

**NY State Energy Plan Scope
Comments from the Regional Plan Association Staff**

Comments from Petra Todorovich, Director of America 2050 regarding Transportation:

Transportation. Examine the impacts and issues related to improved efficiency, utilization, expansion, and modernization of the existing system (highway, transit, rail, and other transportation modes). Assess the impacts of maintaining a state of good repair. Evaluate alternative fuel and hybrid vehicle technologies. Discuss the effect of increased electrification of the transportation system (single passenger vehicles, fleet vehicles, public transit, and high-speed rail) on electricity demand and supply. Discuss the infrastructure required to charge vehicles. Explore the State's role in potential initiatives to encourage electric vehicles and the options for funding such efforts. Explore funding options for transportation-related energy efficiency and greenhouse gas reduction mechanisms. Identify cost-effective strategies, including technological and demand management, to reduce energy consumption, vehicle-miles-traveled, and increase transit, high-speed rail, and smart growth efforts in the transportation sector. Discuss continued integration and alignment of the State's transportation policy with the State's energy and economic development goals.

Comments from Hope Cohen, Associate Director of the Center for Urban Innovation, regarding Section IX on local, regional and federal action and collaboration:

Section IX of the draft scope for the New York State Energy Plan outlines issues of local, regional, and federal action and collaboration in the arenas of energy and climate. Beyond examining "current and proposed local, regional, and federal energy and climate policies and programs and their impacts on achieving the State's energy goals," this section of the Plan should analyze the interaction—overlap and even contradiction—among policies and programs at the different levels of government and among neighboring jurisdictions. The Plan should specifically identify all the tax schemata in these arenas as well—their purposes (incentive, disincentive, revenue generation) and interactions.

The draft scope mentions certain regulatory issues ("siting issues, permit processes, and grid interconnection standards") in Section II (Meeting the State's Energy Needs and Goals with Energy Efficiency and Renewable Resources). Regulatory structures impact a wide range of energy issues and should not be limited to discussion of renewable resources.

Finally, Plan documents should be clear that use of the term "climate" in relation to these policies, programs, and tax schemata applies specifically to energy-related climate impacts.

Comments from Nicolas Ronderos, Director of Economic and Community Development, regarding economic development:

Economic Development

The proposed scope for economic development part of the goal to grow New York's clean energy economy strikes the right balance between (1) assessing current core competencies in energy and exploring how these can be used to develop and energy economy and (2) assessing existing

economic development policy in the state and exploring how policy changes can promote economic growth. By acknowledging the State's strengths in clean energy and how these can be used, and by auditing the current economic development policies and other government actions to promote growth the proposed Energy Plan scope will address the most pressing issues for a concerted effort to leverage new clean energy for development.

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