2021 PRIORITIES FOR THE ALLIANCE FOR CLEAN ENERGY NEW YORK

For New York State to achieve the ambitious renewable electricity goals mandated by the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA), we need significant investment and accelerated construction in key market segments, including: efficiency, transportation, distributed renewables, and grid-connected renewables. Each has unique challenges but offers significant opportunities to meet its climate goals and for the economic growth and job creation New York needs for its COVID recovery.

Implementation of the 2019 Climate Act remains a priority for ACE in 2021. We will continue to monitor progress and advocate thru the CLCPA’s Climate Action Council.

ACE NY PRIORITIES FOR LARGE-SCALE, GRID-CONNECTED RENEWABLES:

- Implementation of NY’s 70% by 2030 carbon reduction procurement schedule through continuing NYSERDA RFPs and timely award of contracts for Tier 1 of the Clean Energy Standard, and for offshore wind, with a fair and transparent evaluation process for bids, and the option of Indexed REC contracts;
- Efficient permitting, as evidenced by staffing up the new Office of Renewable Energy Siting (ORES), finalization of the ORES regulations, and making progress issuing permits under the new rules. Our goal is to allow responsible developers to move steadily and predictably through the process in a timely manner, so that there is a healthy pipeline of diverse projects;
- For offshore wind, the establishment and auctioning of new federal Wind Energy Areas (WEAs); announcement of one or more new contracts; and a commitment of State port investment funds;
- Standardized and fair taxation of wind and solar projects at the local level;
- Solid progress on transmission, both planning and project approval for the investments in infrastructure needed to facilitate offshore wind development and Upstate solar and wind buildout;
- At the NYISO, develop and implement rules that are fair and favorable for renewables, including a timely and effective NYISO interconnection
process with a 2021 Class Year that actually takes one year; rules that facilitate energy storage growth, especially paired with renewables; and capacity market rules that don’t disadvantage renewable energy. Our participation in the NYISO Resource Adequacy proceeding to examine the future of NY’s capacity market;

- New York State support for carbon pricing at the NYISO and submittal to FERC of the pricing proposal;
- An RFP for the new Tier 2 of the Clean Energy Standard to support renewable resources built before 2015.

For distributed renewables, ACE NY will work towards the implementation of the CLCPA’a mandate for 6,000 MW of distributed solar by 2025, in coalition with various solar trade organizations, by continuing to participate in the Value of Distributed Energy Resources (VDER) PSC proceedings to enhance opportunities for distributed solar and other clean technologies. ACE NY will strive to make the NY markets work for investment in new energy storage projects.

For clean transportation, ACE NY will advocate for a rate structure that works for electric vehicle charging and encourages utilities to prepare for additional charging through infrastructure investments. We will continue to support New York’s participation in the Transportation Climate Initiative (TCI) and will advance legislative initiatives to promote transportation electrification.

For energy efficiency, ACE NY will work with our members to continue to track and weigh in on the ongoing implementation of NY’s Order on Accelerated Energy Efficiency Targets and push for accountability and achievement of the energy efficiency goals in the climate law. We also support legislation on new appliance efficiency standards.

For our work in the Legislature, ACE NY’s 2021 Legislative Agenda (LINK) includes all of the topics listed above. For renewable energy, this year’s priority is standardized wind and solar taxation. For electric vehicles, we will push for a new clean fuels standard, incentives for school districts to buy or contract for electric buses, a bill directing the PSC to establish a rate structure more favorable to fast chargers, and a bill to allow for companies that make only electric vehicles to sell them at retail locations across New York. ACE NY will continue to track these and other bills that our member companies care about and take advantage of all opportunities to promote renewable energy, energy efficiency, and electric vehicle legislation. See ACE Legislative Info regarding particular bills.