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Alliance for Clean Energy New York Annual Conference Held Election Week
NYSERDA CEO Doreen Harris and DEC Commissioner Basil Seggos speak on clean energy

ALBANY, Nov. 11, 2022 – Hundreds of clean energy industry leaders, environmental advocacy groups, and New York government officials attended the 16th annual fall conference of the Alliance for Clean Energy New York (ACE NY).

It was the largest ever gathering of solar, wind, offshore wind, and other green technology stakeholders in Albany with a sole focus of supporting the transition to meet New York’s nation-leading clean energy goals.

In the morning keynote address, Doreen Harris, the president and CEO of NYSERDA, offered these insights to the crowd of 300-plus attendees: “We do not have time to wait. When we think about the 120-plus projects and 5 ½ million homes they will serve, we need to get these projects built.” She went on to talk about the importance of building a “grid for the future” and the confidence she has in the roadmap New York is implementing to achieve the nation-leading clean energy goals of New York. “When you see the Scoping Plan on December 19, you have helped us create a plan that is durable for years to come.”

Basil Seggos, the commissioner of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, keynoted the afternoon address where he focused on New York soon-to-be-finalized Climate Action Plan. He also commented on Governor Kathy Hochul’s reelection saying, “This moment is a really big deal. We really need a chief executive who can steer the ship and understands the importance of the work that we do, that you all do, and that the communities need.” He commented that after Tuesday’s gubernatorial election results, New York has a “chief executive who will be in office now for four years when we need it most.”

On the recently approved environmental Bond Act, the Commissioner said he is “really happy about the bond act – New York hit the Powerball. It’s a historic moment - \$4.2 billion is going to be going into clean water, clean air, and green jobs.”

With discussion sessions on electric vehicles, environmental justice, and building efficiency and decarbonization along with others covering offshore wind, wind, and solar, the conference tackled how new federal legislation will help New York; how to get wind and solar projects to construction; and the need for new transmission infrastructure.

Panelists included officials from New York state such as Minelly De Coo, the deputy director of infrastructure in the Office of New York Governor Kathy Hochul and Georges Sassine, the vice president for large-scale renewables at NYSERDA as well as clean energy industry executives such as Jeff Bishop, CEO of Key Capture Energy; Will Hazelip, President of National Grid Ventures, U.S. Northeast; Sarah Slusser, CEO of Cypress Creek Renewables; and Beth Treseder, Head of Area Development from Equinor.

“Climate goals need to become construction goals. We are on the cusp of a clean energy construction boom in New York,” said Anne Reynolds, executive director of ACE NY. “Thanks to the tireless work of hundreds of experts, advocates, and legislators, many of whom attended our conference today, New York is poised for success. But we need to overcome those last barriers to getting construction started.”

The state of New York is a leader in the efficient and equitable transition to clean energy and is on path to achieve the State’s Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act goal of 70% renewable energy by 2030. It recently announced the 2022 Request for Proposals for [large-scale land-based renewable energy facilities](#) including solar farms, onshore wind farms, and hydroelectric facilities expected to generate approximately 4.5 million megawatt hours of renewable electricity per year. Earlier this year, the state announced [a third offshore wind solicitation](#) for a minimum of 2,000 megawatts of renewable energy.

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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