



DWEA State Initiative: **New York**

Overview

In partnership with the Alliance for Clean Energy NY (ACENY), New York remains a key target state for DWEA efforts. Leasing efforts recently introduced into the New York market have jump started the state's distributed wind industry, with hundreds of customers interested in leasing in 2014. Over the past three years, DWEA and ACENY have partnered for important and key legislative victories to maintain the viability of the distributed wind industry in the state, including:

- Regulation of the fix net metering bill
- Passage and effective regulation of remote net metering bill for projects up to 2 MW

Expiration of key legislation and funding, however, must be addressed over the next year in order to ensure that the New York market can continue to grow.

Priorities

1. ***NYSERDA Small Wind Program Funding (2016 and beyond)***

Funding for NYSERDA's small wind program, which provides critical grants in support of the commissioning of distributed wind projects throughout IOUs in New York (except LIPA), sunsets at the end of 2015. In 2015, small wind is allocated approximately \$7 million, and may be able to access unused funds from other programs as well. NYSERDA recently granted PV up to \$900million from 2016-2023. On the growth of small wind financing in the state, DWEA seeks to engage NYSERDA and the NYS legislature to similarly provide funding specifically for small wind, designed to partially offset the expiration of federal incentives, particularly the 30% Investment Tax Credit set to expire at the end of 2016.

2. ***Property Tax Exemption Extension and Property Tax Guidance***

The 15-year property tax exemption for renewable energy systems is set to expire at the end of 2014. Absent a mid-year extension, DWEA will work with the NYS legislature to extend the extension (retroactive to January 1, 2015), and also provide standard guidance to local property tax assessors on the appropriate method to assess the property tax impact of a small wind turbine on individual properties.

3. ***Unified Wind Permit Implementation and Funding***

DWEA will work with the NYS legislature, PUC and NYSERDA to implement a Unified Wind Permit (UWP), similarly implemented for PV. Along with industry stakeholders and the legislature, the UWP will serve to offer complete guidance to those towns seeking to expedite the permitting process for distributed wind. Since there is a cost to implementation, DWEA will work with NYSERDA to make general funds available to interested towns seeking to offset implementation costs (e.g. attorney review, employee training).

4. ***Sales Tax Exemption Legislation***

Several states have sales tax exemptions relating to renewable energy equipment and purchase. DWEA will work with the NYS legislature to implement a similar exemption in the state, wherein the cost of purchasing equipment, or any sales tax obligation associated with renewable energy lease/PPA payments, will be exempt for all distributed generation customers.

Lobbying Services: ACE-NY

Timing: NY legislature runs year round