



Andrew M. Cuomo - Governor

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Governor Cuomo Announces \$250 Million for Renewable Energy Projects to Add Reliable Clean Power to New York's Energy Highway

Funding for Medium- and Large-Scale Clean Energy Projects to Ensure Electricity from Wind, Hydro and Biomass Throughout the State

Albany, NY (December 24, 2012)

Governor Andrew M. Cuomo announced today that \$250 million is available for a broad range of renewable energy generation projects. This funding is a critical component of Governor Cuomo's Energy Highway Blueprint that will upgrade and modernize New York's aging energy infrastructure.

Funding for these renewable projects is administered by the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) through the state's Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS), and is targeted to electric generation projects that use wind, hydroelectric, solar, biomass or other clean-energy resources. The projects will not only help expand the State's renewable energy portfolio but will assist the State in reducing its carbon footprint.

"As New York State looks to upgrade and improve its energy infrastructure, renewable energy will play an even greater role in providing power that is more reliable, efficient and environmentally sustainable," said Governor Cuomo. "Through the RPS, the state is investing in its future. These projects will not only help diversify New York's renewable energy portfolio, but also provide economic development opportunities across the state."

The RPS funding will be awarded competitively, with recipients expected to be announced by summer 2013.

"The RPS program has allowed New York State to expand its clean-energy economy by attracting private investment in these medium and large renewable energy projects, which are creating jobs and providing environmental benefits for local communities," said Francis J. Murray Jr., President and CEO, NYSERDA. "Governor Cuomo's commitment to diversifying the state's renewable energy portfolio has positioned New York as a national leader focused on energy security, environmental responsibility and sound energy policy development."

"The generation of electricity from renewable sources increases energy diversity and promotes a better environment for us all," said Public Service Commission Chairman Garry Brown. "Developing renewable resources, along with our energy efficiency efforts, provides our best hope toward ending dependency on fossil fuels, improving regional economies, reducing harmful emissions, and enabling all of us to gain greater control of our energy future. The Renewable Portfolio Standard ensures that the success of the state's renewable energy program continues unabated."

New York's RPS program has been highly successful at attracting investments in clean energy and diversifying the in-state resource mix. The program is expected to yield significant economic benefits to the state. Over the next 20 years, the direct benefits from the projects currently within the RPS program are expected to approach \$2.4 billion, and the effects on the broader economy are estimated at more than \$4.9 billion.

Under the RPS program, NYSERDA has current Main Tier contracts with 54 large-scale renewable electricity generators. The power generated from these projects is expected to provide enough clean power for more than 650,000 homes per year. These projects include two biomass facilities, 10 landfill biogas operations, 25 hydroelectric facilities, and 17 wind farms.

More information about the RPS program can be found at www.nyserdera.ny.gov/main-tier.

More information about the Energy Highway Blueprint can be found at www.NYEnergyHighway.com.

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