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*Logos and high res clean energy photos available*

## **Financing Opportunities Expanded for Clean Energy Projects**

*Energize NY Issues Request for Qualifications to Expand the Market for PACE Financing in NY*

**February 8, 2017. Yorktown Heights, NY**—Energize NY today launched an innovative Request for Qualifications ([RFQ](#)) to significantly expand access for developers and commercial building owners in New York State to commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) financing. The RFQ is directed to clean energy project developers and other businesses with a clean energy product or service that could benefit from PACE by making clean energy improvements more accessible and affordable for commercial building owners.

PACE financing is an alternative to traditional project financing that can fund up to 100 percent of clean energy project costs with flexible terms of 5 to up to 20 years. Because of the availability of longer terms, PACE financing allows for more extensive energy improvements that have longer payback periods. PACE also can be part of the total funding for a clean energy project and paired with traditional project financing.

Eligibility for PACE financing is not dependent on a property owner's credit scores and does not affect an owner's credit, but rather is based on the value of the building and the potential energy savings of the project. PACE financing is repaid through an annual charge that is collected on the property's tax bill, which transfers to a new owner if the property is sold.

Energize NY's RFQ will make PACE financing available for a broad range of commercial clean energy projects, regardless of cost or size. Clean energy projects that can be financed through PACE include energy efficiency, solar, small wind, ground and air source heat pumps, anaerobic digester gas systems, fuel cells, low-emissions wood heating systems and energy storage.

In addition to the RFQ being issued, New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) unveiled proposed [Commercial PACE guidelines](#) for developers to ensure the technical and financial feasibility of their projects.

"The expansion of Commercial PACE in New York State will accelerate energy savings and clean energy projects by making financing available to increasing numbers of commercial property owners," said John B. Rhodes, President and CEO, NYSERDA. "With more options now available to access PACE financing, we also hope to see more communities join Energize NY to offer this benefit to their commercial property owners."

"PACE financing is a powerful tool to fund energy improvements that serve both economic development and clean energy goals in New York State," said Mark Thielking, Executive Director of Energize NY. "The

issuance of our RFQ, together with NYSERDA's proposed Commercial PACE guidelines, are expected to make PACE financing more readily accessible to clean energy project developers and building owners. "

The comment period on the proposed Commercial PACE guidelines ends on April 7, 2017. The proposed guidelines and details on how to comment are available on [NYSERDA's website](#).

An [informational webinar](#) for interested responders to the RFQ will be held on March 2, 2017 and [responses to the RFQ](#) will be accepted beginning on March 15, 2017 on a first-come, first-served basis.

All information regarding the RFQ, including submission dates, modifications, frequently asked questions and a recording of the information session will be available at <http://commercial.energizeny.org/rfq>.

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**Energize NY**, [www.energizeny.org](http://www.energizeny.org), offers its services as part of Energy Improvement Corporation, a New York State non-profit local development corporation that works with its member municipalities and local project developers to unlock the energy savings in buildings, saving money and fuel and lowering air pollutants. Energize NY is New York State's PACE financing facility, which provides low-cost, long-term financing for energy efficiency and renewable energy projects.