

THE SENATE
STATE OF NEW YORK



TIMOTHY M. KENNEDY
SENATOR, 63RD DISTRICT

RANKING MINORITY MEMBER
COMMERCE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
AND SMALL BUSINESS
INFRASTRUCTURE & CAPITAL INVESTMENTS

COMMITTEES
CULTURAL AFFAIRS, TOURISM, PARKS
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ENERGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS
FINANCE
HIGHER EDUCATION
INSURANCE
TRANSPORTATION

November 12, 2013

Hon. Kathleen H. Burgess
Secretary of the Commission
New York State Public Service Commission
Three Empire State Plaza
Albany, New York 12201-1350

Re: (1) Case 13-M-0412 – Petition of New York State Energy Research and Development Authority to Provide Initial Capitalization for the New York Green Bank, and (2) Case 03-E-0188 – Petition for NY-Sun Funding Considerations and Other Program Modifications

Dear Secretary Burgess:

I write to urge the Public Service Commission to consider the recommendations made in a recent comment submission to the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority's (NYSERDA) proposals regarding the New York Green Bank (NYGB) and the NY-Sun Initiative that would allow low-to-moderate income ratepayers (LMIs) to further participate in the renewable energy programs. Between 2005 and 2015, LMI ratepayers will have paid an estimated \$460 million to the Renewable Portfolio Standard, even though they are largely unable to afford to take advantage of the incentive programs funded by this surcharge. I believe that as long as LMI ratepayers are helping to financially support renewable energy programs, they should be enabled to fully participate if they desire.

This proposal would establish a pilot program targeted towards LMI ratepayers that would offer escalated incentives for the installation of 7 megawatts of solar energy capacity, and would also implement a public-private partnership with the NYGB to create a sustainable long-term financing mechanism that would more easily allow LMI ratepayers to afford the installation of solar infrastructure.

The Commission has already demonstrated its commitment to expanding affordable energy programs to LMI households, through its Weatherization Assistance Program, Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program, EmPower New York Program, and Assisted Home Performance with ENERGY STAR® Program. I believe that the implementation of these

□ **ALBANY OFFICE:**
ROOM 506
LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING
ALBANY, NEW YORK 12247
(518) 455-2426 OFFICE
(518) 426-6851 FAX

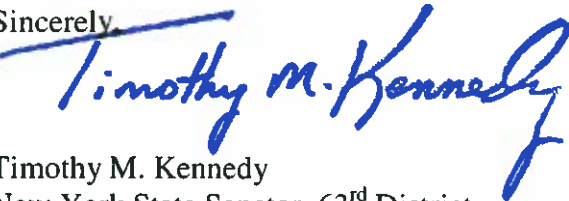
□ **DISTRICT OFFICE:**
2239 SOUTH PARK AVENUE
BUFFALO, NEW YORK 14220
(716) 826-2683 OFFICE
(716) 826-2793 FAX

E-MAIL ADDRESS:
KENNEDY@NYSENATE.GOV

recommendations is a logical step to foster increased participation of the LMI population in NYSERDA's existing and future programs.

Thank you for your consideration. If you have any questions or if I can be of assistance, please feel free to contact me in my district office at 716-826-2683.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Timothy M. Kennedy". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Timothy M. Kennedy
New York State Senator, 63rd District