

Stop Energy Sprawl



WHY IS THIS
HAPPENING & HOW
can we FIGHT IT?

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It's About Greed, Not Green

- Rural NY is a Profit Opportunity
 - False Promise of Jobs
 - False Promise of Tax Dollars
- Tens of Billions of Ratepayer & Taxpayer \$\$
 - For Construction
 - For Renewable Energy Certificates
 - For Energy Produced

Why Rural NY? Why Stark?

- A: New York State
 - Laws to create incentive funding programs
 - Laws to cheat municipalities out of the full tax value
 - Processes to limit local municipalities from meaningful input
- A: Land is Relatively Inexpensive
- A: Transportation & Distribution Corridor
- A: Population is vulnerable
 - Elderly
 - Law-abiding
 - Independent
 - Many landowners are struggling financially

How does this happen?



Landowners



- NYS commits a lot of money to Wind & Solar
- Developers are attracted (“incentivized”) to come to NYS
- They whisper in the ears of landowners
- They sign folks up, create a project and apply for a permit

How does this happen?

Local Siting

- Direct funding (in whole or in part) through NYS, Feds
- Often paid at project completion
- Sited by local planning boards

State (ORES) Siting

- Competitive bidding via NYSERDA (NYS Energy & Research Dev. Authority)
- Yearly Awards of billions of ratepayer \$\$ since 2017
- Paid for production, RECs
- Sited by Office of Renewable Energy Systems (ORES)

Assure What's Right for the Community

- Engage
 - Your Neighbors,
 - Town Boards,
 - Town Planning Boards,
 - County & IDA,
 - School Board,
 - State Assemblymember
 - State Senator
 - Other Community Organizations
- Circulate petitions,
- Post comments,
- Write Letters to the editor, other media
- Write / Email / Call Elected Officials
- Run for Office
- Get informed

Assure What's Right for the Community

- Create a group (*✓ already done → COACH !*)
- Wear your colors – hats, shirts, stickers
- Remind potential lessors / sellers to have an attorney review
- Require a Full Environmental Impact Statement
- Point out that developers get a better deal than other taxpayers
- Keep your IDA from supporting projects with few or no permanent jobs
- Recognize the long-term threat is from State legislation
- Work with others (like Stop Energy Sprawl) to reduce State incentives to convert forest & farmland and to help defend our communities

Municipal Actions

- Ensure a Thorough Project Review
 - Require a Full Environmental Assessment under SEQR
 - Consider a Moratorium to provide sufficient time to
 - understand the impacts of these technologies
 - Identify the secondary impacts to the community
- Craft a Local Law
 - Define what's important to your community
 - Create laws, standards, consequences to enforce
 - More & more laws out there for models

NY's False Promises

#1: NY's Climate Plan Protects the Environment

#2: Giant Solar / Wind Projects Benefit Communities & the Economy

Energy Sprawl is Not Green

New Yorkers, Your Government is not telling you the truth!

False Promise #1: New York's Climate plan protects the environment

REALITY: Large-scale solar and wind will not solve the climate crisis. By relying on a massive buildout of underperforming, intermittent generation that consumes huge amounts of land, the state's unrealistic plan ensures that NY will continue burning fossil fuels—while sacrificing a million acres of farmland, woods, and open space to energy sprawl.

False Promise #2: Giant solar/wind projects benefit communities & the economy

REALITY: Affordable, abundant, and reliable energy is essential for economic growth. But with intermittent renewables, NY residents and businesses are in for higher electric rates, energy shortages, and blackouts. Answering to industry lobbyists, the state even created a reduced property valuation for renewable projects to rob communities of tax revenue.

False Promise #3: Large-scale solar/wind creates good, local jobs

REALITY: State agencies are awarding large-scale renewable contracts to foreign and out-of-state firms, sending billions of dollars out of NY and turning rural upstate into a "cash cow" for developers to milk. Installers of solar panels made in China make far less than skilled union workers employed in other energy industries.

False Promise #4: Towns still have "Home Rule"

REALITY: Towns are under attack by the Office of Renewable Energy Siting (ORES). Ex-Governor Andrew Cuomo's Executive Law 94-c grants ORES the authority to override local laws, despite guarantees of Home Rule in the state constitution.

THE UGLY CONCLUSION

Our state government is silencing local voices, stripping us of our rights, and sacrificing communities for a plan that won't work. Large-scale solar and wind exploit farmland and nature for downstate political agendas and corporate profit. Greenwashing at its worst.

HAD ENOUGH? WE HAVE! JOIN US.

We are a coalition of communities fighting to save rural New York from energy sprawl. Help us demand fair treatment and a voice in Albany. Tell us about yourself and any solar or wind threats in your community by e-mailing us at: stopenergysprawl@gmail.com

Together, we can save rural New York!



#StopEnergySprawl

NY's False Promises

#3: Large Scale Solar & Wind Create Good, Local Jobs

#4: Towns Still Have Home Rule

Stop Energy Sprawl



Our Objective:

Push back on the State's unrealistic energy plan,
Push to get Home Rule back, and
Put municipalities in the position to fend off large scale solar and wind projects

(so we protect our farmland, pastures, sacred lands, historic & cultural resources, woodlots, wetlands & waterbodies, and prevent harm to our environment and ecosystem)



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THANK YOU!

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