



Department  
of Public Service

# Energy Efficiency & Heat Pump Providers

## COVID-19 Input Session

March 27, 2020

# Process for Participation

- All participants will be muted by the Host;
- The Agenda is structured to provide opportunity for input on specific topics outlined in the letter. People will be asked to self-identify themselves in the following groups:
  - Vendors/contractors supporting programs;
  - Other Stakeholders/members of public;
  - Utilities/NYSERDA/LIPA/NYPA

# Process for Participation

- If you would like to make a comment, please “Raise Your Hand” through the WebEx feature. The Host will unmute people and call upon them to speak in the order in which they are received;



- Please introduce yourself and limit comments to ~ 2 minutes per response.

# Process for Participation

- The Q&A feature will be available during the WebEx for those who prefer to send in a written comment or in the event we run short on time. All comments entered through the Q&A feature will be captured and considered part of the record.
- Those participating solely through telephone are encouraged to send in written comments to the Department as instructed in the letter noticing this Input Session.

# Agenda

- I. Introduction
- II. Status of New York's Program
- III. Input on Workforce Impacts
- IV. Input on Program and Other Supports
  - A. Program modifications to continue progress
  - B. Steps to support businesses and workers
- V. Next Steps/Wrap up

# Introduction

- Efficiency and Building Electrification are critical components of the State's policy objectives;
- COVID-19 represents significant challenges
- Public health must be our #1 priority;
- Staff have been directed to identify actions that should be considered to maintain progress and position us well post COVID-19;
- Striving for effective communication and consistent guidance.

# Status of New York's Programs

- All program administrators have suspended on-premises work conducted by direct employees or those under direct contract to the program administrator;
- Program administrators have and continue to assess each program or initiative to identify activities that can be modified to continue progress during this period;
- Program administrators and Staff are in communications with each other to encourage cross communications and identify any areas where guidance provided or being developed may differ.

# Resources

- Governor Cuomo's Executive Order 202.8:  
<https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/no-2028-continuing-temporary-suspension-and-modification-laws-relating-disaster-emergency>
- Empire State Development has issued guidance on implementing the Executive Order and businesses designated as essential functions:  
<https://esd.ny.gov/guidance-executive-order-2026>
- New York State information on COVID-19:  
<https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/home>
- CDC guidelines in order to prevent COVID-19 from spreading:  
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/index.html>.
- New York State on PAUSE: <https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/new-york-state-pause>

# Opportunity for Input – Workforce Impacts

- a. How many employees are directly and indirectly involved in supporting program activities? How many employees are directly and indirectly involved in supporting program activities that have been suspended?
- b. What acute challenges are New York clean energy companies facing as a result of the COVID-19 crisis? How does this differ by sector and type?
- c. Please provide other data points that could be useful or that should be gathered on the impacts.

# Opportunity for Input – Program Support

- A. Program modifications and other actions to continue making progress during New York on PAUSE:
1. What types of services are occurring or could occur in a modified way during this period of no on-premises work? What can the State do to help program administrators modify work appropriately to facilitate social distancing?
  2. What new and alternative programs or activities can the State encourage during New York PAUSE? (e.g. virtual audits, thermal imaging, etc.)
    - i. Are there specific considerations for programs that serve Low-to Moderate-Income New Yorkers?

# Opportunity for Input – Program Support

3. What types of contractor trainings/on-boarding could occur during the New York PAUSE timeframe?

4. Marketing/Outreach – Should marketing/outreach continue during this phase to try to build pipeline of activity for future projects or are these resources best conserved? Is there evidence that marketing/outreach conducted now would materialize in projects given the uncertain economic conditions of residential/business owners?

# Opportunity for Input – Other Support

B. Steps to provide support to businesses and workers facing economic impacts:

1. What programmatic changes have been or could be instituted to support clean energy industry activity during this period?  
(ex. Modifications to project deadlines or, performance milestones, revisions to staged incentive payments etc.) What programmatic changes can be instituted most quickly? Which would be most impactful?
2. What specific types of short term and longer-term actions would be most helpful to maintain business viability?

# Next Steps

- Written comments are requested by Wednesday, April 1, 2020 to be filed in Case 18-M-0084.
- Input received will be synthesized and Staff will determine appropriate next steps.
- Communications will be sent through Case 18-M-0084 as well as through Program Administrators' channels.

# Thank You