



STATE OF NEW YORK | EXECUTIVE CHAMBER
DAVID A. PATERSON | GOVERNOR

For Immediate Release: December 15, 2009

Contact: Marissa Shorenstein | Marissa.Shorenstein@chamber.state.ny.us | 212.681.4640 | 518.474.8418

GOVERNOR PATERSON ACCEPTS FINAL PLAN TO GUIDE NEW YORK TO A CLEAN ENERGY ECONOMY

Plan Will Help Make Energy More Affordable, Reliable & Secure for New Yorkers

Governor Paterson Announces Legislative and Action Agenda for Energy Policy in 2010

Governor David A. Paterson today accepted the final 2009 State Energy Plan from the New York State Energy Planning Board. The Energy Plan provides a comprehensive blueprint for New York to continue to transition to a clean energy economy over a 10-year planning horizon, and is the first State energy plan since 2002. The transition to a clean energy economy is a core component of Governor Paterson's New Economy Jobs Plan, and is expected to create tens of thousands of jobs in New York.

Additionally, the recommendations and more specific action items in the Plan will make energy more reliable, secure and affordable for New Yorkers, address the threat of climate change and result in a cleaner environment.

"New York will lead the nation in the clean energy economy, and this State Energy Plan will help us get there," Governor Paterson said. "By adopting the recommendations of this plan, we will ensure that New Yorkers get energy that is more affordable and more reliable, and we will do it in a way that recognizes that the environment needs to be protected."

Modeling performed for the Plan indicates that the New York economy would benefit by \$2.60 for every dollar invested in electric efficiency investments, and that achieving the Governor's goal of increasing energy efficiency 15 percent by 2015 would help reduce electric prices and provide aggregate retail bill savings of as much as \$1.4 billion in 2015.

The Plan identifies a number of specific policy initiatives that set forth a vision for a robust and innovative clean energy economy that will stimulate investment, create jobs and meet the energy needs of

residents and businesses over the next ten years. The policy initiatives are organized by five overarching strategies:

- Continue to expand opportunities to improve energy efficiency – the cleanest, cheapest energy resource.
- Support the development of in-State energy supplies.
- Encourage investment in, and identify future needs for, energy infrastructure.
- Stimulate innovation in the clean energy economy and help the existing manufacturing base transition to low-carbon future.
- Improve coordination between the State, other governments, and communities.

Among the specific initiatives that Governor Paterson will propose in 2010 include:

- Improving coordination and expanding energy efficiency and renewable energy programs across the State in support of the Governor's '45 by 15' clean energy goal.
- Submitting legislation that will establish a power plant siting process that will provide greater certainty to developers and greater opportunities for public involvement.
- Submitting legislation to establish a long-term Power for Jobs program and developing new selection criteria that encourage energy efficiency.
- Submitting legislation to "green" the State's energy code and removing loopholes that have limited the code's effectiveness.
- Developing procedures to assess and consider disproportionate environmental burdens from energy facilities in potential environmental justice areas.
- Submitting legislation to require disclosure of energy characteristics of buildings at the time of sale.
- Working with the New York Power Authority to procure another 100 megawatts of solar energy statewide.
- Work with NYPA to bring to fruition an offshore wind project in the Great Lakes following the issuance of its RFP in December 2009.
- Work with LIPA to bring to fruition its utility-scale solar projects following its successful 50 MW solar RFP in 2009.
- Working with the Long Island Power Authority and the Long Island-New York City Offshore Wind Collaborative to issue a request for proposals for an offshore wind project off the coast of the Rockaways.
- Ensuring stringent environmental safeguards are in place for natural gas drilling in the Marcellus Shale gas reserves.
- Releasing a Climate Action Plan that will identify strategies to achieve an 80 percent reduction in greenhouse gas pollution by 2050.
- Establishing incentives to repower existing power plants to reduce emissions and increase power output.

The complete 2009 State Energy Plan, which includes a detailed implementation table and 16 in-depth issue briefs and assessments, is available at <http://www.nysenergyplan.com/>.

The Plan was prepared pursuant to Executive Order No. 2 issued by Governor Paterson in April 2008, and follows a 60-day public comment period and series of 9 hearings across the State to gain input on the draft Energy Plan that was released in August of this year. Significant feedback was provided by stakeholders; in total nearly 600 comments were received.

During the development of the Plan, the Governor signed legislation that statutorily establishes the State Energy Planning Board and calls on that Board to complete a new energy plan on or before March 15, 2013. However, the State Energy Planning Board that was created by Executive Order No. 2 shall exist until such time as the statutorily created Energy Planning Board begins its planning process for the 2013 energy plan.

Thomas Congdon, Governor Paterson's Deputy Secretary for Energy and Chair of the State Energy Planning Board, said: "The 20-month planning process was as important as the Plan itself. The process was open and transparent and afforded hundreds of New Yorkers, organizations and businesses the opportunity to help shape the Plan. I wish to thank the members of the Board and their agencies, and all those that provided comments for their role in developing such a comprehensive and balanced piece of work. The result of this tremendous effort will benefit all New Yorkers."

###

The following quotes were provided in support of the 2009 State Energy Plan:

Senator Darrel J. Aubertine, Chair of the Senate Energy and Telecommunications Committee, said: "This State Energy Plan will provide the important framework to help New York establish itself as the nation's leader in energy efficiency, development and independence for years to come. Our goal must be to provide reliable, affordable, clean and locally supplied energy to meet all of our needs, from business to residential. New York State's future will depend on new energy sources, from a fourth nuclear reactor in Oswego County to agricultural sources, and efficiency, through weatherization and Smart Grid technologies, creating jobs that will also sustain our economy. I want to thank Governor Paterson, Deputy Secretary Tom Congdon and staff for giving all of us the opportunity to weigh in on this plan, holding the first hearing in Canton, and providing the leadership to make this a priority."

Assemblyman Kevin Cahill, Chair of the Assembly Energy Committee, said: "The completion of Governor Paterson's State Energy Plan and the signing of the energy planning statute passed by the Legislature have put New York back in the driver's seat when developing the policies that will guide the growth of the new energy economy. The plan's focus on energy independence and economic security provides us with the foundation to build upon the significant progress we have made in the areas of energy efficiency, clean energy and workforce development. I commend the Governor and his staff for the hard work and time they put into this exhaustive effort and I look forward to working with them to ensure that it continues to evolve and grow."

Francis J. Murray, President and CEO of the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority: "The State Energy Plan is concrete demonstration of Governor Paterson's commitment to a comprehensive agenda of programs that will combat climate change and protect New York's energy and environmental future. His approach of allowing government to be a catalyst for change, in partnership with the private sector and academia, lays the groundwork for building a model clean energy economy and implementing business and environmental practices that will benefit New York for decades to come."

Richard M. Kessel, President and Chief Executive Officer of the New York Power Authority, said: "The State Energy Plan is the 'greenprint' we need to advance New York State as a leader in the clean energy economy. Today marks a milestone in achieving a comprehensive and coordinated roadmap for future

energy growth and investment. Under the leadership of Governor Paterson, the New York Power Authority will continue to develop projects that invest in critical infrastructure and clean energy, which will be the catalyst of New York's economic recovery and resurgence."

Long Island Power Authority (LIPA) President and CEO Kevin S. Law said: "I commend Governor Paterson for his bold energy plan, which will ensure that New York continues to supply reliable, safe, and affordable energy to its residents and businesses while establishing the goal for the state to meet 45 percent of its electricity needs through improved energy efficiency and renewable sources by the year 2015. As a member of the Governor's Energy Task Force and Climate Action Council, I look forward to working with the Governor on LIPA's groundbreaking energy initiatives such as LIPA's 50 MW solar project, our Efficiency Long Island program, and our LI-NYC offshore wind project."

Public Service Commission Chairman Garry Brown said: "The State Energy Plan provides an appropriate and much-needed look at the need for future electric and natural gas infrastructure improvements to ensure reliability. In addition, it emphasizes the value of strengthening energy efficiency efforts. These actions, among others suggested, will help ensure our citizens' energy needs are met in a cost-effective, reliable, and sustainable manner. The Energy Plan offers a roadmap to help New York take control of its energy future."

David Crane, President and Chief Executive Officer, NRG Energy, said: "It's progressive, thoughtful leadership demonstrated by Governor David Paterson and Deputy Secretary for Energy Thomas Congdon that will help this country make meaningful changes to provide cleaner energy. This realistic statewide energy plan provides a solid foundation for meeting the state's energy goals by advancing energy efficiency, supporting the development of in-state energy supplies and encouraging investment in energy infrastructure. NRG Energy is one of the largest power generators in the state, and we're making investments in New York's energy infrastructure that directly support the plan's goals – repowering our Astoria facility in New York City with clean technology and developing emission-free offshore wind through NRG Bluewater Wind."

Tom King, President of National Grid in the U.S., said: "This state energy plan is the result of a comprehensive and thoughtful process that will now provide New York utilities, and every New Yorker, with clear direction of what must be done to address our energy future. The plan's commitment to sustainability, energy efficiency and a robust energy infrastructure, demonstrates Governor Paterson's willingness to place New York among the nation's leaders on energy policy and climate change."

Kevin Burke, Chairman, President and CEO of Con Edison, said: "The Governor's energy plan is a new milestone in our state's effort to provide New Yorkers with clean and reliable energy for generations to come. Con Edison will work closely with the Governor, our legislative leaders and state agencies to achieve the overarching goals we all share: greenhouse gas reductions, cleaner air, more reliable power, smart grid expansion, and energy efficiency."

Robert Catell, Chairman of the New York State Smart Grid Consortium, said: "I'd like to congratulate Governor Paterson and the State Energy Planning Board for this extraordinarily comprehensive State Energy Plan, and particularly its recognition of the energy, consumer and environmental benefits that can be achieved through smart grid technology investments. The Smart Grid Consortium stands ready to work with the Governor identifying opportunities for smart grid investment in New York. Investment in such

technologies will help the State attract clean energy technology companies, empower customers to make wise energy decisions and enable our electric grid to interconnect renewable energy resources.”

Adrienne Esposito, Executive Director of the Citizens Campaign for the Environment (CCE), said: “The NYS Energy Plan promotes the critical overarching goals of advancing and emphasizing energy efficiency, conservation and renewable technologies - this is the right strategy for New York’s sustainable energy future. Diversification of renewable technologies and efficiency practices are highly supported by New Yorkers who want cleaner, greener energy generation. Thousands of members of the public commented on this plan and we applaud Governor Paterson and his staff in their efforts to incorporate those comments. CCE is particularly pleased with the increase to the NY Renewable Portfolio Standard from 25% renewable electric generation to 30% by 2015 and the renewed emphasis on promoting Article X. We urge the PSC to adopt the 30% standard.”

Carol E. Murphy, Executive Director of the Alliance for Clean Energy (ACE) New York, said: “ACE NY commends the Planning Board for recognizing that New York must develop its existing renewable energy resources and use energy efficiently as possible if we are to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and ensure a secure, affordable energy supply for the future. We have already made great strides in developing a robust renewable energy portfolio and fully support the Governor’s ‘45 by 15’ initiative and increasing the target goal of the Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) program to thirty percent.”

Steven Nadel, Executive Director of the American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy, said: “New York State is again showing it is a leader on energy policy with the publication of its new statewide plan. The plan identifies energy efficiency as its first resource, and includes a variety of new policies, that when implemented will take energy efficiency in the state to the next level, saving consumers money and, since energy efficiency measures tend to be labor intensive, generating jobs.”

Sue Coakley, Executive Director of Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnerships (NEEP), said: “In adopting the State Energy Plan, the Board has endorsed the best means available by which New York can meet its growing energy needs, while also reducing carbon emissions, helping consumers, businesses and communities control their energy costs, and serving as an economic engine to grow a greener economy. Through our policy recommendations, technical assistance and longstanding regional collaborations with NYSERDA and the Long Island Power Authority, NEEP offers our support to help the state implement the plan to achieve lasting energy savings.”

David Bomke, Executive Director of the New York Energy Consumers Council, said: “We salute Governor Paterson and his administration for their commitment to developing a new energy plan for New York State. We particularly value the administration’s commitment to implementing an extraordinarily open and engaging process to secure comments and recommendations from a broad spectrum of New

Yorkers. We are grateful that the final plan recognizes the urgency of energy efficiency practices and investments in eliminating energy waste and its economic and environmental burden on New York.”

Dr. Karin Ezbiansky Pavese, Vice President, Innovation and Sustainability of the New York Academy of Sciences, said: “New York is fortunate to have a State Energy Plan that establishes a long-term vision to guide the State’s investments in its innovation economy. We have top-tier universities, major corporate R&D facilities, a national lab, and numerous other renowned institutions that, if leveraged strategically, could propel the State to leadership in clean energy technology. By surrounding these institutions with a robust innovation system like the one laid out in the Energy Plan, we will move closer to creating solutions to our energy challenges, improving our environment, and fostering economic prosperity for New York State. Central to that progress is NYSERDA, which is and will continue to be a driving force for clean technology research and commercialization in New York.”

###

Additional news available at www.ny.gov/governor/press

*High resolution images available at www.ny.gov/governor/mediaimages / password: paterson
New York State / Executive Chamber / press.office@chamber.state.ny.us / 212.681.4640 / 518.474.8418*