

## II. Training Course Details & Descriptions

### **Course: Clean Energy and Your Comprehensive Plan**

**Length:** 1.5 – 2 hours

**Intended Audience(s):** Planning & Zoning Board Members, Committee Members (Comprehensive Plan, Sustainability, etc.), Code Enforcement and Building Officials, Municipal Staff

**Credit Eligibility:** 1.5 – 2 hours Annual Training Credit for Planning & Zoning Board Members (subject to approval by the municipality)

**Course Description:**

The Clean Energy and Your Comprehensive Plan course provides an introduction to best practices and strategies for incorporating clean energy goals and objectives into a new or updated municipal comprehensive plan. The course is primarily intended for municipal staff including local board members (such as Planning, Zoning, and local legislative boards), committee members (such as Comprehensive Plan or Sustainability committees), and planning and building staff. Information presented in the course ranges from introductory planning and clean energy basics to detailed comprehensive planning strategies.

This course begins with an introduction to New York’s clean energy landscape, including policies, programs, and technologies shaping the development of renewables throughout the State. It then introduces the role of comprehensive planning and its relationship to local zoning and land use regulations. The remainder of the course focuses on processes and strategies for incorporating clean energy goals and objectives into a balanced, customized comprehensive plan, which is intended to be forward-looking and reflective of the priorities of the local community.

### **Course: Overview of the Model Solar Law**

**Length:** 1.5 – 2 hours

**Intended Audience(s):** Planning & Zoning Board Members, Code Enforcement and Building Officials, Municipal Staff

**Credit Eligibility:** 1.5 – 2 hours Annual Training Credit for Planning & Zoning Board Members (subject to approval by the municipality)

**Course Description:**

The Overview of the Model Solar Law course provides an introduction to land use and zoning considerations for solar as included in the Model Solar Law, a resource contained in NYSERDA’s Solar Guidebook for Local Governments. The course is primarily intended for municipal officials including local board members (such as Planning, Zoning, and local legislative boards), planning and building department staff, and other municipal staff.

The course begins by introducing solar energy system basics, as well as covering policies and programs shaping solar development in New York. The course then provides an overview of resources contained in the Solar Guidebook for Local Governments, before spending the bulk of the time on the Model Solar Law. The Model Solar Law is a template zoning law intended to be comprehensive and highly customizable; this course provides municipalities with the information required to adopt a well-considered, balanced solar law.

### **Course: Overview of the Model Battery Energy Storage System Law**

**Length:** 1.5 – 2 hours

**Intended Audience(s):** Planning & Zoning Board Members, Code Enforcement and Building Officials, Municipal Staff

**Credit Eligibility:** 1.5 – 2 hours Annual Training Credit for Planning & Zoning Board Members (subject to approval by the municipality)

**Course Description:**

The Overview of the Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) Law course provides an introduction to land use and zoning considerations for BESS as included in the Model BESS Law, a resource contained in NYSERDA's BESS Guidebook for Local Governments. The course is primarily intended for municipal officials including local board members (such as Planning, Zoning, and local legislative boards), planning and building department staff, and other municipal staff.

The course begins by introducing BESS basics, as well as covering policies and programs shaping clean energy development in New York. The course then provides an overview of resources contained in the BESS Guidebook for Local Governments, before spending the bulk of the time on the Model BESS Law. The Model BESS Law is a template zoning law intended to be comprehensive and highly customizable; this course provides municipalities with the information required to adopt a well-considered, balanced law to regulate energy storage system deployment.

**Course: Understanding Solar PV Permitting and Inspecting in New York State**

**Length:** 2 hours

**Intended Audience(s):** Code Enforcement Officials, Building Safety Inspectors, Fire Safety Inspectors

**Credit Eligibility:** 2-hours in-service training credit through NYS Dept. of State, Division of Building Standards & Codes (NYS DOS BSC)

**Course Description:**

The Understanding Solar PV Permitting and Inspecting in New York State course provides a substantive overview of several topics relevant to solar photovoltaics (PV) permitting. The course contains information primarily aimed at municipal administrative staff including Code Enforcement Officials, Building and/or Fire Safety Inspectors, and related positions. This content may also be relevant to local policy makers, planning and zoning board members, and other staff. Information presented in the course ranges from rudimentary solar basics to advanced technical and code compliance material.

The course begins with an introduction to the basics of solar PV permitting applications, highlighting the New York Unified Solar Permit and a list of construction documents required for a complete PV project application. After the initial section, the course provides in-depth information about components of a PV array, applicable codes like the Uniform Code and the National Electric Code, and resources available for PV permitting and inspection as contained in NYSERDA's Solar Guidebook for Local Governments. The course concludes with a review of common installation errors and their corresponding code violations. Upon completion of the course, attendees should have a strong foundation of knowledge about the requirements, documents, and processes involved in permitting and inspecting PV systems.

**Course: Battery Energy Storage for First Responders**

**Length:** 2 hours

**Intended Audience(s):** Code Enforcement Officials, Building Safety Inspectors, Fire Safety Inspectors

**Credit Eligibility:** 2-hours in-service training credit through NYSDOS BSC

***Course Description:***

The Battery Energy Storage for First Responders course provides an in-depth overview of NYS Uniform Code requirements relevant to battery energy storage systems (BESS). The course is primarily intended for Code Enforcement Officials, Building and/or Fire Safety Inspectors, first responders and incident response personnel, and related positions. This content may also be relevant to local policy makers, planning and zoning board members, and other staff. Information presented in the course ranges from introductory BESS basics to advanced code compliance and fire safety requirements.

Battery Energy Storage for First Responders begins with an overview of BESS components, including critical fire detection and suppression equipment, as well as an accompanying overview of BESS applications and use cases. The course then provides an in-depth walkthrough of NYS Uniform Code sections regulating BESS development, with a primary focus on NYS Fire Code and NYS Residential Code requirements. This course highlights a variety of code requirements based on BESS type and location, including fire detection and suppression considerations. Upon completion of this course, attendees should have an introductory understanding of BESS components and applications, as well as familiarity with relevant NYS Uniform Code requirements pertaining to BESS.

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