

RORY M. CHRISTIAN Chief Executive Officer

ZERYAI HAGOS ORES Executive Director

FACT SHEET: THE RAPID ACT & NEW ENERGY PROJECT APPROVALS:

New York is modernizing how large-scale renewable energy and major electric transmission projects are approved. The RAPID Act streamlines the process while protecting local input and the environment.

What is the RAPID Act?

- The Renewable Action through Project Interconnection and Deployment (RAPID) Act was passed in April 2024 to streamline permitting for major renewable energy and electric transmission projects.
- It replaces Executive Law § 94-c with Public Service Law Article VIII, giving ORES (the Office of Renewable Energy Siting and Electric Transmission) responsibility for project approvals.
- The RAPID Act consolidates environmental review and permitting of major renewable energy facilities under ORES, establishes predictable regulatory timelines, and expands approvals to include major electric transmission projects.
- Supports New York's clean energy goals, ensuring 70% renewable electricity by 2030.

What Projects Are Affected?

- Major renewable energy projects (25 megawatts or larger) must obtain a siting permit from ORES.
- Major electric transmission projects (typically 100 kV or more, extending 10+ miles) will follow the new approval process.
- Existing projects under PSL Articles VII or 10 can stay in those processes or choose to transition to the new Article VIII permitting process.

How the New Process Works:

The proposed regulations include three parts: the General Procedures (Part 1100), which apply to all ORES projects, and regulations specific to generation (Part 1101) and transmission (Part 1102) facilities.

- **Step 1:** Local governments provide input on project compliance.
- Step 2: Developer applies for a siting permit from ORES.
- Step 3: ORES reviews for completeness (within 60 days).
- Step 4: The public comment period opens for feedback.
- Step 5: ORES issues a final decision within 1 year (or 6 months for repurposed sites).

What This Means for You

- Residents: Learn how these projects affect your community.
- Local Officials: Ensure projects comply with local laws.
- Energy Developers: Navigate the new permitting process.
- Environmental & Community Advocates: Share feedback about regulatory improvements.

ORES Regulatory Documents: Scan to Learn More





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FACT SHEET: HOW TO GET INVOLVED & PROVIDE PUBLIC INPUT:

Public hearings and written comments are your chance to provide input on New York's new energy project rules. Here's how you can participate.

Why is ORES seeking Public Input?

- ORES is seeking public input on new rules for permitting renewable energy and transmission projects.
- These hearings provide ORES an opportunity to listen to your comments.
- There will be no live discussion or Q&A.
- For those who cannot attend or prefer not to comment at the public statement hearings, written comments may be **submitted by April 18, 2025**.

WAYS TO PROVIDE COMMENTS:

Attend a Public Hearing

- **20 in-person hearings + 2 virtual hearings** across New York State from February 18, 2025, to March 11, 2025.
- **Public Comment Hearing Schedule:** Scan the QR Code on the right to find a location near you or join a hearing by phone.





Submit Comments Online

- Visit: <u>www.dps.ny.gov</u> or scan the QR Code on the left
- Click "Commission Files," then click "File Search"
- Search for Case Number: 24-M-0433
- Click "Post Comments" to submit your feedback

Mail a Written Comment

• Send letters to:

Office of Renewable Energy Siting and Electric Transmission Empire State Plaza, P-1 South, J Dock Albany, NY 12242

- Reference Case Number: 24-M-0433 in your letter.
- Postmark comments by April 18, 2025.

Questions About This Hearing

• If you have any general questions about the rulemaking process, submitting comments, or accessing materials, please contact RAPID@dps.ny.gov