



WESTERN NEW YORK ENERGY SYMPOSIUM

Presented By:



NYSERDA
New York State Energy Research
and Development Authority

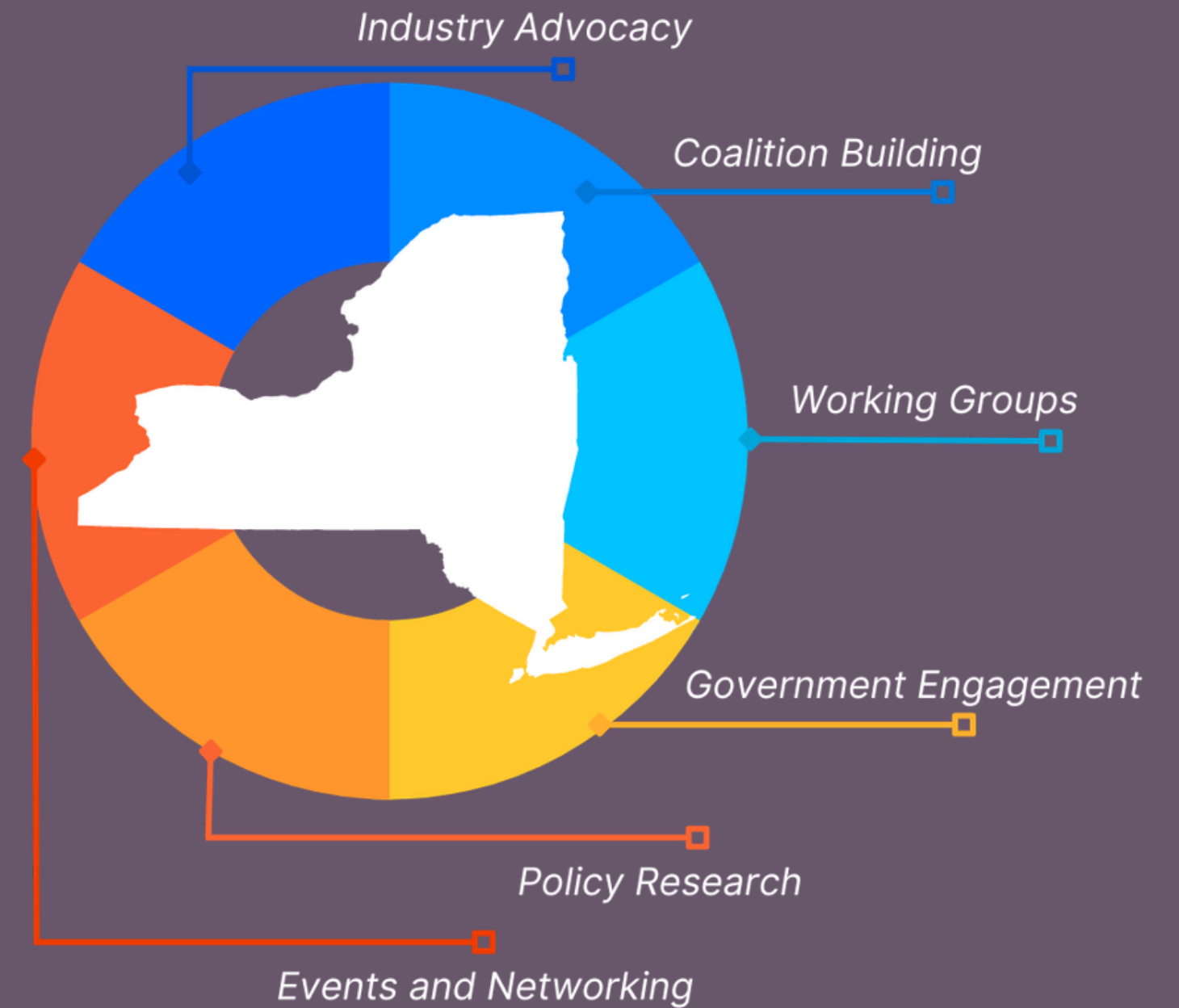
Western New York Industry Briefing

August 27, 2026

About NYSEIA

NYSEIA is an industry trade association dedicated to advancing distributed solar and energy storage deployment across New York State. We address barriers to deployment and grow the addressable market through legislative and regulatory advocacy, public education, and capacity building for member companies.

Join us for a strategic edge and to support the long-term success of the largest distributed energy market in the Northeast!



Learn more!
www.nyseia.org



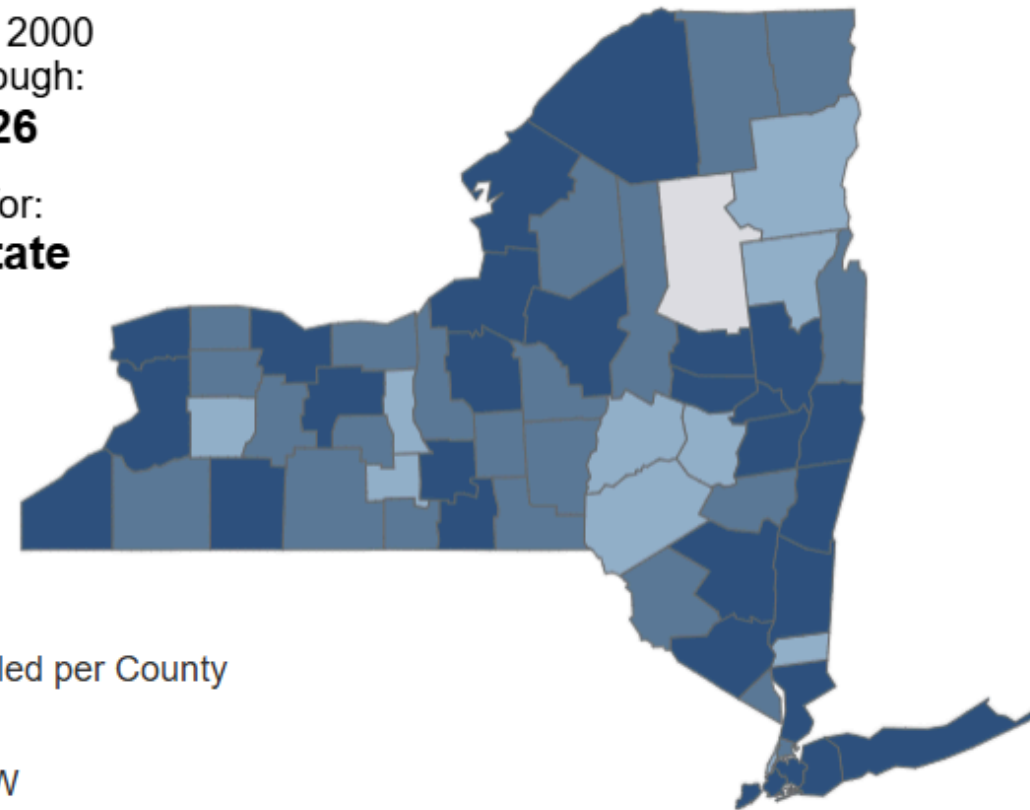
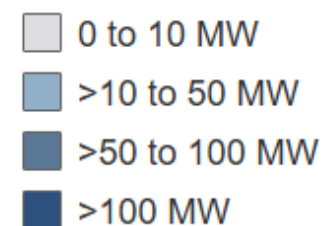
Distributed Solar in New York

In 2024 and 2025, New York deployed more than 1 gigawatt of distributed solar annually, with the majority of capacity additions from community solar. Today, we have more than 8 GWdc of distributed solar operational.

Data beginning 2000
and current through:
June 30, 2026

Showing Data for:
New York State

Megawatts installed per County



Total Capacity (MW DC)

8,135 MW

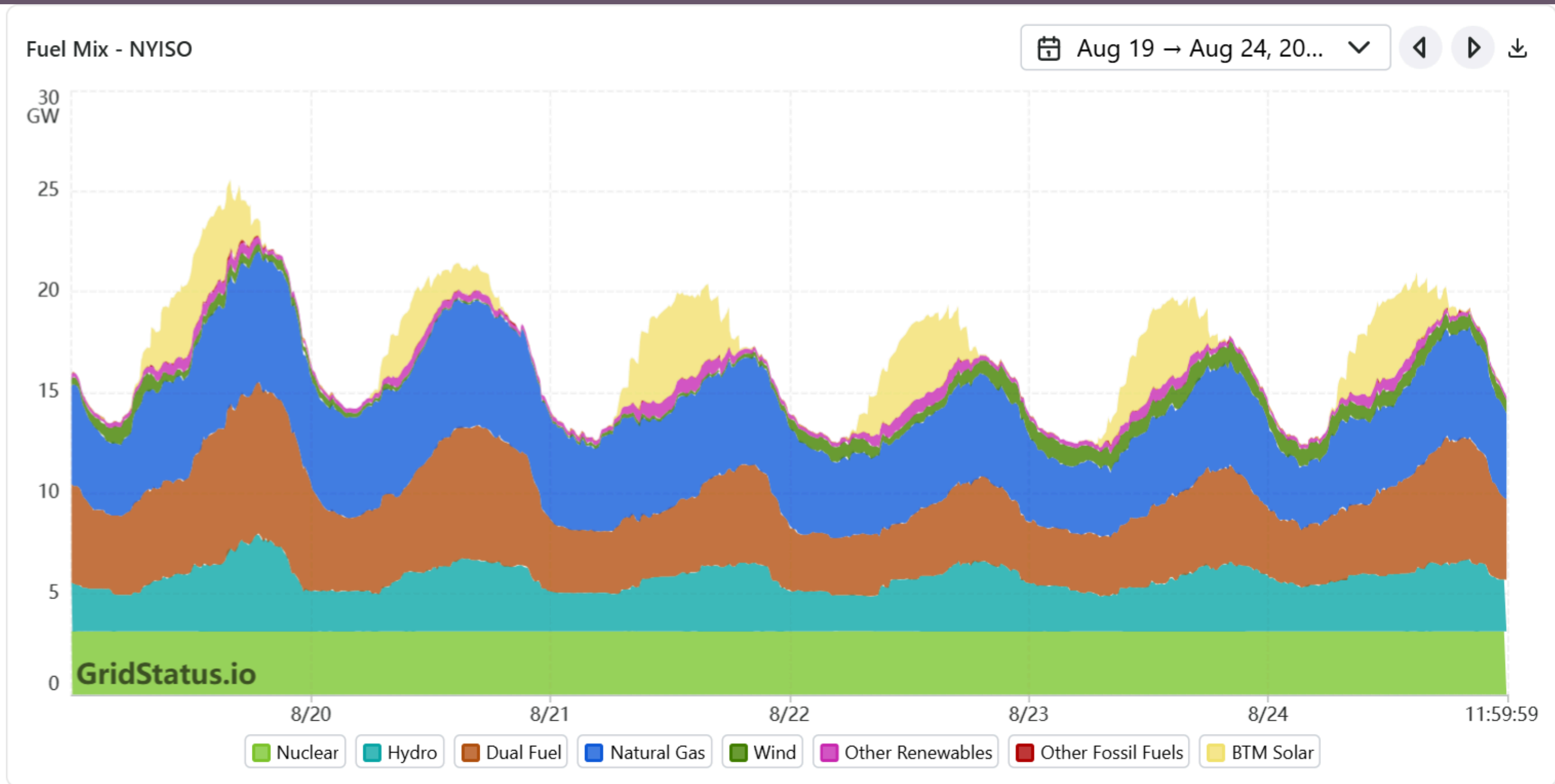
Number of Projects

277,327

Data Sources: NYS DPS, NYISO. Click icon for more info 

Source: NYSERDA. August 2026.

Solar Delivers Peak Power in NY



Source: Grid Status. Underlying data from NYISO. August 2026.



Western New York's Distributed Energy Industry

Total Solar Capacity (MW DC): **1,131 MWdc**
Total Number of Solar Projects: **12,508**

Total Storage Capacity (MW DC): **14.8 MW**
Total Number of Storage Projects: **321**

Source: National Grid and Avangrid SIR Inventory. NYISO Zones A and B Only. Data as of 6/30/2026.

JANUARY 2026



SUNLIGHT AND STORAGE INTO SAVINGS

Evaluating Energy Cost Savings from Distributed Solar and Storage
Additions in New York

Prepared by
Synapse Energy Economics

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Prepared for
**Coalition for Community Solar Access
(CCSA)**

Unlocking a billion-dollar energy affordability opportunity for New York.

\$1 Billion per year in avoided energy costs

*From scaling rooftop and community solar to 20GW by 2035 and
meeting New York's Energy Storage targets*

- Savings flow to all ratepayers, not just solar or storage customers
 - \$542M upstate, \$481M downstate
- In addition to hundreds of millions in direct bill savings for customers with solar and batteries
- Results in \$947 million in avoided carbon emission costs



Federal Policy Reset: What It Means for New York

THE RULES CHANGED IN 2026



Residential Solar Shift

Residential solar officially lost the 25D tax credit, resulting in a tough start to the year for residential installers and a shift toward third-party ownership to capture the federal commercial ITC.



Commercial Solar Race to the Finish Line

Commercial projects are accelerating development timelines to meet strict federal compliance deadlines.



C&I Shift to Energy Storage

Commercial solar developers are increasingly focusing on energy storage, which continues to enjoy federal support for the next decade.



Cost Reduction Imperative

Soft cost reduction, system optimization, and efficiency gains are now more vital than ever.



Historic NY-Sun Funding Creates New Opportunities

This year, our industry secured a major victory in the FY2027 State Budget.

The enacted budget includes a **\$200 million investment in NYSERDA's NY-Sun program.**

This marks the **first taxpayer-funded investment in NY-Sun's history.** For nearly two decades, the program has been funded through System Benefits Charge (SBC) collections rather than state budget appropriations.

This investment strengthens the long-term outlook for solar deployment across New York, supporting continued growth in residential, commercial, and community solar markets.

What This Means For Western NY

- ✓ Additional support for regional solar deployment
- ✓ Opportunity across all major market segments
- ✓ Program design will influence regional investment levels



New York State Legislative Updates

The Legislature Also Took Action to Address Interconnection Costs

The budget included key interconnection reforms from the ASAP Act, including:

- Flexible Interconnection
- Proactive Planning for Distributed Energy Resources (DERs)
- Greater Cost Transparency to Reduce Solar + Storage Costs

These reforms will help lower costs, reduce delays, and support broader deployment of solar and storage across New York.

NYSEIA is actively working with state agencies and utilities to ensure successful implementation and maximize the benefits for customers and the industry.

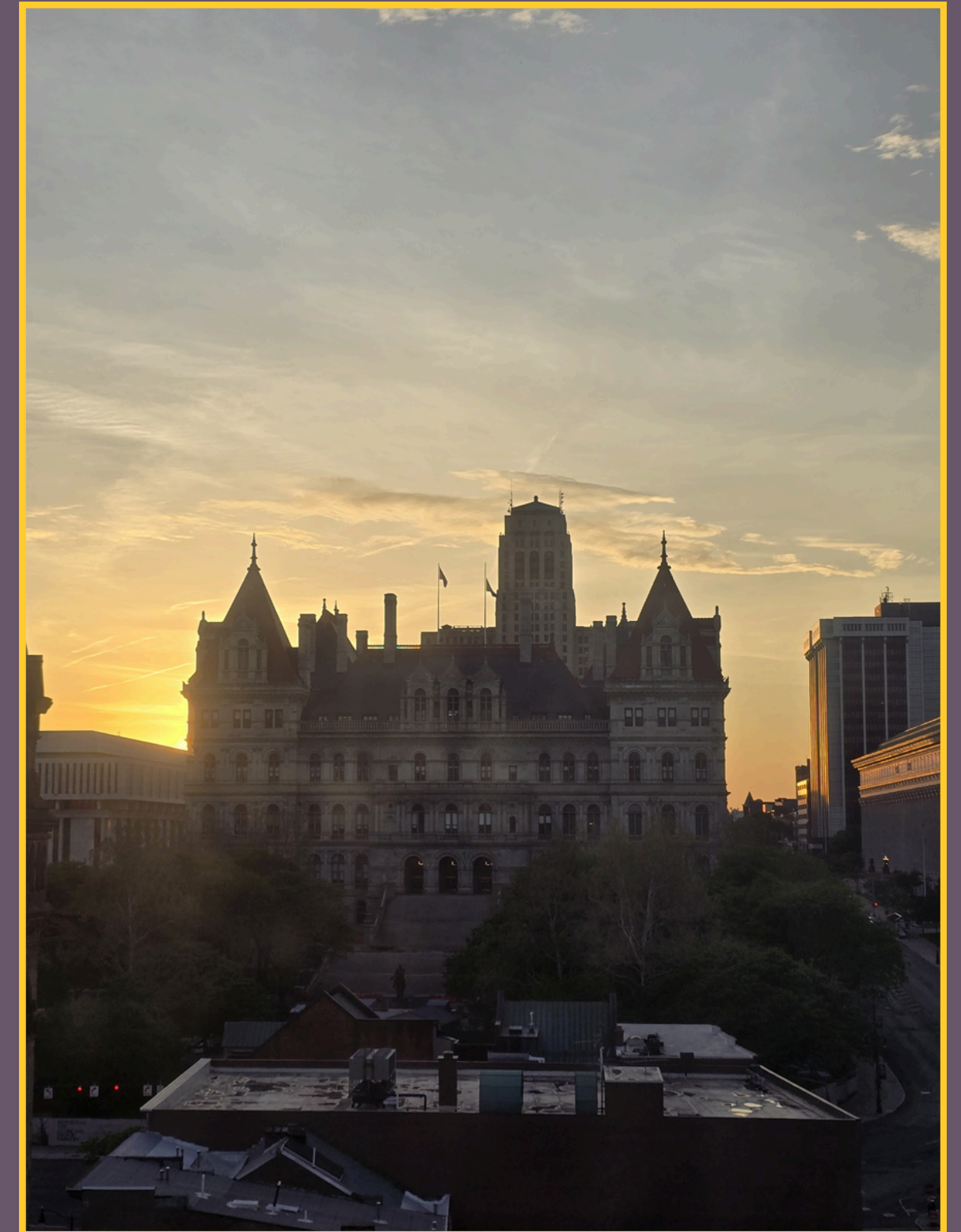


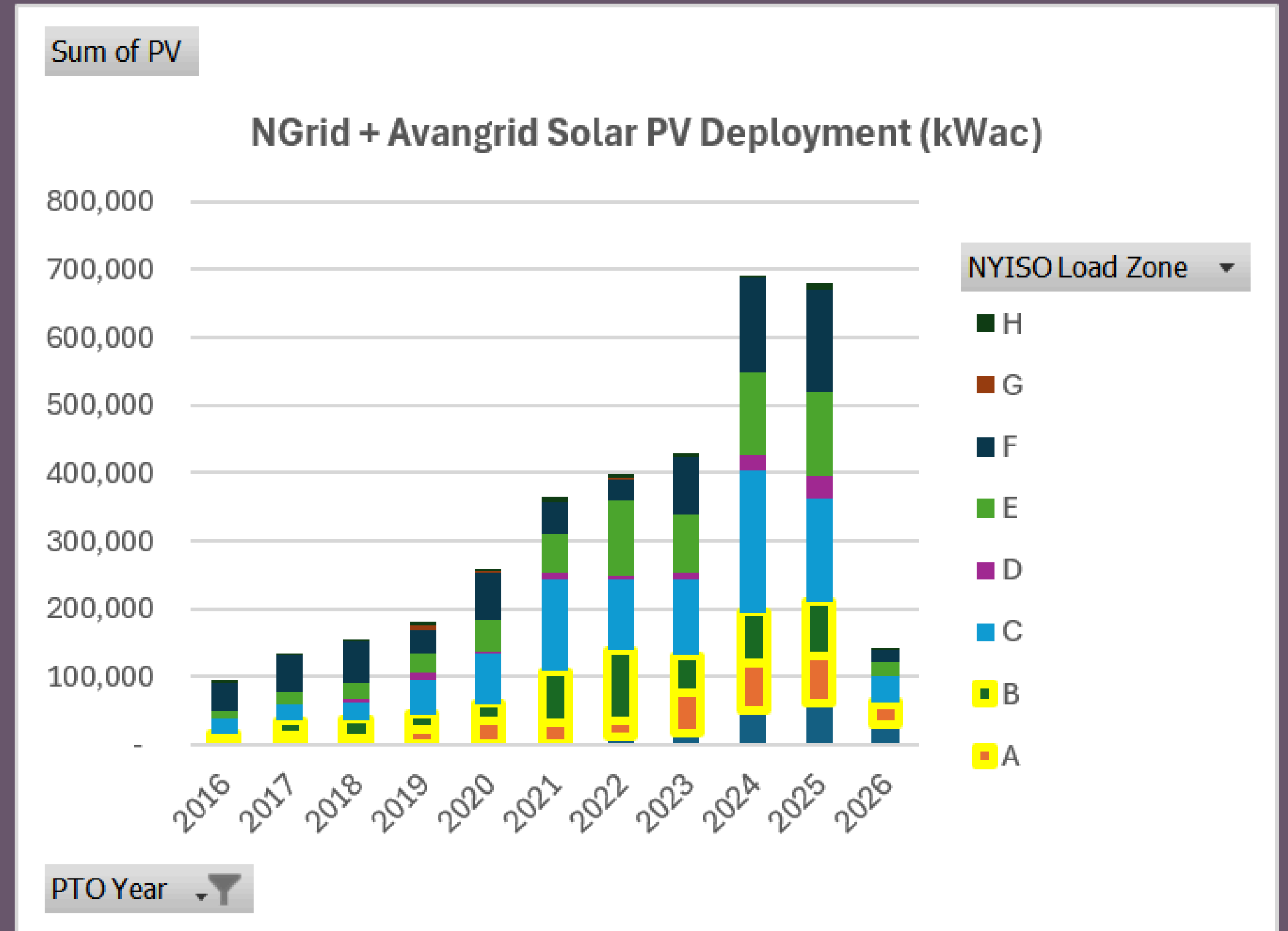
Photo Credit: NYSEIA

Western NY Solar Market Snapshot: Deployment

Strong deployment in 2024 and 2025 drove significant capacity additions across Upstate NY.

Deployment in Western NY (Zones A and B) followed the broader Upstate NY trend.

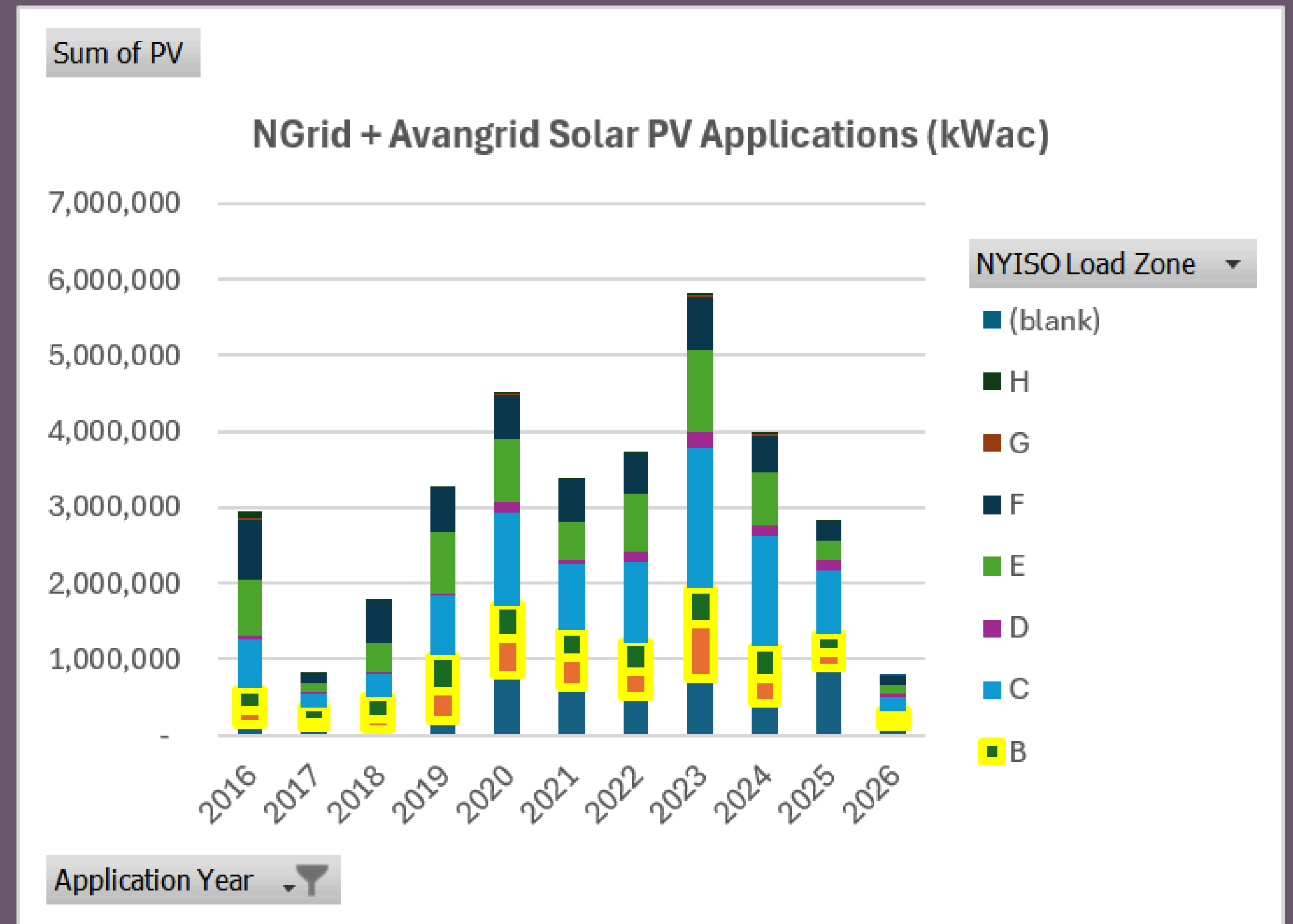
Most capacity additions were driven by community solar.



Western NY Solar Market Snapshot: Development

Early-stage solar development has declined since 2023 due to rising utility interconnection costs, declining incentives and stagnant VDER compensation rates.

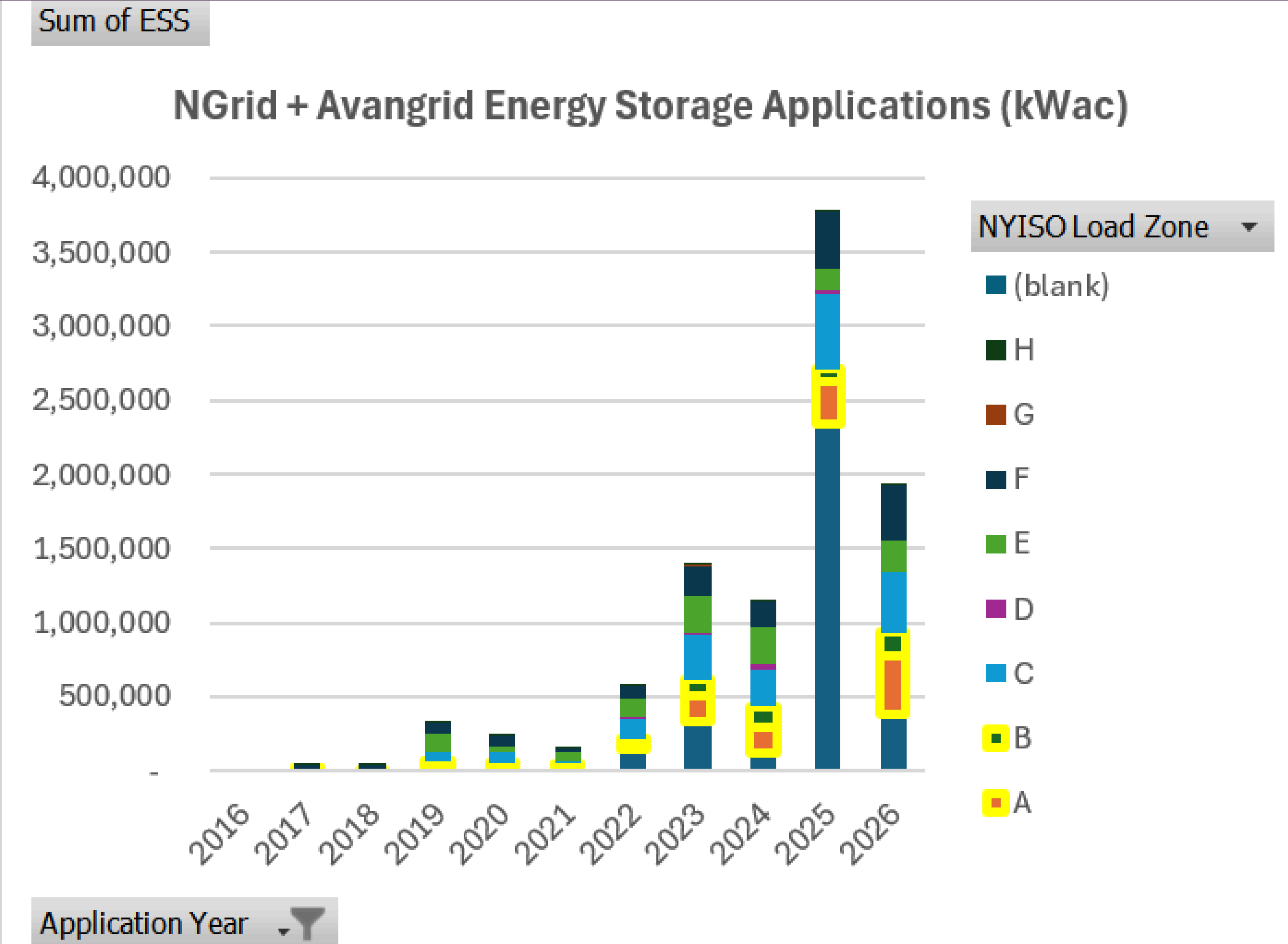
Federal policy headwinds threaten to impede new solar development.



Western NY BESS Market Snapshot: Development

Early-stage energy storage development has accelerated in recent years, driven by federal and state incentives and rising capacity prices.

Moratoria are a key barrier to deployment across Western NY and other regions.



What We're Focused On Now



Sustaining NY-Sun's Momentum

Ensuring the state's new NY-Sun investment drives continued growth, customer savings, and economic development across Western New York.



Creating a More Predictable Siting Environment

Advancing policies that help host communities share more directly in the economic benefits of community solar and energy storage while preserving local decision-making authority.



Implementing ASAP Act Interconnection Reforms

Working at the Public Service Commission to implement flexible interconnection, proactive grid planning, and greater cost transparency to reduce project delays and costs.



Modernizing Distributed Energy Compensation

Urging the Public Service Commission to adopt updated Demand Reduction Value (DRV) rates for the first time in a decade, improving solar and energy storage project economics.





Thank You!

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