

April 30, 2026

Dear Governor Hochul and Members of the New York State Legislature,

Over the past decade, New York has become a national leader in distributed solar. Since the state first set its 10-gigawatt-by-2030 goal in 2019, the industry has more than doubled—expanding from roughly 115,000 installations to nearly 270,000 today.¹ New York surpassed its 6-gigawatt 2025 interim target a full year early and at a cost lower than originally expected. More than 7.8 gigawatts of distributed solar are now online in New York, and the state is poised to far exceed its current 2030 mandate.

As business leaders who either are based in New York or employ New Yorkers across the state, we see firsthand how clean energy strengthens our economy. We represent diverse sectors—including solar, commercial real estate, finance, agriculture, construction, and advanced energy—and we strongly urge the State to adopt a new, more ambitious distributed solar goal of 20 gigawatts by 2035 by passing the Accelerate Solar for Affordable Power (ASAP) Act this legislative session.

At a moment when New York’s Climate Act faces headwinds, passing the ASAP Act is a decisive, pro-business step that will:

Create More Jobs. Solar already employs more than 16,100 New Yorkers, with job growth outpacing the state’s broader economy.² The New York Solar Energy Industries Association estimates the ASAP Act would support *an additional 15,000 solar jobs by 2035*, alongside new opportunities in energy storage and smart-grid technologies.

Lower Energy Costs. Solar is one of the lowest-cost sources of electricity in the country. A January 2026 Synapse Energy Economics report found that meeting higher distributed solar and storage targets could save New Yorkers \$1 billion annually by 2035, reducing costs for both residential and commercial customers while insulating them from fuel price volatility.³

Provide Greater Policy Certainty. New York’s distributed solar market has attracted more than \$15 billion in private investment. Yet rising development costs and grid interconnection constraints threaten progress. By combining a higher distributed solar target with more flexible grid interconnections and greater smart-grid controls, the ASAP Act gives businesses the certainty needed to continue investing and hiring in New York.

The ASAP Act will strengthen the state’s energy system, expand opportunity in every region, and keep New York competitive.

The Legislature has strongly supported the ASAP Act, with the Senate successfully passing it in a floor vote. Now, we urge you to pass the ASAP Act and adopt a new 20-gigawatt distributed solar goal by 2035.

Sources:

1. [Statewide Distributed Solar Projects](#)
2. [New York Clean Energy Industry Report](#)
3. [Sunlight and Storage into Savings](#)

Respectfully,

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