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## **185 HOME & BUSINESS OWNERS GO SOLAR IN MID-HUDSON VALLEY, INSTALL 1500.86 KW OF CLEAN ENERGY IN 2015**

### ***NYS' INVESTMENTS IN SOLAR STATEWIDE DRIVE STATE'S CLEAN ENERGY GOALS, SAVE CONSUMERS MONEY & CREATE JOBS***

(CAMPAIGN BASE, NY)—In 2015, Solarize Hudson Valley made going solar simpler and more affordable in communities across the Mid-Hudson Valley. 185 home and small business owners in Kingston, Woodstock, Rosendale, Beacon, Goshen and Warwick are in the process of going solar or have already installed solar panels, to the tune of 1500.86 kilowatts, or 1.5 megawatts.

Solarize Hudson Valley campaigns in the Mid-Hudson Valley are part of a nonprofit state-supported solar education and group-purchasing program helping community residents and small business owners learn if their homes and buildings are a fit for solar electricity, identify options for purchasing or leasing, and installing systems with carefully vetted installers. Solarize campaigns have more than doubled the use of residential solar in hundreds of New England towns, and are underway in New York with support from Governor Andrew M. Cuomo's \$1 billion NY-SUN and Community Solar initiatives under the New York State Energy & Research Development Authority (NYSERDA).

The Solarize Hudson Valley campaign officially started on May 2, 2015, and ended on November 30, 2015. In addition to the 185 area residents signed up to install solar, the campaign reached hundreds more people through its outreach efforts. Two-thousand-and-sixteen campaigns are slated to begin in March in Saugerties, Nyack, and five Northern Dutchess communities: Red Hook, Rhinebeck, Hyde Park, Milan and Pleasant Valley.

"Solarize Hudson Valley provided a wealth of information through their seminars and open houses and I got to meet multiple installers. Solarize also helped me learn about tax credits for my new roof," said Kingston resident Paul Marchetti. The Marchettis are installing a 21-panel 6.6 kW system next spring after putting on a new roof this fall. The total cost of the Marchetti's system is \$22,500, but with the rebate from NYSERDA, federal and New York State tax credits, plus the Solarize community discount, the installation cost was reduced to \$10,750. Once the panels are up and running, Paul expects to save at least 40 percent on the family's electric bill.

Led by volunteers in Kingston, Woodstock, Rosendale, Beacon, Goshen, and Warwick, Sustainable Hudson Valley and Catskill Mountainkeeper, Solarize Hudson Valley is part of Mountainkeeper's statewide RenewableNY Solar Outreach Initiative. The Initiative is a three-year effort supported in the Hudson Valley and Southern Tier by NYSERDA. Residents of surrounding communities are welcome at Solarize Hudson Valley outreach events, which combine education, sociability and the opportunity to ask questions of selected installer.

"New York's \$1 billion investment in solar is a game changer. It has already helped 900 home and small business owners go solar in 2015, with 8,347 kW of solar installed, and will help thousands more in years to come," said Katherine Nadeau, RenewableNY Program Director for Catskill Mountainkeeper. "Solar power isn't the future. It's now. And it's for everyone—families who want to save money, New Yorkers working to cut their climate change emissions, and everyone who wants a stable, dependable energy source for their home or business.

New rounds of community-led Solarize campaigns are launching across the state this year. In cities and towns including Saugerties, Nyack, and Northern Dutchess County, and county-wide campaigns in the Southern Tier, Solarize is poised to help homeowners and small businesses go solar.

New York's aggressive efforts to expand its clean energy economy are producing impressive results. The state is now tied for first in the nation in the 2016 Solar Power Rankings and was named one of the Top 10 places to go solar by Sunmetrix. New York trailed only California and Nevada in solar installations in the first quarter of 2015, according to the U.S. Solar Market Insight Report

compiled by GTM Research and the Solar Energy Industries Association (SEIA). And according to a new report from The Solar Foundation, solar jobs grew nearly 12 times faster than the national employment growth rate of 1.7 percent during the same period. The New York State Energy Plan, released in 2015, sets a goal of generating half of the state's power from clean, renewable sources by 2030.

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**Solarize Hudson Valley** is a partner in RenewableNY's effort to help New York State transition to a clean energy future. RenewableNY is a partnership including Sustainable Hudson Valley, Binghamton Regional Sustainability Coalition, Cornell Cooperative Extension-Tompkins County and Catskill Mountainkeeper, and is supported by NYSERDA under Governor Andrew M. Cuomo's NY-Sun initiative. NY-Sun will invest up to \$1 billion in solar power through 2023 to expand solar installations statewide and help New York's solar industry become self-sustaining. Visit [www.solarize-hudsonvalley.org](http://www.solarize-hudsonvalley.org) and [www.RenewableNY.org](http://www.RenewableNY.org) to learn more.

## Solarize Campaign Results by Region (Round 1)

Region/Community Campaigns (as of January 2016)	Total Projects/Kilo watts (kW)
<b>Capital Region (3 campaigns)</b>	<b>92 projects/708 kW</b>
Solarize Albany	39 projects/292 kW
Solarize Saratoga Springs	22 projects/219 kW
Solarize Troy	31 projects/197 kW
<b>Central NY (5 campaigns)</b>	<b>192 projects/2653 kW</b>
Solarize CNY - Cayuga	35 projects/281 kW
Solarize CNY - Cortland	33 projects/285 kW
Solarize CNY - Madison	34 projects/1291 kW
Solarize CNY - Onondaga	70 projects/568 kW
Solarize CNY - Oswego	20 projects/228 kW
<b>Finger Lakes (3 campaigns)</b>	<b>50 projects/332 kW</b>
Solarize the Flower City	28 projects/141 kW
Solar Seneca	6 projects/53 kW
Solarize Williamson	16 projects/138 kW
<b>Long Island (2 campaigns)</b>	<b>86 projects/825 kW</b>
Solarize Brookhaven	65 projects/648 kW
Solarize Southampton	21 projects/177 kW
<b>Mid-Hudson (8 campaigns)</b>	<b>305 projects/2338 kW</b>
Solarize Beacon Plus	11 projects/70 kW
<b>Solarize Goshen-Warwick</b>	<b>72 projects/639 kW</b>
Solarize Kingston	15 projects/115 kW
Solarize Bedford - Mt. Kisco	25 projects/194 kW
Solarize Cortland-Croton	71 projects/520 kW
Solarize Mamaroneck-Larchmont	56 projects/381 kW
Solarize Ossining-Briarcliff	26 projects/206 kW
Solarize Woodstock-Rosendale	29 projects/213 kW
<b>North Country (3 campaigns)</b>	<b>78 projects/550 kW</b>
Solarize Akwesasne	1 project/9 kW
Solarize Canton	32 projects/228 kW
Solarize Tri-Lakes	45 projects/313 kW
<b>Southern Tier (2 campaigns)</b>	<b>97 projects/941 kW</b>
Solar Schuylers	39 projects/417 kW
Southern Tier Solar Works	58 projects/524 kW