



April 17, 2012

Case 03-E-0188

Comments of Halco Renewable Energy on Unencumbered 2011 CST Funds

Halco is a design-build energy solutions company that serves residential and commercial clients throughout Central NY and has been in business for 28 years. We have divisions that offer high-efficiency heating and cooling systems, home energy audits and envelope improvements including insulation and air-sealing, and clean renewable energy systems. Our Renewable Energy Division was started in 2009 and has been a part of the NYSERDA PV Incentive program since that time. Several of our staff have been participating in the program since 2006. Most recently, we commissioned 200kW of PV in 2011 and have more than that already scheduled for 2012. In our experience, the NYSERDA PV Incentive program has played a key role in incentivizing customer purchases, and has also significantly aided company growth and led to increased job opportunities throughout the Central NY region.

As a result of its past success and the continued need to dramatically increase the amount of installed solar capacity in NY, Halco is in full support of allocating unencumbered 2011 CST funds in accordance with the petition Case 03-E-0188. At present without these funds, our most recent incentive applications submitted in early April are not scheduled to be approved until late July. This delay and backlog has placed limits on our ability to increase our volume of work and to bring on, for instance, an additional installation crew. We are concerned that this backlog issue will only be exacerbated as we continue to sell more projects into the summer, and as new exciting financing options for Customers, such as solar leases, expand the market.

The allocation of unencumbered funds is also imperative in order to reach the PV target of 5,000MW by 2025. Not doing so will discourage consumers and businesses alike, suppressing the momentum that the industry has gained over the past few years.

In summary, the success of the PV Incentive Program and declining installation costs over the past few years have bolstered PV development. Addressing NYSERDA's backlog now is crucial in ensuring the continued growth of the industry and preparing for increased demand. These unencumbered funds will provide some of the resources which are desperately needed.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Melissa Kemp".

Melissa Kemp

Halco Renewable Energy