The Energy-Related Priorities of the 2011 Regional Economic Development Councils’ Strategic Plans

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Deputy Secretary of State
Department of State

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Regional Economic Development Councils

- Create community-driven plans for long-term sustainable economic growth
- Coordinate public & private economic development efforts across the region
- Guide and direct state actions to support economic development
Regional Council Membership

- Lt. Gov. Robert Duffy, Chairman
- 2 Vice Chairs (Academic & Industry)
- Others representing:
  - Business
  - Agriculture
  - Labor & Trade Organizations
  - Local Government
  - Higher Education
  - Non-profit & Community-Based Organizations
- Legislators serve as ex officio members
Regional Leadership teams included:

- ESD Regional Directors
- DOS Strategic Planners
- DOL Regional Representatives
- Facilitators provided by DOL and other agencies

Agency Resource Team Members:

- NYSERDA
e- EFC
- Adirondack Park Agency
- Ag & Markets
- DEC
- Tug Hill Commission
- OPRHP
- DOH
- Hudson River Valley Greenway
- HCR
- DOT
- Port Authority of NY & NJ
- SUNY
- NYPA
- Palisades Interstate Parks Commission
- MTA
- LIPA
- NYS

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### 2011 Focus: Developing Strategic Plans

#### Regional Council

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meeting Milestones</th>
<th>December</th>
<th>Jan - Feb - March</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Operationalize Implementation</td>
<td>Review &amp; Adjust Initial Strategic Plan</td>
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<td>Establish Strategic Plan and Approve Regional Strategic Plan</td>
<td>Take Next Steps to Advance the Plan</td>
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<td>Establish Organizational Structure and Operationalize the Plan</td>
<td>Review Status of Projects and Actions, and Adjust Strategies as Needed</td>
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<td>Obtain Public &amp; Private Commitments for Action</td>
<td>Monitor Actions</td>
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<td>Implement and Monitor Plan &amp; Develop New Strategic Projects and Actions</td>
<td>Regional Strategic Plan Implementation Agenda</td>
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<td>Implementation Agenda Reports from Work Groups</td>
<td>Continue Public and Stakeholder Engagement Through Council Web Site, in Workshops, and Public Forums and Other Means</td>
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#### Regional Council Meetings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Meeting</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8/3/11</td>
<td></td>
<td>Regional Economic Development Council Strategic Planning Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>8/16/14</td>
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<td>Regional Economic Development Council Strategic Planning Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/6/14</td>
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<td>9/26/10/5</td>
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<td>10/18/26</td>
<td></td>
<td>Regional Economic Development Council Strategic Planning Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>11/1/11</td>
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<td>Regional Economic Development Council Strategic Planning Meeting</td>
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#### Regional Council Actions

- **Identify Critical Issues & Opportunities and Form Work Groups**
- **Develop Regional Vision Statement and Identify Principal Regional Economic Drivers & Opportunities**
- **Develop Strategies and Approve Priority Project Criteria & CFA Evaluation Standards**
- **Identify Strategic Actions, Policies, and Projects and Adopt Performance Measures**
- **Review Draft Regional Strategic Plan and Implementation Agenda**
- **Approve Draft Regional Strategic Plan and Evaluation Results of the CFA Applications**

#### Work Groups

- **Form Initial Work Groups**
- **Work Groups Continue to Work, Review Data, and Report Back New Groups Formed as Needed**

#### Information for Consideration

- **Survey, Regional Snapshots, Guidebook, and Manual**
- **Work Group Reports, and Existing Reports, and Manual**
- **Work Group Reports, Public Input, and Manual**
- **Draft Strategies, Priority Project Criteria, and Manual**
- **Actions, Policies & Projects**
- **Revised Strategic Plan & Application Evaluations**

#### Stakeholder and Public Engagement

- **Council Discusses Strategy**
- **Hold at least one Public Forum & Input Received Online, Through Work Groups, and Other Means**
- **Public Forum, Online, Work Group, and Other Public Comments**
- **Online & Work Group Comments**

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*Open for Business*
Strategic Economic Development Plans

Established Priorities for Leveraging Investment, Attracting Business, & Creating Jobs

Strong Plans:

- Identified Strategies
- Laid Out Priority Projects & Other Actions to Implement Strategies
- Created Multi-Year Implementation Agendas
- Established Performance Measures

Plans with Energy as a High-Level Focus:

- Western NY
- Central NY
- North Country
- Finger Lakes
- Southern Tier
- New York City
2012 CFA Round

Executive Budget Proposal:
- $130 million in Capital Funding from the NY Works Initiative
- $70 million in Tax Credits from the Excelsior Jobs Program

Other resources from a wide range of existing agency programs
Regional Councils will set priorities and begin implementing their strategies.

State Agencies will align programs to assist Regional Councils with implementation.
Regional Council Energy Strategies: Themes

- Commercializing Research
- Developing the Energy Workforce
- Energy Efficiency
- Providing Clean & Renewable Energy
- Energy Costs and Reform
The State Energy Plan is addressing areas that are consistent with the Councils’ energy themes:

- Harnessing the clean energy economy as an engine for growth in the State
- Assessing the ability of renewable energy resources and energy efficiency to meet some of the State’s energy needs
- Identifying costs and regulatory challenges associated with energy development

Progress being made by other State programs (e.g., Green Jobs Green New York)
Nearly all of the Plans recognize a need to:

- Assist in moving emerging technologies into the marketplace through supporting research and development
- Provide early stage business development assistance and networking opportunities
- Support clean energy technology innovation and incubators.
Developing the Energy Workforce

Many Plans identified the need for a coordinated education and workforce development campaign to:

- Interest students in and prepare them for clean energy careers.
- Train undertrained workers for energy efficiency and renewable energy installation careers.

Source: The Record
Energy Efficiency

All Plans called for energy efficiency efforts, ranging from homes, to businesses, to farms, to transportation systems.

Other Plans suggested prioritization of areas or districts for State incentives and subsidies based on energy efficiency.
All Plans called for renewable energy increases.

Other Plans suggested:

- Increased renewable energy generation in the State, including distributed generation resources, along with infrastructure upgrades and expansions.
- Alignment of agricultural resources and the energy sector including support for projects that advanced the biomass energy industry.
Many Plans identified the need to reduce energy costs, in particular for businesses, where low, predictable energy costs can help businesses plan for the future, remain competitive and even expand their operations.

Other Plans:

- Referenced NYPA’s Recharge New York program which provides allocations of discount power to companies across the State in order to keep companies and jobs in the State
- Called for the State to develop innovative financial products that leverage private investment in energy efficiency upgrades
Key Recommendations

- Identify specific areas of the SEP that are addressing clear priorities of the Council Plans
- Provide opportunities for regional flexibility and recognize unique regional attributes and opportunities across the state
- Acknowledge the inherent tension between new programs and energy cost
- Create a pathway between the Regional Councils and State Energy Planning Board
Questions?

More Information:
NYWorks.ny.gov