



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

## MEMORANDUM OF OPPOSITION

[S.6317 \(Hinchey\)](#) / [A.6887 \(Lupardo\)](#)

*Requires the New York state energy research and development authority  
to establish a do-not-solicit solar development statewide registry*

May 2023

The Alliance for Clean Energy New York opposes S.6317 /A.6887, a bill that requires the Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) to establish a do-not-solicit solar development statewide registry. The bill also requires records to be maintained for five years, and has steep fines for any violations of the bill.

This bill only applies to the solar industry and does not apply to other businesses that solicit homeowners and landowners. The bill singles out the solar industry and does not address the largest driver of loss of open space and agricultural lands in New York State, low density development. This bill hinders the implementation of the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act and the Climate Scoping Plan that requires 70% of the State energy needs be provided by renewable energy by 2030.

The Federal Do Not Call Registry, in place for twenty years, already applies to the solar industry and offers landowners the ability to limit solicitations. Because of the Federal protections, this bill is redundant and places larger conditions on only one industry. Our State Public Service Commission has already put in place the Uniform Business Practices for Distributed Energy Resources<sup>1</sup> for the solar industry. These currently protect customers from unwanted and/or dishonest business practices.

This bill inappropriately singles out the solar industry without placing additional restrictions on housing and commercial land developers, or the fossil fuel industry. Solar projects are always and only built on land owned by willing landowners, who are often farmers that seek additional income to stay in farming or supplement their revenues. Solar projects offer farmers a steady revenue stream for decades, allowing their farm enterprise to continue in production. Renewable energy projects contribute to the local economy through job creation, tax payments, and Host Community Benefits Agreements.

The solar industry supports consumer protections and complies with the existing Do Not Call Registry and other consumer protection law. We find this bill to be unnecessary, targets just one business in the State, and will severely hamper our ability to meet the renewable energy goals of the Climate Law.

**For the above reasons, the Alliance for Clean Energy New York opposes this legislation.** For more information contact Deb Peck Kelleher, Deputy Director, at (c) 518-698-3211. All of ACE NY's memos on legislation are available at <https://www.aceny.org/legislative-actions>.

---

<sup>1</sup> New York State Public Service Commission, "In the Matter of Regulation and Oversight of Distributed Energy Resource Providers and Products." Case 15-M-0180, October 19, 2017