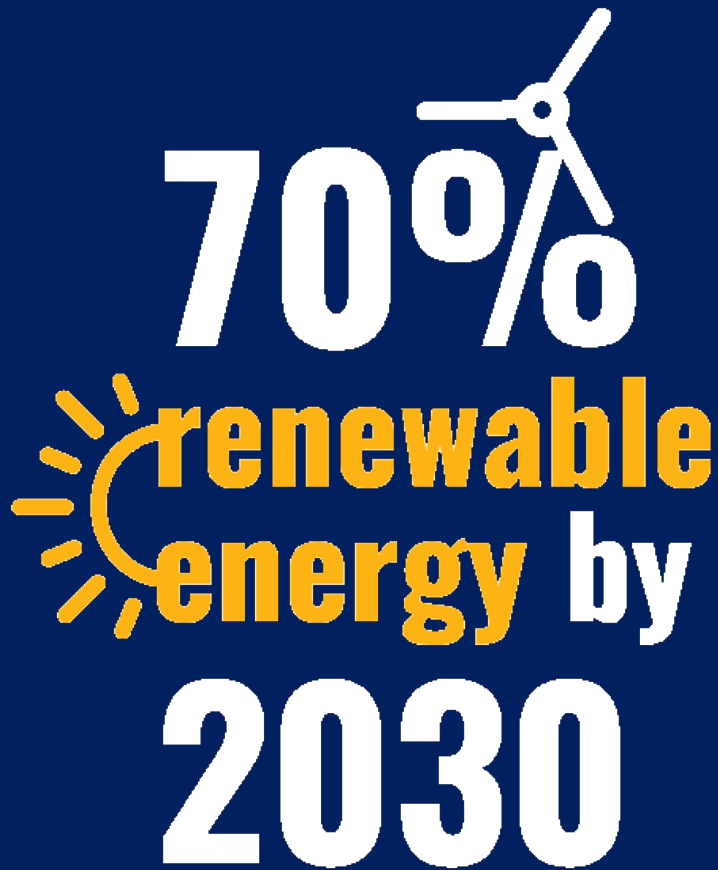
**May 1, 2020**

# President's Remarks

**Alicia Barton**  
**President and CEO**  
**NYSERDA**

April 3, 2020 - As Part of the 2020-2021 Enacted State Budget, New York State Announced Passage of the:

## Accelerated Renewable Energy Growth and Community Benefit Act



70%  
renewable  
energy by  
2030

### The act will:

- advance renewable energy, drive statewide economic growth, and create jobs
- streamline the process for environmentally responsible and cost-effective siting of large-scale renewable energy projects across the State
- establish tools for achieving the State mandate to obtain 70 percent of the State's electricity from renewable sources by 2030 and other nation-leading goals of the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act



This comprehensive legislation includes  
**these major components**

**Office of  
Renewable  
Energy Siting**

**Clean Energy  
Resources  
Development  
and Incentives  
Program**

**State Power  
Grid Study  
and Program**

# Clean Energy Resources Development and Incentives Program

Advances large-scale renewable energy projects by identifying sites that are consistent with the State's permitting standards and are made build-ready for private renewable energy developers

- NYSERDA will establish and execute a “Build-Ready” program to foster and encourage expedient siting and development of renewable energy facilities
  - focus on incentivizing the re-use of previously-developed sites
  - help protect the value of taxable land and leverages existing infrastructure
  - provide benefits for host communities and protect environmental justice areas
- NYSERDA will acquire interests in land, conduct review of siting feasibility, and apply to the Office of Renewable Siting for permits for major renewable energy facilities or to the applicable locality, under SEQRA, for authorization to construct a renewable energy facility
- NYSERDA will competitively auction the developed sites, bundled with contracts for renewable energy payments, to provide a fully de-risked package for private developers to construct and operate projects at these sites



# Host & Environmental Justice Communities

Benefitting host communities and avoiding adverse impacts from the development of renewable energy projects



## **NYSERDA will:**

- notify municipalities at the earliest practicable time after a build-ready site is identified
- pre-screen, with DEC, sites to determine whether an enviro justice community would be adversely affected
- offer property owners and communities tangible benefits and incentives for hosting renewable energy facilities, and publish same
- consult with other state agencies on the need for, and availability of, green job workforce training in the area of the Build-Ready sites, giving special attention to enviro justice communities

# Funding and Reporting

## Public Service Commission approved funding and reinvestment; Robust reporting requirements

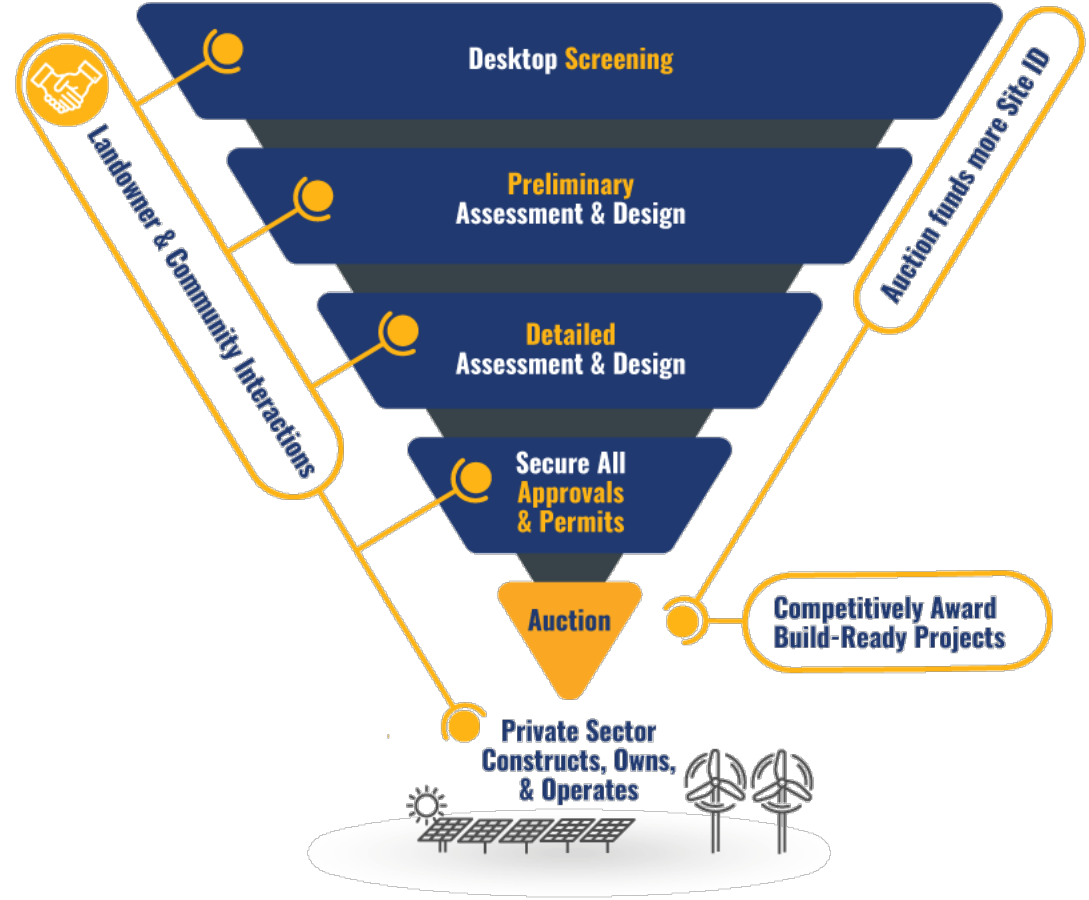
- The statute requires NYSERDA to petition the NY PSC describing the planned activity of the Build Ready Program, and may include a request for funding in such petition for a period of at least five years
- The Petition and subsequent Order must also include a plan for reinvestment of proceeds in excess of program expenses and administration
- Starting April 1, 2021, NYSERDA is required to issue an annual report specifying: accounting of proceeds; identity of auctioned sites and developers; and energy produced
- Report to be posted on NYSERDA's website and delivered to the Governor, Temporary President of the Senate & the Speaker of the Assembly

# Clean Energy Resources Development and Incentives Program



## Potential Project Site ID

- ▼ Communities
- ▼ Local elected officials
- ▼ State Agencies
- ▼ Brownfield/landfill redevelopment
- ▼ Alignment with statewide grid planning
- ▼ Co-use





# Site Identification

**NYSERDA expects to use multiple sources to bring sites forward for consideration:**



- Communities
- Local elected officials
- State agencies
- Underutilized sites – brownfield/landfill
- Statewide mapping
- Alignment with Statewide transmission analysis and grid planning
- Project sites which may benefit from co-use

**Goal is to augment the private sector's contribution to the CLCPA goals and accelerate the State's pace to reach 70 x 30**

# Site Assessment and Development



## NYSERDA will:



- Conduct desktop screening to determine if a site is viable to advance
- Pursue site control activities for those sites deemed viable
- Undertake staged (preliminary to detailed) site assessments to progressively increase understanding of the site and a potential project at a site

## For those sites advancing past detailed design:

- Apply to the Office of Renewable Siting for permits for major renewable energy facilities or to the applicable locality, under SEQRA, for authorization to construct a renewable energy facility
- Secure all permits, interconnection rights and approvals

# Solicit Competitive Bids



**NYSERDA will:**



- Competitively auction the developed sites, bundled with contracts for renewable energy payments, to provide a de-risked package for private developers to construct and operate projects at these sites
- Rights of the property and permit/authorization to construct and operate will be provided to successful bidders

**The Build-Ready program will enhance, not replace the work of the private sector**

# Community Benefits



## NYSERDA will:



- Ensure renewable energy projects deliver benefits to the local communities where they are built
- Provide written notice at the earliest practicable time to a municipality where a Build-Ready site has been identified
- Establish a Host Community Benefit Program to offer property owners and communities tangible benefits and incentives for hosting renewable energy facilities
- Negotiate PILOT agreements with the host municipality
- Maintain a public record on the availability of these benefits and annually publish a report on the benefits provided

# Workforce Development



## NYSERDA will:



- Consult with the Department of Economic Development and the Department of Labor, and other State agencies, on the need for, and availability of, green job workforce training in the area of the Build-Ready sites, giving special attention to environmental justice sites

# Next Steps



**NYSERDA is required to petition the Commission for approval of the Build-Ready Program and any necessary funding authorization**

- Funding will be requested for at least a five-year period, with a reinvestment approach also included
- PSC is required to act on the petition within four months of filing

**NYSERDA is now advancing the program, approach, and team needed to advance this new and exciting program**

- NYSERDA is developing a formal process to take in site suggestions
- NYSERDA will initiate a statewide assessment to reveal sites for consideration
- Community benefit templates and programs are under development
- Local meetings will be advanced as soon as possible

**Starting April 1, 2021, NYSERDA will issue an annual report which includes**

- Financial status
- Site identification status

# Questions?

**Peter Costello**

General Counsel

**Doreen Harris**

Vice President, Large Scale Renewables

Learn more at

[nyserderda.ny.gov/build-ready](https://nyserderda.ny.gov/build-ready)

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