For Immediate Release

ACE NY Statement on NYPA Ownership of Renewables in Governor’s Executive Budget

Budget doesn’t include any elements addressing the barriers to renewable energy construction

ALBANY, Feb. 1, 2023 — The 2024 Executive Budget proposal presented today by New York Governor Kathy Hochul includes new authority given to the New York Power Authority (NYPA) to own, develop, finance, and operate renewable electricity generating facilities.

For several reasons, The Alliance for Clean Energy New York (ACE NY) is compelled to oppose this proposed authorization.

“We fully acknowledge that renewable energy projects are not being deployed fast enough,” said Anne Reynolds, the executive director of ACE NY. “It makes complete sense that NYPA should be involved in helping break down barriers to renewable energy development, but we do not agree with this approach.”

Developing renewable energy projects in New York is difficult, costly, financially risky, and time-consuming. ACE NY believes that a combination of private enterprise, in close collaboration with government agencies like NYPA and NYSERDA, and community and environmental advocacy groups, is the most cost-effective, efficient way to get responsibly sited wind and solar power projects built.

“There are real barriers to renewable energy projects reaching construction in New York,” Reynolds said. “There are significant transmission constraints, onerous permitting processes, non-standardized project taxation, and an interconnection process that takes too long and is too expensive. This proposal does not solve – or even help to solve – any of these problems. A better approach would be to harness NYPA’s resources and expertise to invest in the transmission system to unbottle opportunities to site wind and solar energy projects and open up new areas for projects, in addition to making other improvements to the investment landscape in New York.”

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About the Alliance for Clean Energy New York: The Alliance for Clean Energy New York (ACE NY) is a broad coalition dedicated to promoting clean energy, energy efficiency, a healthy environment, and a strong economy for the Empire State, and is New York’s premier advocate for the rapid adoption of renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies. www.aceny.org