

## Energy Efficiency and Sustainability:

Assemblyman Skartados is a proud supporter of solar energy and other eco-friendly energy. We have compiled information to help you, our constituents, make energy efficient changes to your homes or small businesses. Outlined is information to help you find funding for your eco-friendly projects. This funding includes grants, tax incentives, rebates and loans. We believe these resources will make it easier for you to complete your energy-efficient projects. Thank you for helping to reduce our energy consumption. Please keep in mind that we are not responsible for the content of the links contained in this web page.

[New York State Energy Research and Development Authority \(NYSERDA\)](#) offers a variety of programs that help New Yorkers reduce energy consumption, and improve the comfort and safety of their homes. Below you will find programs available by category:

### Residential Energy Efficiency and Renewable Programs:

#### Existing Home Renovations:

Most New Yorkers qualify for a [free or reduced-cost comprehensive home energy assessment](#), also referred to as an energy audit, and low-cost financing through Home Performance with ENERGY STAR<sup>®</sup>. Click [here](#) to find out how to participate

#### New Construction:

Are you building a new home in the near future? Build a [New York ENERGY STAR<sup>®</sup> home](#) using proven technologies and advanced building practices that ensure your home is as energy efficient as possible

Homes built “green” or to the New York ENERGY STAR<sup>®</sup> standards, provide homeowners with comfortable, durable, and environmentally friendly homes that are cost-effective to own and to operate

- [See If You Are Eligible](#)
- [Find a New York ENERGY STAR<sup>®</sup> Builder Near You](#)

Homeowners that are looking to go beyond energy-efficiency should ask their builders about a [green home](#)

#### Renewable Energy:

Advanced technologies such as solar electric, solar thermal, geothermal heating and cooling, and wind power produce heat and/or electricity from renewable resources. Incentives and tax credits are available putting ownership of a renewable energy system within reach. Some of these incentives are:

#### [Solar Technologies:](#)

**Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Technology** uses sunlight to produce electricity. Individual solar cells, each made from semiconductor materials, connect together to form photovoltaic modules and produce electricity. These solar modules, in turn, combine and connect to form photovoltaic arrays

1. The Solar PV Incentive Program offers homeowner incentives to help reduce the installation costs associated with photovoltaic (PV) or solar-electric systems 7 kilowatt (kW) and smaller. A 2 kW PV system provides about 20- 30 percent of an average home's energy needs. Incentives are also available for not-for-profit and commercial customers. For details, see (Attachment H) **NYSERDA Solar PV Program Manual** [PDF] from [PON 2112: Solar PV Program Financial Incentives](#)
2. Key Benefits Include:
  - Save 40-70% off the purchase cost and install a solar electric system by combining this program with other New York Energy Smart<sup>SM</sup> programs
  - Automatically receive a full five-year parts and labor warranty
  - Generate excess electricity with a system smaller than 25 kW and get credited on your utility bill for the amount of electricity you produce over and above what you use
3. [Clean Power Estimator](#) uses the data provided to gather information about your utility rates, available sunlight at your site, and all available incentive and tax credits to generate a customized estimate of the costs and savings of installing a PV System using [an eligible installer](#) under NYSERDA's PV incentive program.

**Solar Thermal (ST) Technology** uses collectors to capture the heat from the sun to produce hot water

1. Incentives are available to residential (single and multifamily), commercial, and non-profit customers for new end-use Solar Thermal water heating systems. You may be eligible to receive incentives to help fund the installation cost of Solar Thermal (ST) for the production of hot water to displace electrically heated hot water. Systems are capped at \$4,000.00 per site/meter for residential systems and \$25,000.00 per site/meter for nonresidential applications. [Click here for the Solar Thermal Program Manual](#)
2. Key Benefits Include:
  - On average, incentives for a typical residential or commercial system are expected to cover approximately 15 to 20% of the installed cost of a ST system
  - Solar thermal systems can supply 50-80% of your hot water need
3. Additional Information:
  - [Field Inspection Guidelines for Solar Heating Systems](#)
  - [Solar-Thermal Installers](#)

### **Solar Incentives, Rebates, and Grants:**

#### **Solar Thermal Incentive Program for Solar Water Heat (State Rebate Program)**

- [http://www.dsireusa.org/incentives/incentive.cfm?Incentive\\_Code=NY87F&re=1&ee=1](http://www.dsireusa.org/incentives/incentive.cfm?Incentive_Code=NY87F&re=1&ee=1)

#### **Residential Solar Tax Credit (Personal Tax Credit for Solar Water Heat, Solar Space Heat, and Photovoltaics)**

- [http://www.dsireusa.org/incentives/incentive.cfm?Incentive\\_Code=NY03F&re=1&ee=1](http://www.dsireusa.org/incentives/incentive.cfm?Incentive_Code=NY03F&re=1&ee=1)

**Local Option - Solar, Wind & Biomass Energy Systems Exemption (Property Tax Incentive)**

- [http://www.dsireusa.org/incentives/incentive.cfm?Incentive\\_Code=NY07F&re=1&ee=1](http://www.dsireusa.org/incentives/incentive.cfm?Incentive_Code=NY07F&re=1&ee=1)

**Local Option - Residential Solar Sales Tax Exemption (Sales Tax Incentive)**

- [http://www.dsireusa.org/incentives/incentive.cfm?Incentive\\_Code=NY100F&re=1&ee=1](http://www.dsireusa.org/incentives/incentive.cfm?Incentive_Code=NY100F&re=1&ee=1)

**Residential Solar Tax Credit (Personal Tax Credit)**

- [http://www.dsireusa.org/incentives/incentive.cfm?Incentive\\_Code=NY03F&re=1&ee=1](http://www.dsireusa.org/incentives/incentive.cfm?Incentive_Code=NY03F&re=1&ee=1)

**PV Incentives Program: (State Rebate Program)**

- [http://www.dsireusa.org/incentives/incentive.cfm?Incentive\\_Code=NY10F&re=1&ee=1](http://www.dsireusa.org/incentives/incentive.cfm?Incentive_Code=NY10F&re=1&ee=1)

**Solar Easements & Local Option Solar Rights Laws: (Solar/Wind Access Policy)**

- [http://www.dsireusa.org/incentives/incentive.cfm?Incentive\\_Code=NY01R&re=1&ee=1](http://www.dsireusa.org/incentives/incentive.cfm?Incentive_Code=NY01R&re=1&ee=1)

**Wind Power:**

Today, large commercial wind sites are common, but there are also applications for smaller wind turbines at residential, industrial, agricultural, and educational sites. Small wind energy systems allow farmers, individual landowners, and businesses to take control of their carbon footprints and preserve their land for the benefit of the whole community

1. Benefits of Wind Power:

- When you harness the wind, you are creating a free energy source that reduces the amount of electricity you purchase. Because wind is renewable and non-polluting, using it helps to protect the environment, reduces dependency on fossil fuels, increases self-sufficiency, and protects you from future electricity price increases
- There are many financial benefits to wind power. NYSERDA incentives offer you a great opportunity to mitigate the costs of installation and the time it takes for you to see a return on your investment

2. Location and Wind Levels:

- The amount of wind at your site is critical because wind speed determines the amount of energy a turbine will produce. Not every site is ideal for a wind turbine
- The amount of wind can vary significantly over an area of just a few miles because local terrain can greatly influence wind flow. Use the wind resource maps available from [NYS Small windExplorer](#)  to see the amount of wind in your area. These maps provide only an estimate of the wind resource in your area; don't be discouraged if your initial reading seems low. A wind installer can help determine the actual potential for a wind energy system at your site
- You should have at least an acre of land with a suitable location set back from trees, buildings, and property lines

**[Interstate Turbine Advisory Council](#) (ITAC):**

- They have compiled a unified list of wind turbines. They also have included complaints about certain brands and other information to help you choose the best turbine for your specific area
  - <http://www.cleanenergystates.org/projects/ITAC/itac-unified-list-of-wind-turbines/>
- American Wind Energy Association:**
- [Wind Energy Facts for New York](#)
  - Wind Energy Basic Fact Sheets:
    - ❖ [http://www.awea.org/learnabout/publications/factsheets/factsheets\\_wind\\_energybasics.cfm](http://www.awea.org/learnabout/publications/factsheets/factsheets_wind_energybasics.cfm)

### **Available Grants, Tax Incentives, and Rebates:**

#### **On-site Small Wind Incentive Program: (State Rebate Program)**

- [http://www.dsireusa.org/incentives/incentive.cfm?Incentive\\_Code=NY35F&re=0&ee=0](http://www.dsireusa.org/incentives/incentive.cfm?Incentive_Code=NY35F&re=0&ee=0)

#### **Local Option - Solar, Wind & Biomass Energy Systems Exemption (Property Tax Incentive)**

- [http://www.dsireusa.org/incentives/incentive.cfm?Incentive\\_Code=NY07F&re=0&ee=0](http://www.dsireusa.org/incentives/incentive.cfm?Incentive_Code=NY07F&re=0&ee=0)

#### **USDA - High Energy Cost Grant Program (Federal Grant Program)**

- [http://www.dsireusa.org/incentives/incentive.cfm?Incentive\\_Code=US56F&re=1&ee=1](http://www.dsireusa.org/incentives/incentive.cfm?Incentive_Code=US56F&re=1&ee=1)

#### **Residential Renewable Energy Tax Credit (Personal Tax Credit)**

- [http://www.dsireusa.org/incentives/incentive.cfm?Incentive\\_Code=US37F&re=1&ee=1](http://www.dsireusa.org/incentives/incentive.cfm?Incentive_Code=US37F&re=1&ee=1)

#### **Green Residential Building Program (State Rebate Program)**

- [http://www.dsireusa.org/incentives/incentive.cfm?Incentive\\_Code=NY83F&re=1&ee=1](http://www.dsireusa.org/incentives/incentive.cfm?Incentive_Code=NY83F&re=1&ee=1)

#### **Guidance for Local Wind Energy Ordinances (Solar/Wind Permitting Standards)**

- <http://www.nyserda.ny.gov/en/Page-Sections/Renewables/Large-Wind/Wind-Energy-Toolkit.aspx>

### **Low and Moderate Income Assistance Options:**

- [\*\*Assisted Home Performance with ENERGY STAR®\*\*](#)

New York State households with a total income equal to or lower than 80% of the Uniformity with State or Area Median Income, whichever is greater, may receive additional financial incentives to improve the energy efficiency of their home through Assisted Home Performance with ENERGY STAR®. Income-eligible households can receive a subsidy (Assisted Subsidy) representing up to 50% of an approved energy efficiency project

- [\*\*Assisted New York ENERGY STAR® Homes\*\*](#)

Receive a \$500 cash incentive if your household income is less than or equal to these [guidelines](#). For more information or help with income-eligibility verification, please call 1-877-NY-SMART

- [\*\*EmPower New York\*\*](#)

The EmPower program has provided more than 61,000 income-eligible New Yorkers with insulation, draft reduction, high efficiency lighting, or appliance upgrades free of charge

Residents have also learned to reduce their energy bills further by changing the ways they use energy in their homes, keeping more money in their pockets to spend on what's important to them

- [Low-Income Forum on Energy \(LIFE\)](#)

LIFE brings together organizations and individuals committed to addressing the challenges and opportunities facing low-income New Yorkers as they seek safe, affordable and reliable energy

Sponsored by the New York State Public Service Commission and underwritten by the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA), the LIFE dialogue encourages an interactive exchange of information and collaboration among the programs and resources that assist low-income energy consumers

- [Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program \(HEAP\)](#)

Administered by the New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA), HEAP provides heating benefits to supplement a household's annual energy cost. HEAP also provides emergency assistance for households in a heat or heat related energy emergency. Additionally, HEAP assists with furnace repairs and/or replacements for households with inoperable heating equipment

- [Weatherization Assistance Program \(WAP\)](#)

Administered by the New York State Homes and Community Renewal (HCR), WAP assists income-eligible families and individuals by reducing their heating/cooling costs and improving the safety of their homes through energy efficiency measures. Both single family and multifamily buildings are eligible. Program services are available to both homeowners and renters, with priority given to senior citizens, families with children and persons with disabilities

### [Central Hudson Gas & Electric Corporation:](#)

Central Hudson offers numerous rebates to their customers who make energy efficient changes to their homes. They created [SavingsCentral.com](http://SavingsCentral.com) for their customers to find rebates that fit their individual needs. By replacing simple appliances in your home, Central Hudson will give you a rebate ranging from \$50.00 for turning in an old refrigerator all to \$700.00 for switching to a new energy efficient natural gas boiler. We encourage you to take a look at the site. By making one change you can save money on your electric bill each month!