



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ALBANY, JAN. 9 – In response to Governor Hochul’s State of the State Address delivered earlier today, Anne Reynolds, Executive Director for The Alliance for Clean Energy New York (ACE NY) has the following statement:

“Today, the Governor proposed moving the Office of Renewable Energy Siting (ORES) to the Department of Public Service (DPS) and including transmission permitting in its portfolio. The stakes could not be higher for getting renewable energy projects permitted and built in New York. In the wake of the recent news that more than 90 percent of the NYSERDA clean energy projects that were awarded contracts, but not completed, have abandoned their contracts due to inflation, this industry is in a major reset phase in New York. Reaching 70% by 2030 is at grave risk.”

“New York needs a speedy and fair permitting process for clean energy. ORES has issued permits more efficiently than the previous process, but there are still problems. In the application review, for example, deficiencies are identified in multiple rounds rather than all at once, and ORES has been inconsistent in application requirements. These issues are unnecessarily delaying the process without any additional benefit to communities or the environment. We hope today’s proposal will fix those problems as well.

“Transmission upgrades are needed for renewables deployment and a modern grid, so the renewable energy industry truly appreciates that Governor Hochul is recognizing the importance of transmission permitting. We look forward to reviewing the details of a new and improved permitting process for transmission.”

ACE NY was pleased to see the launch of a study around the Clean Transportation Standard, and we will work to ensure the passage of the Standard this year. We also applaud the announcement of increased financial support for Climate Smart Communities Projects.

The Alliance for Clean Energy has suggested state sales tax exemptions to reduce the costs of three important items needed to meet the goals of our climate plan: electric vehicles, heat pumps, and battery energy storage. We sincerely hope these measures are included in the Executive Budget.

The clean energy industry is enthusiastically supportive of innovative policies to support virtual power plants, affordable community solar, and utility rates that control costs for owners of

electric vehicles and heat pumps. These topics, mentioned in today's proposals, are all the subject of Public Service Commission proceedings, and underscore the need for a full complement of climate-forward and engaged Commissioners.

Please see the [ACE NY 2024 Goals](#), and [2024 Legislative Priorities](#).

Contact: Barry Wygel, Communications Director, 518.902.1225, bwysel@aceny.org

###

About the Alliance for Clean Energy New York: The Alliance for Clean Energy New York (ACE NY) is a broad coalition dedicated to promoting clean energy, energy efficiency, a healthy environment, and a strong economy for the Empire State, and is New York's premier advocate for the rapid adoption of renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies. www.aceny.org