

Summary for Policy Makers Public Input

[2025 State Energy Plan](#) Pending Board Decision Accessed December 14, 2025

The Energy Planning Board recognizes the value of public engagement and input to inform the development of the State Energy Plan. In addition to holding ten public Board meetings from September 2024 through December 2025, the Board solicited feedback on both a Draft Scope outlining the issues to be addressed in the Plan and on the Draft Plan itself.

The Board solicited written public comment on the Draft Scope from September 9, 2024 to December 16, 2024 and received 86 comments from organizations and over 1,800 comments from individuals (93% of which came through three comment campaigns). Organizations included environmental organizations, utilities and energy companies, labor unions, trade associations, business and real estate groups, elected officials, and community-based organizations (CBOs). Comments offered a broad range of issues, policies, and positions, consistent with the topic areas included in the Draft Scope. Comments were reviewed and incorporated into the final Scope, as adopted by the Board in March 2025, in the form of greater detail and additional or refined issues for consideration.

As agency staff developed the Draft Plan, they periodically presented interim findings and sought direction from the Energy Planning Board at public Board meetings. Board members also considered presentations from agency and external speakers on topics related to the Plan such as energy system reliability and the needs of different energy users (e.g., low- and moderate-income [LMI] households, multifamily housing, large energy users, and vehicles).

In July 2025, the Board approved the release of the Draft Plan for public comment. The Board solicited public input on the Draft Plan from July 23, 2025 to October 6, 2025 through seven in-person and three virtual public hearings, written comment, focused engagement with CBOs and other entities working in or representing disadvantaged communities, and meetings with Indigenous Nations.⁹ Board members and agency staff also presented on the Draft Plan and promoted opportunities to comment on it through traditional and social media as well as at a wide range of events and other forums (e.g., industry conferences, the Great New York State Fair, Regional Clean Energy Hub convenings, and podcasts). To increase the accessibility of the information presented in the Draft Plan, six fact sheets on key Draft Plan topics were made available in multiple languages, distributed online and at public hearings.¹⁰

The Board experienced strong turnout at its ten public hearings on the Draft Plan, with around 1,000 people attending, nearly 450 of whom commented. To reach as many New Yorkers as possible, the Board exceeded the statutorily required six public hearings and designed a schedule to accommodate the diverse lives of New Yorkers. The Board offered in-person and virtual hearings, midday and evening hearing times on weekdays, and one weekend hearing (added in response to input on the schedule). Hearing venues were chosen for their accessibility and located across multiple regions of the state.¹¹ The Board received nearly 15,000 written comments on the Draft Plan, with over 250 from organizations and the balance from individuals (80% of which were through 13 comment campaigns).

¹⁰ Fact sheets for the New York State Energy Plan are available in English, Bengali, Chinese (Simplified and Traditional), Haitian, Korean, Russian, Spanish, and Yiddish.

¹¹ Public hearings were held in cities across the State: Buffalo, Rochester, Albany, Poughkeepsie, New York City (Brooklyn and the Bronx), and Stony Brook.

Similar to feedback on the Draft Scope, a diverse set of stakeholders commented on the Draft Plan across verbal and written comments, with especially strong organizational participation from environmental organizations and their members, utilities and energy companies, labor unions and their members, elected officials, and trade and business organizations. A thematic summary of public comments was discussed at the November 2025 meeting of the Energy Planning Board.¹²

Public input from the above sources was carefully reviewed and considered in the development of the final Plan. The State Energy Planning Board and agency staff deeply appreciate the public's participation in New York State's energy planning process and recognize the time New Yorkers spent traveling to and taking part in public hearings, drafting written comments, organizing comment campaigns, and otherwise participating. This feedback was important to inform the final Plan and the Board encourages continued public engagement for future Plan updates.

¹² New York State Agency Staff, "Summary of Public Comments on the Draft State Energy Plan," (presented to the State Energy Planning Board, Albany, NY, November 13, 2025).