

March 20, 2026

The Honorable Kathy Hochul  
Governor of New York  
New York State Capitol Building  
Albany, NY, 12224

**Deliver on Affordability: Include the Accelerate Solar for Affordable Power (ASAP) Act in the FY2027 Budget**

Governor Hochul,

We write to share our perspective as organizations committed to strengthening New York's clean-energy economy and expanding access to affordable, reliable power. As conversations continue in Albany about the State's long-term climate and energy framework, we believe it is important to approach any discussion with care, clarity, and a focus on what is working for New Yorkers.

We are concerned by emerging conversations that contemplate weakening elements of New York's climate and clean-energy commitments. These discussions have generated widespread uncertainty among stakeholders, including New York's 18,688+ solar workforce, about the State's energy policies. New York's commitments have always been grounded in the understanding that affordability, reliability, and clean-energy advancement must move forward together, and it is vital that any statewide dialogue reinforce the programs that deliver these benefits for New Yorkers.

In that spirit, we believe this moment demands a renewed commitment to the clean-energy strategies that are delivering the strongest results for New Yorkers. Distributed solar is not a theoretical solution—it is among the State's most effective tools for driving down electricity costs, strengthening grid reliability, and giving consumers real control over their energy bills. New York should be scaling up these successes, not risking setbacks.

The Accelerate Solar for Affordable Power (ASAP) Act builds on New York's clean energy success story, doubling down on distributed solar to lower utility bills and to deliver progress toward New York's recently adopted State Energy Plan. A [January 2026 analysis by Synapse Energy Economics](#) found that deploying 20 gigawatts of rooftop and community solar—as prescribed in the ASAP Act—and meeting the State's energy-storage goals would save New Yorkers \$1 billion every year in avoided energy costs; savings that flow to all ratepayers through lower wholesale electricity prices. These utility bill savings will benefit New Yorkers all across the State, and they are in addition to the hundreds of millions of dollars in annual direct bill reductions for solar and storage customers.

In addition to affordability, distributed solar and energy storage provide a critical layer of energy stability at a time when global conditions have made energy markets increasingly unpredictable. Volatile international fuel prices continue to influence the cost of electricity here at home, often in ways outside New Yorkers' control. Renewable resources, by contrast, are powered by sources that no foreign adversary can manipulate and no conflict can shut off. Expanding local clean-energy resources reduces exposure to global fossil-fuel price swings and builds a more resilient, self-reliant energy system for communities across the state. This added stability is especially important for households and small businesses already facing high utility bills. Reducing reliance on imported fuels and increasing the share of energy generated locally—on rooftops, commercial buildings, and community-based projects—creates predictable, long-term cost savings that shield New Yorkers from external shocks. Distributed solar and storage are not only affordability tools; they are also safeguards against the volatility that has long contributed to sudden bill spikes and energy insecurity.

As these conversations continue, it is essential for New York to prioritize the strategies that protect consumers, strengthen local resilience, and secure long-term economic opportunity. The solutions that work are already in front of us, we just need to embrace them. We urge you to support the inclusion of the ASAP Act in the Final FY2027 Budget to reinforce and expand the clean-energy programs that lower utility bills, create and sustain good local jobs, and power New York's economy. By doing so, New York can continue to lead with a model that meets this moment—and ensures a more reliable, more affordable, and more self-reliant energy future for all New Yorkers.







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