

Digest of Green Reports and Studies

Title	Clean, Secure Energy and Economic Growth: A Commitment to Renewable Energy and Enhanced energy Independence.
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Organization	Renewable Energy Task Force To New York Lieutenant Governor David A. Paterson
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# of Pages	50 pp
URL	http://www.ny.gov/governor/press/lt_RETF_Report.pdf
Summary	The first report Published February 2008 by the Renewable Energy Task Force for New York. The primary goals of the Task Force were to 1) Identify barriers in New York State to widen deployment and installation of renewable energy; 2) Recommend policies, including financial incentives to attract clean industries to economically depressed regions of the state; 3) Identify future market areas where additional research and development investment is necessary.
Key Findings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) funding and timeline are not sufficient to meet New York's 2013 goal. • It is difficult for policy makers to identify specific renewable fuels which will prove to be most environmentally sustainable. • NY has an opportunity to initiate long-term incentive programs and encourage investment in New York's solar industry. • Support of existing state agencies' and authorities' long-term commitment to research and development will help develop and commercialize emerging renewable energy technologies. • Oil use for heating buildings has been identified as a sector where short-term efficiency gains and benefits can be achieved. • There is currently insufficient funding to serve households with energy and weatherization assistance. • Successful implementation/promotion of renewable energy technologies requires a strong well-trained workforce. Acceptance of these technologies requires public education. • New York laws have limited the opportunities for non-residential customers to take advantage of net metering. Current utility interconnection procedures can be barriers to increased adoption of clean, on-site generation. • State entities directly involved in renewable development or review processes must ensure policies and programs are consistent and reinforce economic and environmental goals. • Differing local government permit requirements and home owner association restrictions create hurdles to efficient and widespread installation of renewable energy systems.
Recommendations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Public Service Commission should authorize the collection of all funding needed for New York's RPS program. • Pass legislation for a new net-metering law this year to allow net metering for all customer classes where appropriate. • Invest in clean energy businesses for economic growth. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Enhance investment in clean-tech industry initiatives. ○ Increase financial incentives to support technology clusters. ○ Increase opportunities for minority and women-owned businesses and businesses located in disadvantaged communities. ○ Enter into State contracts for transportation and space heating fuels. ○ Review public pension fund investment guidelines and state/local tax policies. ○ Create incentives for solar system manufacturers to develop and distribute their products. • The state should commit to wind energy by addressing local siting and permitting issues and conduct studies to address transmission and infrastructure limitations. • Develop a renewable fuels roadmap and a sustainable biomass feedstock study addressing critical concerns regarding the specific renewable fuels to use. • Align and expand existing accredited training programs to recruit and develop a supply of highly skilled workers in renewable energy and energy efficiency systems. • Consider reconstituting the State Energy Planning Board to facilitate consistent policy and

	<p>program implementation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore all alternative-financing mechanisms available to support renewable energy and efficiency goals. • Provide State funding of research for solar, bio-fuels, small wind, Combined Heat and Power/efficiency demonstrations, grid interconnection, energy storage, and end-use efficiency technologies. This also includes the establishment of a Center for Advanced Technology. • Create a comprehensive building and product efficiency program combined with updated energy codes and low-income affordable housing programs. • The Public Service Commission should accelerate the implementation of advanced metering policies. • Develop a statewide consumer educational campaign to increase market awareness of the clean energy sector. • The Public Service Commission and the Long Island Power Authority should explore a more streamlined, transparent interconnection process for renewable distributed generation installations. • Identify and address any statutory or regulatory barriers to municipal government purchases of green power. • Create an interagency working group to develop a strategy to reduce vehicle miles traveled and increase vehicle efficiency.
Definition of “Green”	N/A
Methodology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subcommittee hearings • Presentations provided by guest speakers knowledgeable in specific disciplines • Research of other states’ and countries’ renewable initiatives • One public meeting
Data Sources Cited	NREL/TP; AWEA; NYSERDA; CalPERS; Cleantech: A New Engine of Economic Growth for New York State, January 2007; New York City Investment Fund; A Partnership for New York City Organization; Pacific Northwest National Laboratory; U.S. Census Bureau; Louis T. Klauder and Associates; Energy and Environmental Analysis Inc.; USDOT: American Solar Energy Society; National Renewable Energy Lab; American Public Power Association; NY State Office of the State Comptroller.
Report Geography	New York State
Green Occupations Cited	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solar installation workers • Wind turbine installers • Construction workers in large-scale, grid-connected wind energy projects • Operation and maintenance jobs at large-scale, grid-connected wind energy projects • Building maintenance workers, superintendents, and engineers (could improve the operations of sophisticated heating and cooling systems) • Engineering-related, manufacturing, construction, accounting and management positions in renewable energy industries • Installation, maintenance, and inspection services, technical and manufacturing jobs in new technologies • Certified installers, maintenance and operations of large-scale renewable and additional small scale renewable technologies such as small wind, solar thermal, biomass and anaerobic digestion systems
Green Industries Cited	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Renewable Fuels • Energy Efficiency • Renewable Electricity Central Generation – wholesale electricity market • Renewable Electricity Distributed Generation – consumer side of the market
Keywords	Renewable Energy Certificates (REC); solar power; wind; net metering; electricity, green collar workforce, energy efficiency.
Legislation Cited	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The federal Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 • New York State Energy Conservation Construction
Bibliography (Y/N)	N
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