

#### **ENVIRONMENT**

# THE GREEN ECONOMY

A \$26B investment in large-scale renewable projects will ensure that New York remains a leader in transitioning to a green economy and fighting climate change



# NEW YORK LEADS THE NATION IN OFFSHORE WIND DEVELOPMENT

A nation-leading procurement for two offshore wind farms will yield approximately 2,490 megawatts of carbon-free energy, and provide more than 5,200 jobs through an \$8.9B investment

# PROMOTING NEW YORK AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS

The New York Grown and Certified Program has certifled more than 3,200 farms, representing over 805,000 acres of farmland, since its launch in 2016





# **CLEANING NEW YORK'S WATER**

\$1.2B improved water quality in 575 municipalities through the Water Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2015 and the Clean Water Infrastructure Act of 2017



#### **Budget Highlights**

Continue Expansion of New York's Historic Clean Water Investment. The Executive Budget pledges an additional \$500 million for clean water infrastructure this year, furthering Governor Cuomo's \$5 billion commitment to provide clean drinking water to all New Yorkers.

Promote Environmental Protection. Renew funding for the EPF at \$300 million, maintaining the highest level in history.

#### The Green Economy.

Governor Cuomo's green energy program will create a total 12,400 megawatts of green energy to power 6 million homes, directly create more than 50,000 jobs, and spur more than \$29 billion in public and private investment all across the state.

New York Leads the **Nation in Offshore Wind** Development. A nationleading procurement for two off-shore wind farms will contain more than 90 turbines, making them more than 50 percent larger than the offshore projects announced in 2019. These farms will yield approximately 2,490 megawatts of carbon-free energy and provide more than 5,200 jobs through an \$8.9 billion investment.

Though blindsided by the pandemic, Governor Cuomo has said New York must continue to face the dangers of climate change and to take bold steps to lead the nation in combatting global warming.

In confronting these challenges, Governor Cuomo is building a Green Energy Economy that will not only reduce the State's carbon consumption to meet the goals of the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA), but also create jobs and play a central role in the State's economic recovery from the pandemic. In doing so, New York will remain a leader in the ongoing battle against climate change.

The FY 2022 Executive Budget continues the commitment of an additional \$2.5 billion over five years for drinking water infrastructure, wastewater infrastructure, and water quality protection, doubling the State's already historic investment in clean water projects. Despite the challenging fiscal environment caused by the global pandemic, the Executive Budget maintains the highest-ever level of \$300 million of funding for the Environmental Protection Fund (EPF) and allocates significant capital funds to maintain and improve environmental and recreational resources.

By providing the necessary support to the State agencies and public authorities focused on promoting the health of our environment, New York will continue as a leader in the green economy, reduce emissions that contribute to climate change, and enable the transformation of the electric power transmission system to a distributed smart grid network.

#### Overview

The State's environmental, energy and natural resource agencies and authorities are on the front lines of the state's climate change fight: conserving and protecting the State's precious natural resources, promoting New York as a natural destination for tourism and recreation, ensuring the integrity of freshwater resources, and supporting the kind of agricultural development that is critical to New York's robust farming industry.



The Department of Environmental Conservation's (DEC) mission is to conserve, improve and protect New York's natural resources and environment while enhancing the health, safety, and well-being of New York's citizens. DEC is responsible for administration and enforcement of the State's Environmental Conservation Law.

The Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP) provides safe, enjoyable recreational and interpretive opportunities for New York State residents and visitors, and functions as a steward of New York's valuable natural, historic, and cultural resources. OPRHP operates the State Park System, a network of 181 State parks and 35 historic sites. In 2019, the system welcomed a record 77 million visitors.

Together, DEC and OPRHP oversee 5.35 million acres of open space statewide, including 2.6 million acres in the Adirondack Park and nearly 300,000 acres in the Catskill Forest Preserve.

The Department of Agriculture and Markets (Ag&Mkts) has wideranging responsibilities, including food safety inspection, agricultural economic development, farmland protection, animal and plant health surveillance, and control of agricultural runoff.

The Department of Public Service (DPS) functions as the staff arm of the Public Service Commission (PSC), which regulates the rates and services of public utilities — an industry with an estimated \$33 billion in annual revenue. DPS oversees the siting of major utility infrastructure and provides oversight of cable franchise agreements and telecommunications service. Additionally, DPS provides oversight of the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority's (NYSERDA) implementation of the PSC-approved Clean Energy Fund and Clean Energy Standard.

The New York Power Authority (NYPA) supplies power statewide through two large hydroelectric facilities and more than 1,400 miles of transmission lines. NYPA is also helping to reimagine New York's energy system by providing enhanced clean energy services to its customers and moving towards becoming the first fully digitized utility in the country to more effectively manage its assets.

#### **Performance Profile**

Cleaning New York's Water. To date, 575 municipalities have been awarded funding totaling \$1.2 billion to improve water quality through the Water Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2015 and the Clean Water Infrastructure Act of 2017.

Breaking Parks
Attendance Records. The Governor's \$900 million investment through the NY Parks 2020 initiative has resulted in capital improvements at over 200 parks statewide, spurring a record 77 million visitors in 2019.

Promoting New York
Agricultural Products. The
New York Grown and
Certified Program, since its
launching in 2016, has
certified over 3,200 farms,
representing over 805,000
acres of farmland.



#### Responding to the Pandemic

While developing and implementing a robust response to the COVID-19 pandemic through aggressive testing individuals, monitoring the spread of the virus and protecting our frontline workers with needed equipment, work continued to expand New York's clean energy economy and infrastructure to protect our environment and meet Governor Cuomo's ambitious energy goals.

During the COVID-19 recovery, Governor Cuomo announced the largest combined clean energy solicitations ever issued in the United States, seeking up to 4,000 MW of renewable energy.

Work continued on expanding New York's offshore wind capacity, building the nation's largest offshore wind program with the potential of bringing the state halfway toward its goal of 9,000 MW of offshore wind by 2035.

To help create jobs, New York secured commitments from companies to manufacture wind turbine components within the state with made significant progress to create five dedicated port facilities.

New York also issued the largest ever coordinated solicitations for land-based large-scale renewable energy projects.

At the same time, DEC staff from every division, including Emergency Management staff, Forest Rangers, and Environmental Conservation Police Officers, are serving on the frontlines of the State's response to COVID-19. To-date, more than 1,000 staff have volunteered to help combat the pandemic, supporting more than 20,000 missions in New York's coronavirus fight.

DEC staff stood up and operated testing sites, delivered food, personal protective equipment (PPE), and test kits, supported Department of Health and Labor call centers, and is now standing up vaccination sites across the state.

Ag&Mkts implemented protections in the agriculture industry to keep farms and the food supply operating. These efforts included:

- Ag&Mkts staff, with its partners, distributed more than 100,000 face coverings and tens of thousands of gallons of hand sanitizer to farms across the State.
- Launched on-the farm COVID-19 testing for farm workers, in partnership with NYS DOH, in targeted areas of the State that see the greatest number of seasonal farm workers.
- Provided guidance for State's retail food stores, food manufacturers, farms, farmers'
  markets and more to keep them operating safely and the supply chain moving for
  consumers.
- Provided guidance to restaurants and fisheries to allow them to operate temporarily as retail food stores without needing to apply for a retail food store license.
- Provided guidance to ensure animals continued to receive the care and products/services necessary to keep them fed and healthy.



 Held conferences with industry and federal stakeholders to ensure all aspects of the food supply chain remained unaffected by the pandemic.

# Leading the Fight Against Climate Change and Building a Green Economy

Governor Cuomo is setting New York State on course to be the nation's leader in renewable energy innovation and production with a green energy program that will spur more than \$29 billion in public and private investment across the state and create 12,400 megawatts of green energy – enough to power 6 million homes. These investments will not only shift the state to a carbon neutral economy, fulfilling the goals of the CLCPA, but also spur the COVID economic recovery. Projects include:

- Largest Offshore Wind Program in the Nation. The state will contract
  with Equinor Wind US LLC for the development of two new offshore wind farms more than
  20 miles off the shore of Long Island, in what is the largest procurement of renewable
  energy by a state in U.S. history. Upon completion, the two offshore wind farms will yield
  a combined 2,490 megawatts of carbon-free energy, bring an \$8.9 billion in investment.
- Global Wind Energy Manufacturing Powerhouse. New York has secured commitments from companies to manufacture wind turbine components within the state and build the nation's largest offshore wind program. Plans to make New York State a global wind energy manufacturing powerhouse include upgrades to create five dedicated port facilities. These projects include: the nation's first offshore wind tower-manufacturing facility to be built in the Port of Albany; facilities at the South Brooklyn Marine Terminal; greater activity at Port Jefferson and Port of Montauk Harbor in Long Island. Together, the projects will leverage almost \$3 of private funding for every \$1 of public funding, for a combined \$644 million investment in these port facilities.
- Construct New York's Green Energy Transmission Superhighway. New York State
  will construct a new green energy superhighway of 250 miles. The \$2 billion project will
  create opportunities to maximize the use of renewable energy for the parts of the state
  that still rely on polluting fossil-fuel plants. Construction has already started on the New
  York Power Authority's 86-mile Smart Path project from Massena to Croghan, and
  construction will soon start on several key projects in Western New York, Mid-Hudson,
  and the Capital Region.
- Public-Private Partnership to Build Nearly 100 Renewable Energy Projects: Over the
  past five years, the State has contracted for the construction of 68 new large-scale
  renewable energy facilities including solar farms, onshore wind farms, and three offshore
  wind farms that are among the largest in the nation. These investments in renewable
  energy have brought economic activity to 34 counties, will add 6,100 megawatts of clean
  energy capacity to the state's infrastructure, and generate investment of more than \$12
  billion.

To build on this progress, New York will contract for another 24 large-scale renewable energy generation projects in 2021, to bring the State's total clean energy build-out to



nearly 100 projects. The 23 solar farms and one hydroelectric facility will be the most cost-efficient clean energy construction to date in New York, producing more than 2,200 megawatts of clean power, generating more than \$2.9 billion of investment and creating 3,400 jobs in 16 counties Upstate.

#### **Investing in Agriculture and Clean Water**

Governor Cuomo has made unprecedented investments in the State's agricultural programs and clean water infrastructure. These include:

- Enacting the historic \$2.5 billion Clean Water Infrastructure Act of 2017 to protect public health and the environment through investments in drinking water, wastewater and source water protection;
- Establishing a \$400 million municipal clean water infrastructure grant program with the Water Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2015; and
- Extending the State Superfund hazardous waste cleanup program by \$1 billion.

The State has invested more in agriculture during Governor Cuomo's tenure than at any point in New York's history, including record levels of grant funding through the EPF and the Ag&Mkts local assistance budget. The Governor has also supported strategic investments to modernize the State Fair, grow the agriculture industry in the Southern Tier, and protect farmland in the Hudson Valley. Through the Taste NY and NYS Grown and Certified programs, Governor Cuomo continues to prioritize the promotion of locally grown and produced foods and products.

The FY 2022 Executive Budget maintains support for critical environmental protection programs. To ensure New Yorkers have access to clean water, the Budget includes a new five-year commitment of \$2.5 billion in clean water funding while continuing the \$2.5 billion of funding provided by the Clean Water Infrastructure Act, enacted in 2017, which supports drinking water, wastewater, and source water protection initiatives.

The Executive Budget includes \$1.6 billion of new capital appropriations for DEC, OPRHP, Ag&Mkts, and the Olympic Regional Development Authority (ORDA). These resources will be used to continue the State Fair modernization plan, accelerate improvements to the State's recreational assets, and fund infrastructure projects statewide, spurring the creation of jobs and leveraging private sector and Federal investment.

#### **Table 8: Summary All Funds Spending**

			Change	
Category	FY 2021 (millions)	FY 2022 (millions)	Dollars (millions)	Percent
Department of Environmental Conservation	1,522	1,690	168	11%
Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation	392	372	(20)	(5)%
Department of Agriculture and Markets	108	127	19	18%
Department of Public Service	99	93	(6)	(6)%
Hudson River Valley Greenway	41	1	(40)	(98%)
New York Power Authority	66	1	(65)	(98%)
Energy Research and Development Authority	22	23	1	4%
Adirondack Park Agency	5	6	1	20%
Total Environment and Energy Spending	2,240	2,390	150	7%

- **Department of Environmental Conservation.** Total spending for DEC increases by \$168 million, primarily reflecting spending growth from the Clean Water Infrastructure Act.
- Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation. Total funding for OPRHP decreases by \$20 million, primarily reflecting a decrease in capital spending.
- Department of Agriculture and Markets. Total spending for Ag&Mkts increases by \$19 million. The change is largely attributable to FY 2021 spending being significantly lower than originally expected due to COVID-19 impacts.
- **Department of Public Service.** Total spending for DPS decreases by \$6 million.
- Hudson River Valley Greenway. Total funding for the Greenway decreases by \$40 million, reflecting completion of the Empire State Trail.
- **New York Power Authority.** Total funding for NYPA decreases by \$65 million, reflecting completion of the Empire State Trail.
- New York Energy Research and Development Authority. Total funding for NYSERDA increases by \$1 million, reflecting an increase in West Valley spending.

#### **Proposed FY 2022 Budget Actions**

**Expanding the State's Clean Water Infrastructure Investment.** The Executive Budget adds a \$500 million appropriation to support clean water, raising the State's total investment to \$4 billion and continuing to fulfill the Governor's \$5 billion clean water commitment.

 Renew Record Funding for the Environmental Protection Fund. The Executive Budget continues EPF funding at \$300 million, the highest level of funding in the program's history. Appropriations include \$41 million for solid waste programs, \$88 million for parks and recreation, \$151 million for open space programs, and \$20 million for the climate change mitigation and adaptation program. This investment will provide funding for critical



environmental programs such as land acquisition, farmland protection, invasive species prevention and eradication, enhanced recreational access, water quality improvement, and an aggressive environmental justice agenda.

- Support DEC Capital Projects through NY Works. The Budget includes \$75 million for DEC to address a variety of capital needs to improve access to State lands, rehabilitate campgrounds, and upgrade its recreational facilities, all as part of the Adventure NY program. This funding will also provide for health and safety repairs to State infrastructure, including dams, wetland restoration, State lands, and fish hatcheries. This year' budget includes an additional \$20 million in funding for construction at the state-owned Conklingville Dam.
- Continue Capital Investments in New York State Parks. The Executive Budget allocates \$110 million in New York Works capital funding for OPRHP. This funding will aid the ongoing transformation of the State's flagship parks and support critical infrastructure projects.