



Empowering Communities, Advocating Solutions.

## MEMORANDUM OF SUPPORT

### *RETAINING NET METERING AND RESTORING SOLAR CERTAINTY*

**A.10474 – Englebright**

**S. 8273 – Griffo**

**AN ACT** to amend the public service law, in relation to rate schedules for net energy metering; and directing the Long Island power authority to adopt a methodology for the establishment of a value of distributed energy resources crediting mechanism

#### **JUSTIFICATION**

New York State has made significant progress in solar energy development in the past several years, aided significantly by net metering laws. Net metering has played an important role in advancing solar energy by providing developers and ratepayers with a predictable and stable source of compensation for excess energy produced by qualified renewable energy systems.

The Public Service Commission (PSC) and Long Island Power Authority (LIPA) have recently decided to move away from net metering, and instead implement a different compensation system known as the Value of Distributed Energy Resources (VDER). The transition from net metering has discouraged solar development and undervalued environmental, distribution, and transmission system benefits. Solar developers have indicated that the disruption and complexity is causing them to pull back investment and shift their focus to neighboring states, threatening New York's 12,000+ solar jobs.

New York State has set goals of producing 50% of our electricity from renewable resources by 2030, and reducing greenhouse gas emissions 40% by 2030. To reach these important goals, New York must work aggressively to develop renewable energy, including large scale solar and community solar projects. *This legislation will restore certainty to solar markets by establishing a 3 year moratorium on VDER and maintaining net metering until 2021.*

#### **SUMMARY OF KEY PROVISIONS**

- Directs the PSC and LIPA to retain net metering for eligible customer classes until December 31, 2021 (allows projects to opt-in to VDER compensation mechanism)
- Amends the definition of customer-generators to include residential and non-residential customers eligible to receive credits from remote net-metered and community distributed generation equipment, and raises the net metering cap
- Directs the PSC and LIPA to establish a new compensation mechanism for distributed energy resources, i.e. a revamped VDER tariff, by June 13, 2021, and provides guidelines to ensure meaningful public and stakeholder participation in the process

#### **CITIZENS CAMPAIGN FOR THE ENVIRONMENT SUPPORTS**

**(A.10474 / S. 8273)**

*Citizens Campaign for the Environment is an 80,000 member non-profit, non-partisan advocacy organization that works to empower communities and advocate solutions that protect public health and the environment.*