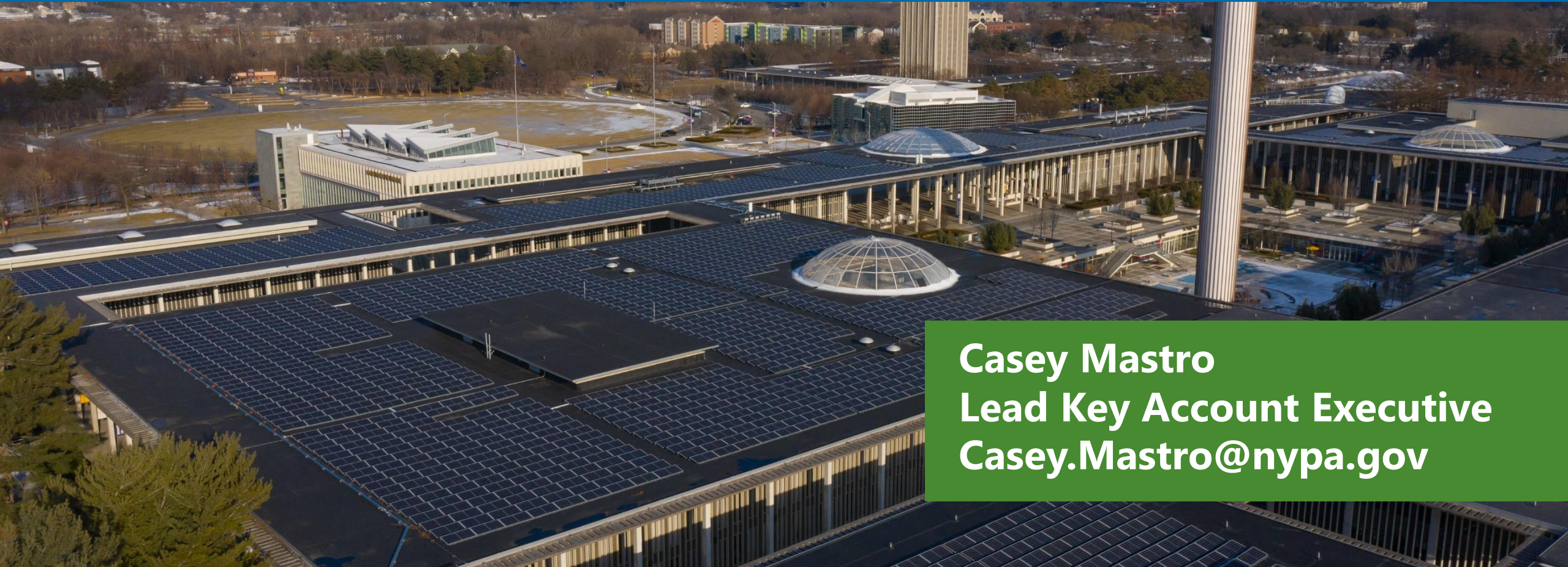


# Solar Solutions for Higher Education



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# Agenda

## **Distributed Energy Resource (DER) Overview**

- Benefits & Challenges
- EO22 Eligibility and Funding Opportunities
- Project structuring and implementation models

## **NYPA DER Advisory Program**

- Program Overview
- Case Studies

## **Q&A**





# Benefits of Distributed Energy Resources (DER)

**DER** are electric generation resources sized at less than 5 MW that are generally located directly on customer properties

- Leverage underutilized space such as **parking garages, rooftops, landfills, brownfields, and open land**
- Create **bill credits, generate revenue**, and achieve **cost savings**
- **Reduce GHG emissions** and **directly reduce energy consumption from the grid**
- **Assist with achieving policy goals in alignment with CLCPA**
- Improve **grid resiliency**
- Better **manage peak demand**



# Challenges for Campuses

- How to balance compliance risk and DER value
- Complexity of the New York state solar and DER market, policies, and regulations
- Limited time to manage a competitive bid and negotiate agreements with developers
- Uncertainty regarding IRA Federal funding

# How NYPA can help

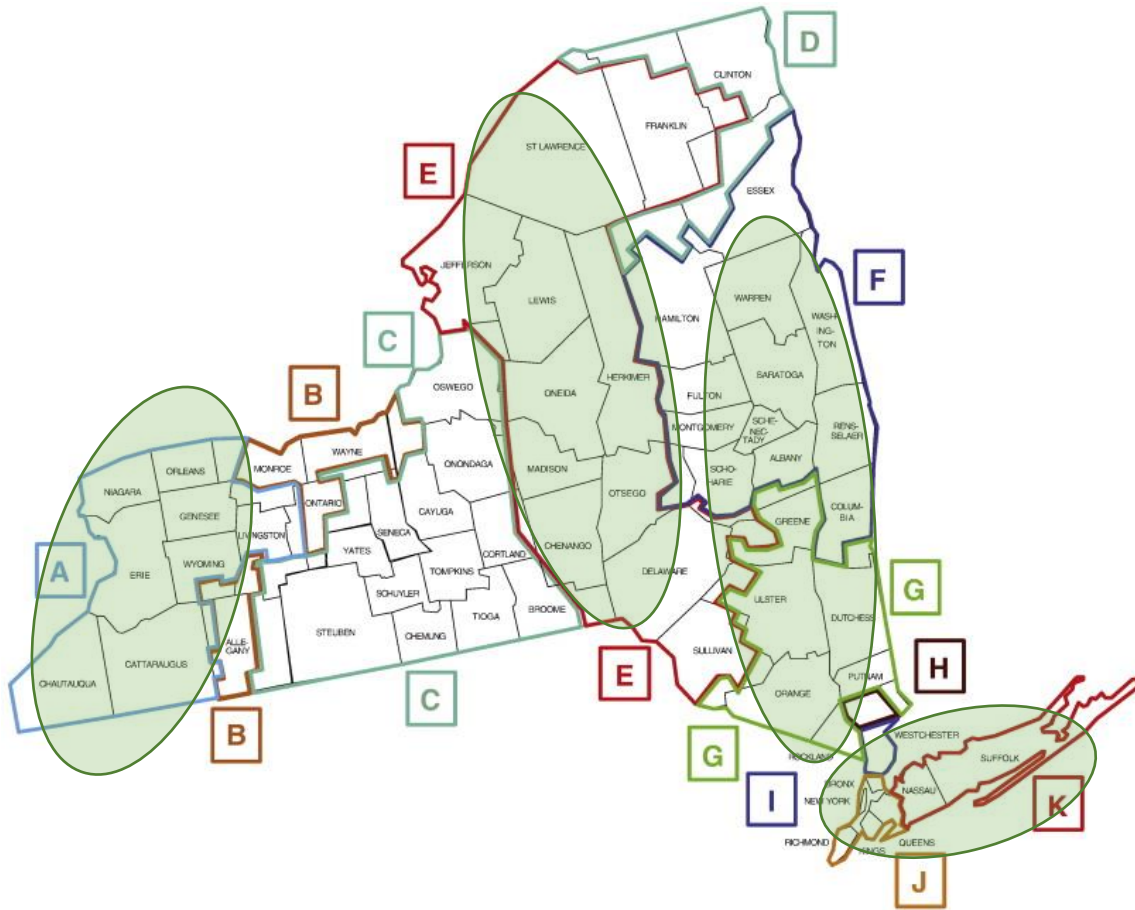
## Navigate project scoping, design, and implementation:

- Technical feasibility assessment and conceptual site design
- Economic analysis of tariff rates and utility data
- Development of project scope of work
- Administer and manage procurement process
- Dedicated policy & regulatory affairs team





# Location, Location, Location



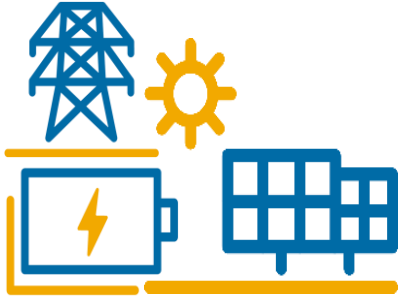
## Variability based on geographic location

- NYISO Load Zones
- Distribution utility delivery constraints
- Region weather patterns

## Highest Value Areas

- ConEdison and PSEG-LI
- Orange & Rockland
- National Grid – Zones A, E, and F
- Central Hudson
- NYSEG – NYISO Zone A, E, and H

# Primary DER Applications



## “Front of the Meter” (FTM)

- All production receives **Value Stack** compensation
- Typically constructed “off-site”
- Main project type for **Community DG**
- Energy storage may provide potential for participation in grid services markets and VPP



## “Behind the Meter” (BTM)

- Majority of production **directly offsets grid purchases**, or “**avoided cost**”
- *May also receive Value Stack*
- **Multiple energy storage applications**
  - Customer demand charge reduction
  - Utility demand management programs
  - Resiliency services
  - Potential for participation in grid services markets and VPP

# VDER & The Value Stack

Pricing methodology **based on time and location**

Places **monetary value on any injections** to utility grid

- Bill credits can be used to offset *any and all* on-bill electricity costs
- **Cannot offset dual-billing charges** (e.g. third party supply costs)

**Subject to change** based on utility cost studies and wholesale market prices





# Executive Order 22 Eligibility

Structure of Eligible Resource	IX Tariff	Tariff Options/Details	Qualifies for EO22?
Behind the Meter	Net Energy Metering (NEM)	Only for existing projects installed before 2016	Yes*
	Phase 1 NEM	Available for on-site projects up to 750kWac; After operational year 20 converts to VDER	Yes*
	VDER	E Value Retained	No**
		E Value Forgone	Yes
Front of the Meter/"Off-site"	VDER	E Value Retained	No
		E Value Forgone	Yes
	LSR/NYISO	Tier 1 REC sold to NYSERDA	No
		Tier 1 REC retained	Yes
Yes*	NEM projects do not generate RECs, but do reduce an entity's electricity purchases.		
No**	Net injections are ineligible, however, all direct consumption will reduce grid purchases/baseline		
E Value Retained	Refers to a project electing to be paid (retain) the E Value.		
E Value Forgone	Refers to a customer project to keep the Environmental Attribute and not receive (forgo) payment for the E Value.		

# Funding for Clean Energy Projects

	Program		Description
Federal	Inflation Reduction Act (IRA)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provides tax credits for renewables</li> <li>Tax-exempt entities able to receive direct cash payments in lieu of tax credits</li> </ul>
	Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Competitive grant and lending programs from the Federal government for infrastructure</li> </ul>
State	NYSERDA	NY – Sun	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provides cash payments to project owner based on PV Capacity</li> <li>Varies by region and project characteristics (landfills/brownfields)</li> </ul>
		Clean Energy Communities Certification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provides regional CC Coordinators, which help with prioritizing and identifying goals and funding opportunities</li> <li>Earn points for high-impact actions. More points gets access to more/ different funding pools</li> </ul>
	Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC)	Climate Smart Communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Helps local governments take action to reduce GHG and adapt to climate change</li> <li>Provides grants to help fund some of these actions</li> </ul>



# Federal Funding Opportunities

## Inflation Reduction Act (IRA)

**\$663B** in energy tax credits, available to tax-exempt entities accessible in tax year in which project goes into service

### TAX CREDIT FOCUSED

- Many are entitlements, many are good through 2032
- Most operate on a Base Credit + Bonus Criteria formula
- 12 Clean Energy Tax Incentives – Elective Pay Eligible

+	Energy community (e.g., 10%)
+	Domestic content (e.g., 10%)**
+	Prevailing wage and apprenticeship (5x base)
	Base credit (e.g., 6%)
-	Project used tax-exempt funding (15% max)

\*\* Beginning Jan 1, 2024, the overall text credit is reduced if domestic content is not met

## Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) aka Bipartisan Infrastructure Law

**\$550B** in new federal investment in infrastructure and resilience distributed primarily through highly competitive grant programs

### GRANT AND INCENTIVE FOCUSED

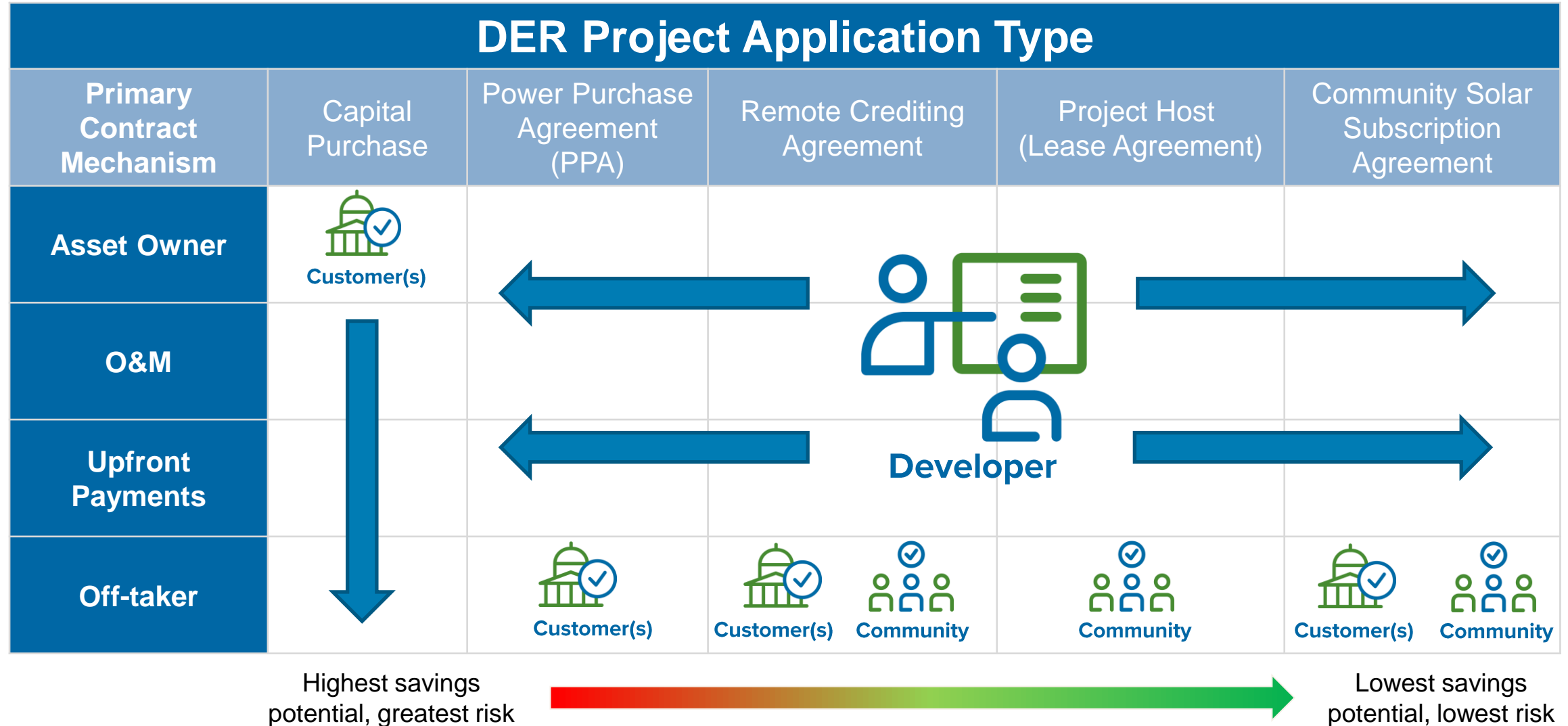
- Mostly formula funded and/or competitive programs
- Can be administered by federal agency or through NYS
- New: Community Benefits Plan to address workforce and equity

### Notable IIJA Grant Programs

- \$10.5B DOE Grid Resilience and Innovation Partnerships (GRIP)
- \$5B DOE Preventing Outages and Enhancing Resilience of the Electric Grid (40101d)
- \$1B DOE Energy Improvements in Rural and Remote Areas (ERA)



# Implementation Models





# Determining optimal contract structure

- **Depends on customer's project goals and individual circumstances**
  - Annual electric bill, proximity to hosting capacity, sustainability plan, etc.
  - Remote Crediting usually has highest revenue potential and is less complicated, but capped at 10 subscribers
  - CDG provides guaranteed savings and community benefit, but is most complex with a lower return
  - Behind-the-meter usually has lowest interconnection cost, but only viable offsetting high electric supply rate
    - Adding **energy storage can significantly improve BTM economics**, but requires detailed analysis

# Innovative Siting Practices

## Landfills & Brownfields

- NYS DEC largely supports this type of development
- No ground penetrations required; but unable to build on steeply sloped areas
- Additional incentives available at State and Federal level

## “Agrivoltaics”

- NYPA working with Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) on best practices for incorporating agriculture into solar PV projects
- Pollinator-friendly seed mixes and apiaries; animal grazing; specialty crops
- Substantial area of research at national level



# DER Advisory Program





## Case study: SUNY Niagara

- SUNY Niagara wanted to explore renewables to achieve **cost savings**, align with **CLCPA goals**, and provide **educational opportunities for students**
- Potential system is a **6MWdc ground mount array** on ~25 acres of land
- Tentatively leveraging **30% ITC worth \$4.5M** as a local match – the State will provide an additional **\$4.5M** to buy down PPA cost
  - Using taxable bonds issued by DOB
- NYPA partnered with SUNY Niagara using the SUNY Master Services Agreement to develop a customized plan, navigate local laws, and manage RFP process

**7.2M kWh**  
Renewable energy  
generated annually

**6MWdc**  
Capacity



*Helioscope rendering*

# Case study: SUNY Albany

## Helping New York State Transition to a Carbon-Free Power Grid

- NYPA partnered with SUNY Albany to install **almost 5,000 solar panels** on a rooftop that would have otherwise remained idle
- The system will supply the **equivalent of 60 percent of the estimated annual electricity** used by their electric net-zero energy-ready building
- The solar project supports SUNY Albany's goal of **reducing its carbon footprint 40 percent by 2050**

**2.3 GWh**

Renewable energy  
generated

**1.8MWdc**

Capacity





# We can help move your clean energy initiatives forward!

Contact NYPA to learn more about how we can help you save money and improve your community through clean energy



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**Nypa.gov/services**





# Q&A



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