

#### Community Distributed Generation: Shared Solar & Land Use

# **NY-Sun PV Trainers Network**

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# Solar and Land Use

# **1,550+** local jurisdictions in NY With land use authority

## Solar and Land Use

Strong interest in solar amongst communities across NY

- Land use
- Community character
- Responsible procurement
- Local environmental & economic impacts
- Pace and pressure to develop

### **Processes of Concern**

Process	Action
Stakeholder Engagement	<ul> <li>Engage with community members &amp; local government officials early on</li> </ul>
Planning for Solar	<ul> <li>Identify and establish community goals and preferences</li> <li>Adding a solar energy component to comprehensive plan</li> <li>Adopting a special solar energy policy or plan to guide reform of land use regulations</li> </ul>
Zoning	<ul> <li>Review zoning ordinance for solar-related concerns</li> <li>Update zoning to accommodate for solar development</li> <li>Adopting a solar zoning ordinance</li> </ul>

### **Processes of Concern**

Process	Action
Interconnection	<ul> <li>Engage utility early in development process</li> </ul>
Land Lease Provisions	<ul> <li>Seek guidance from legal, accounting and tax assessor professionals</li> </ul>
Property Tax and Assessment Status	<ul> <li>Review jurisdiction's status under RPTL 487</li> <li>Payment in lieu of taxes (PILOT)</li> <li>Review property's assessment status</li> </ul>
Decommissioning & Reclamation	<ul> <li>Request and review decommissioning and reclamation plan from developers</li> </ul>
Environmental Review	<ul> <li>Engage local SEQRA authority early-on</li> </ul>

#### **Property Tax & Assessment Considerations**

- Has jurisdiction opted out of the RPTL for renewable energy facilities?
- Does the property receive an agricultural land assessment?
- Does the property receive a forest exemption?

#### **Consult with your local tax assessor**

# **Decommissioning & Reclamation Plan**

Ensure the solar pv installation is removed, disposed of properly, and the site is restored to as close to its original condition

- Decommissioning Provision in the Land Lease Agreement
- Decommissioning Trust or Escrow Account
- Performance or Surety Bonds
- Letter of Credit
- Municipal Authority Through Permitting and Zoning

#### **Resources: NY-Sun PV Trainers Network**

#### Land Use Planning for Solar Energy



https://training.nysun.ny.gov/images/PDFs/Land\_Use\_Plann ing\_for\_Solar\_Energy.pdf

### **Resources: NY-Sun PV Trainers Network**

#### **Zoning for Solar Energy: Resource Guide**



<u>https://training.ny-</u> <u>sun.ny.gov/images/PDFs/Zoning</u> <u>for\_Solar\_Energy\_Resource\_</u> <u>Guide.pdf</u>

#### **Zoning for Solar: Webinar**

https://training.nysun.ny.gov/zoning-for-solarwebinar

## **Available Training Topics**

- **Creating and Implementing Your Solarize Campaign**
- **Expanding Commercial Solar With a PACE Program**
- Introduction to Shared Solar
- Introduction to Solar Policy Workshop
- Introduction to Solarize: Stimulating Local Solar Market Growth
- Land Use Planning for Solar Energy
- Safety and Fire Considerations for Solar PV
- **Solar Procurement for Local Governments**
- Solar PV for Engineers and Architects
- Solar PV Permitting and Inspection Methods
- Streamlining Solar Permitting
- Zoning for Solar Energy
- Ask Our Experts for One-on-One Assistance
  - training.ny-sun.ny.gov

# **PV Trainers Network Online Portal**



Visit: https://training.ny-sun.ny.gov/



#### **NY-Sun PV Trainers Network**

# Thank you!

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