

Contact Information:

Governor's Press Office
NYC Press Office: 212.681.4640
Albany Press Office: 518.474.8418
press.office@exec.ny.gov



Andrew M. Cuomo - Governor

Governor Cuomo Announces Second Round of Low-Cost Power Allocations to the Mohawk Valley Under Recharge New York

[Printer-friendly version](#)

Low Cost Power Program will Help to Create and Retain Thousands of Jobs across New York

Albany, NY (June 28, 2012)

Governor Andrew M. Cuomo today announced that an additional 161 businesses and not-for-profit organizations across the state have been awarded more than 80 megawatts (MW) of low cost power in the second round of allocations under the ReCharge New York program. This round of RNY allocations is expected to generate substantial private capital investments and retain approximately 25,000 jobs.

For the Mohawk Valley, the New York Power Authority (NYPA) Board of Trustees this week approved allocations that total almost 6 MW of power to 17 enterprises, and are linked to more than 1,500 jobs and significant capital investments in the region. The key recipients include Burt Rigid Box in Oneonta, Harden Furniture in McConnellsville, and Taylor Made Group in Gloversville.

"Through the NY Works program, we now have a cohesive strategy to leverage resources such as available, low-cost power, allowing businesses to create jobs and make investments in all regions of the state. These power allocations through the ReCharge New York program will provide competitive and reliable energy prices to manufacturers and other key employers, giving them the confidence to invest in their facilities and maintain and increase employment," Governor Cuomo said. "We will continue our aggressive efforts to capitalize on our low-cost power and other economic incentives to attract new businesses to New York and encourage expansion and growth in our state's existing enterprises."

The allocations approved this week by the New York Power Authority (NYPA) Board of Trustees bring the total support provided by Recharge New York to 602 businesses and 76 not-for-profits. Those enterprises are expected to commit to retain nearly 385,000 jobs and undertake billions of dollars in capital investments from the approximately 680 MW that have been allocated under the ReCharge New York program to date. The low-cost power tied to the ReCharge New York program will start to be made available to customers on July 1. A complete list of the second round of power allocations is available here: <http://www.governor.ny.gov/assets/documents/round2allocations.pdf>

Senator Hugh T. Farley said, "Access to affordable energy is a key component to revitalizing our upstate economy. It's all about job creation and retention. That's the main purpose of the ReCharge NY program, and I'm pleased that important employers in my Senate district will be receiving allocations in this second round of projects."

Senator James L. Seward said, "When I helped establish New York's original low cost power plan, Power for Jobs, the goal was simple – help businesses afford to operate and grow in the Empire State. Recharge New York builds on that objective and is an important piece of an overall plan to lower the cost of doing business, retain and create jobs and move our state forward. These allocations continue and expand on a vital, growing public/private partnership which translates to real jobs and paychecks for New Yorkers."

Senator Joseph A. Griffo said, "Businesses who were aware of the old Power for Jobs program would tell me a recurring message, they love the benefits, but hated the uncertainty of its year-to-year renewal. Changes should've been adopted years ago. We improved it to make it permanent, to take the guesswork out; made it a more reliable program and increased its capacity so that more employers will be eligible for the benefits. There are manufacturers who are seeing benefits for the first time. It's taken a Governor who shares our vision for job growth in upstate communities, to revamp this. I commend new NYPA Board Chairman John Koelmel, the other Board members and their staff for working with the Regional Councils to see that the second round of funding awards went to the businesses in our region who employ a great deal of our labor force."

Assembly Member Bill Magee said, "In these tough economic times, it is vital that we help businesses succeed and get our hardworking families back to work. Recharge New York will provide businesses with low-cost power sources, protecting and creating jobs for Central New Yorkers."

Assembly Member Anthony J. Brindisi said, "The Recharge New York initiative provides low-cost power to companies so they can invest more in maintaining and even expanding their businesses here in the Mohawk Valley. Creating jobs and supporting local businesses is a priority, and I will continue to work with Governor Cuomo to cut red tape, streamline government, and make our state more business-friendly."

Bjong Wolf Yeigh, President of SUNYIT and co-chair of the Mohawk Valley Regional Economic Development Council said, "Governor Cuomo's ReCharge New York program provides long-term, stable and lower-cost energy prices, boosting the confidence of Mohawk Valley companies interested in investing in their local facilities and workers, which is crucial for attracting and retaining businesses in the region. We look forward to the implementation of the ReCharge NY program over the next several months and will continue to work with the New York Power Authority toward the fulfillment of our regional priorities and as we make wise and strategic use of this valuable economic development tool."

The latest allocations were recommended this week by the New York State Economic Development Power Allocation Board (EDPAB), a four-member body empowered under state law to make power recommendations to the NYPA trustees.

John R. Koelmel, who was elected this week by the NYPA Board of Trustees as the Authority's chairman, said, "These latest allocations of low-cost power under the Recharge New York program demonstrate the New York Power Authority's continued commitment to playing an integral role in Governor Cuomo's economic revitalization and job creation efforts. We are more determined than ever to use our assets and their outputs to attract new business opportunities to New York State and foster growth in existing companies and industries."

The ReCharge New York program, which will draw upon 910 MW of low-cost energy, offers up to seven-year contracts, including at least 350 MW for upstate businesses, 200 MW for business attraction and expansion projects, and up to 100 MW for not-for-profits and small businesses.

In total, NYPA received over 1,000 applications for ReCharge New York power under Governor Cuomo's "New York Open for Business" initiative through the on-line Consolidated Funding Application, requesting over 2,100 MW—more than twice the total amount available under the statutorily provided power program.

In evaluating the applications on a competitive basis, NYPA, in consultation with Regional Economic Development Councils across the state, used criteria based on capital investment commitments, job retention and creation, consistency with regional economic development council priorities, and other factors, including energy efficiency.

Also under the Recharge New York statute, NYPA is authorized to provide a transitional electric discount to any applicants that were not recommended to receive allocations, but which had been receiving benefits under NYPA's expiring Power for Jobs (PFJ) and Energy Cost Savings Benefit (ECSB) programs—the predecessor programs to ReCharge New York. Specifically, the statute authorizes NYPA to provide those customers up to 66 percent of their PFJ or ECSB energy savings during the initial two years of the RNY program and 33 percent for the two years thereafter. The NYPA trustees approved transitional discount savings for 95 applicants, valued at energy savings of up to \$9 million for just the first year alone.

Gil C. Quiniones, NYPA president and chief executive officer, said, "During the course of the ramping up of the ReCharge New York Program, the Power Authority has worked aggressively to receive applications that represent a broad array of businesses and employers that will result in sustainable economic growth and employment opportunities in every region of the state. The applications were reviewed in consultation with the state's 10 Regional Economic Development Councils on the basis of the competitive criteria under the ReCharge New York law, including jobs and capital investments. In helping to carry out Governor Cuomo's vision for economic development, the Power Authority will continue to pursue additional opportunities to attract new businesses from available lower cost power and encourage significant business expansions that will spur job creation and private investment throughout New York."

For a list of allocations made under the Recharge New York program from the first two rounds of power allotments, visit <http://www.nypa.gov/RechargeNY/default.htm>.

###