



119 Washington Avenue, Suite 103
Albany, NY 12210
518.432.1405
info@aceny.org | www.aceny.org

For Immediate Release

New York's Climate Goals Must Become Construction Goals

ACE NY Releases Legislative Agenda for 2023

ALBANY, Jan. 4, 2023 — The Alliance for Clean Energy New York (ACE NY) has released its [legislative priorities](#) for the coming year. The key areas of focus will be renewable energy, clean transportation, and energy efficiency across New York state.

As the leading voice for the clean energy industry in New York, ACE NY supports legislation that enhances market opportunities for large-scale, grid-connected renewables; for smaller-scale distributed renewable energy; for energy efficiency, and the electrification of transportation. ACE NY generally opposes legislation that unduly or unfairly restricts opportunity for the clean energy industry.

“Last month, New York approved the [Climate Action Scoping Plan](#) that puts in place a framework to achieve the ambitious but necessary goals of net-zero emissions by 2050,” said Anne Reynolds, the executive director of ACE NY. “At ACE NY, we’ve identified a number of important next steps that will help advance the work to equitably achieve the clean energy mandates of New York state and have made them our legislative priorities for 2023.”

Among the highlights of the legislative agenda for ACE NY in 2023 are:

- **Overcome Renewable Energy Barriers to Construction**, by improving tax policies, expanding transmission, resolving permitting issues, ensuring the safe and efficient delivery of wind turbines ([S.9279](#) (Parker)/[A.10478](#) (Hunter)), and standardizing decommissioning.
- **Codify State Operations Going 100% Renewable.**
- **Exempt Energy Storage from Sales Tax** (([S.3277-A](#) (Parker) /[A.7316](#) (Cusick))).
- **Maintain Tier 2 Renewables** ([S.7027](#) (Parker) /[A.8096](#) (Cusick)).
- **Support Clean Transportation**, by allowing direct sales of electric vehicles ([S.1763](#) (Kaminsky)/[A.4614](#) (Fahy)), establishing a clean fuel standard ([S.2962-B](#) (Parker)/[A.862-A](#) (Woerner)), and exempting electric vehicles from sales tax ([S.4476](#) (Jackson)/[A.4761-A](#) (Fahy)).
- **Promote Better Buildings**, by establishing a sales tax exemption for heat pumps, requiring building energy benchmarking, and supporting all-electric buildings ([S.6843C](#) (Kavanagh)/[A.8431B](#) (Gallagher)).

- **Oppose New Restrictions on Renewables**, such as proposals to remove agricultural tax assessment for dual-use renewables ([S.8088](#) (Hinchey), the Build Public Renewables Act ([S.6453-A](#) (Parker) / [A.1466-B](#) (Carroll)), utility ownership of renewable generation ([S.8384](#) (Parker) / [A.9531-A](#) (Cusick), and new conditions for renewable energy ([S.7677](#) (Hinchey) / [A.9109](#) (Lupardo)).

Out of approximately 123 renewable energy projects contracted since 2017, 17 are operational and approximately 18 were under construction in 2022. Transmission constraints, interconnection delays, supply chain interruptions, permitting roadblocks, and lengthy tax negotiations are a few of the hurdles to getting renewable energy projects to construction.

“In 2023, we need to match and increase the number of construction starts for wind and solar projects,” Reynolds said. “New York’s climate goals need to now become construction goals for renewables projects, for building retrofits, and for electric car charging infrastructure. Our 2023 legislative priorities are all aimed at this objective.”

Contact:

Jeanne Hedden Gallagher, Director of Public Relations, 323.314.4057, jhgallagher@aceny.org

Anne Reynolds, Executive Director, ACE NY, 518.248.4556, areynolds@aceny.org

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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