



New York State Energy Research and Development Authority

# Solar PV Incentive Programs

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“Advancing innovative energy solutions in ways that improve New York’s economy and environment”

# What is NYSERDA?

A public benefit corporation established in 1975 to help New York State meet its energy goals:

- Reducing energy consumption
- Promoting the use of renewable energy sources
- Protecting the environment

# NYSERDA's Range Involving PV

## Research & Development:

- New & Improved PV Panels
- Reduced Costs of Balance of System
- Advanced Manufacturing Techniques

## Workforce Development:

- Training Programs for PV installers

## Deployment of PV Systems (Incentives):

- Smaller Systems for Customer Needs
- Larger Systems for Customer Needs
- Utility-scale Systems for Export

# NY-Sun Initiative

**Announced:** Governor Cuomo's 2012 State-of-the-State Address

Goal #1: Double during 2012 the customer-sited PV capacity that was installed during baseline year (calendar year 2011), and Quadruple during 2013

Goal #2: Technology advancement and system cost reduction regarding PV balance-of-system (BOS) costs in New York

Approaches:

- **Deployment Incentive Programs:**
  - **NYSERDA Standard Offer PV Program (less than or equal to 50 kW)**
  - **NYSERDA Competitive PV Program (greater than 50 kW)**
  - LIPA Solar Pioneer (homeowner) & Solar Entrepreneur (business - up to 50 kW)
- Research & Development collaborations on BOS cost reductions
- Workforce Development efforts for training of Installers

# Source of Funds

## Renewable Portfolio Standard:

- The NYS Public Service Commission instructed the investor-owned utilities to collect a surcharge from customers
- NYSERDA is named as administrator of this pool of funds by the Public Service Commission
- This is a “centralized procurement” model, operated by a Program Administrator that is a governmental entity (not a utility)
- **Over \$100 million per year available as incentives specifically for customers to install Solar PV Systems**
- Intent is to increase market penetration of commercially available technologies in New York

# Processes for Awarding Funds

## *Program Opportunity Notice (PON)*

### *Open Enrollment (non-competitive) “Applications”*

- First-come/first-served rolling admission
- For Smaller Systems installed by a company on the “Eligible List”
- Standard offer incentives

### *Competitive Solicitation “Proposals”*

- Specific due dates
- For Larger Systems installed by teams that pass the “merit review”
- Pass/Fail Qualifications Review by Technical Evaluation Panel, then Reverse-auction sealed bid (selection of lowest requested prices)

# Guidelines - PON 2112

## Smaller Systems

- The PV Standard Offer Program (PON 2112) has a monthly incentive budget of \$3.5 million Through 2012
- Incentives are for the installation of new grid-connected solar photovoltaic (PV) systems
- The Program is offered through an open enrollment solicitation and includes the following elements:
  - a. The incentive level for all systems is \$1.50 per watt (subject to change depending upon program demand)
  - b. The caps are:
    - **7 kW for residential**
    - **50 kW for commercial/Non-Profit**

# PON 2112

## Market Based Incentives

- The incentive is currently set at \$1.50/Watt DC
- Not to exceed available funding for two consecutive months, or the incentive will be automatically reduced
- Funds not used roll over to the next month



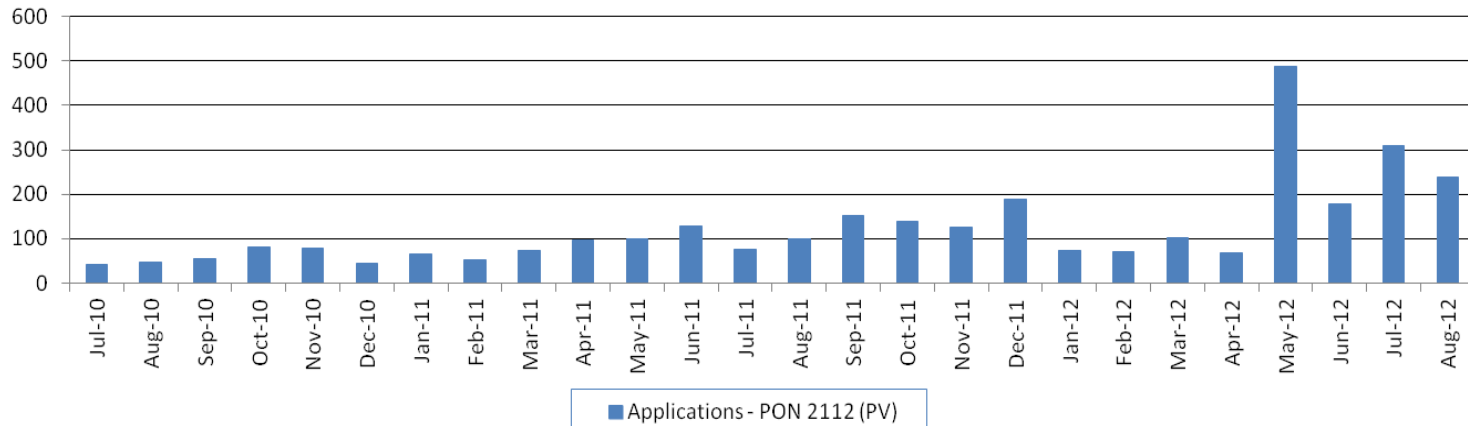
# PON 2112

## Streamlined Application Process

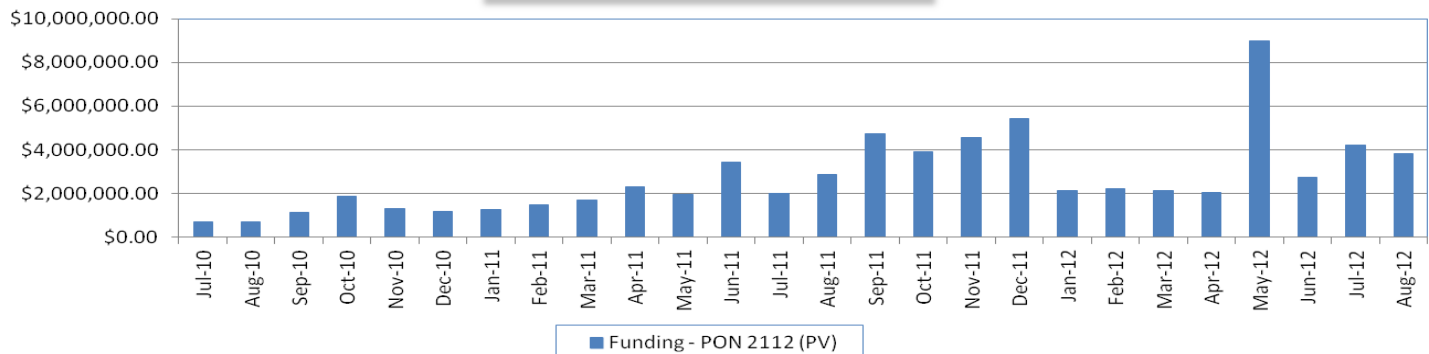
- All applications submitted electronically
- PowerClerk data base linked to NYSERDA accounting system – Real time access for installers on status of applications and payments
- Parallel path Design Review & Funding
- E-mail communications from PowerClerk
- Electronic payments / direct deposit

# Program Status Charts

Monthly PV Activity

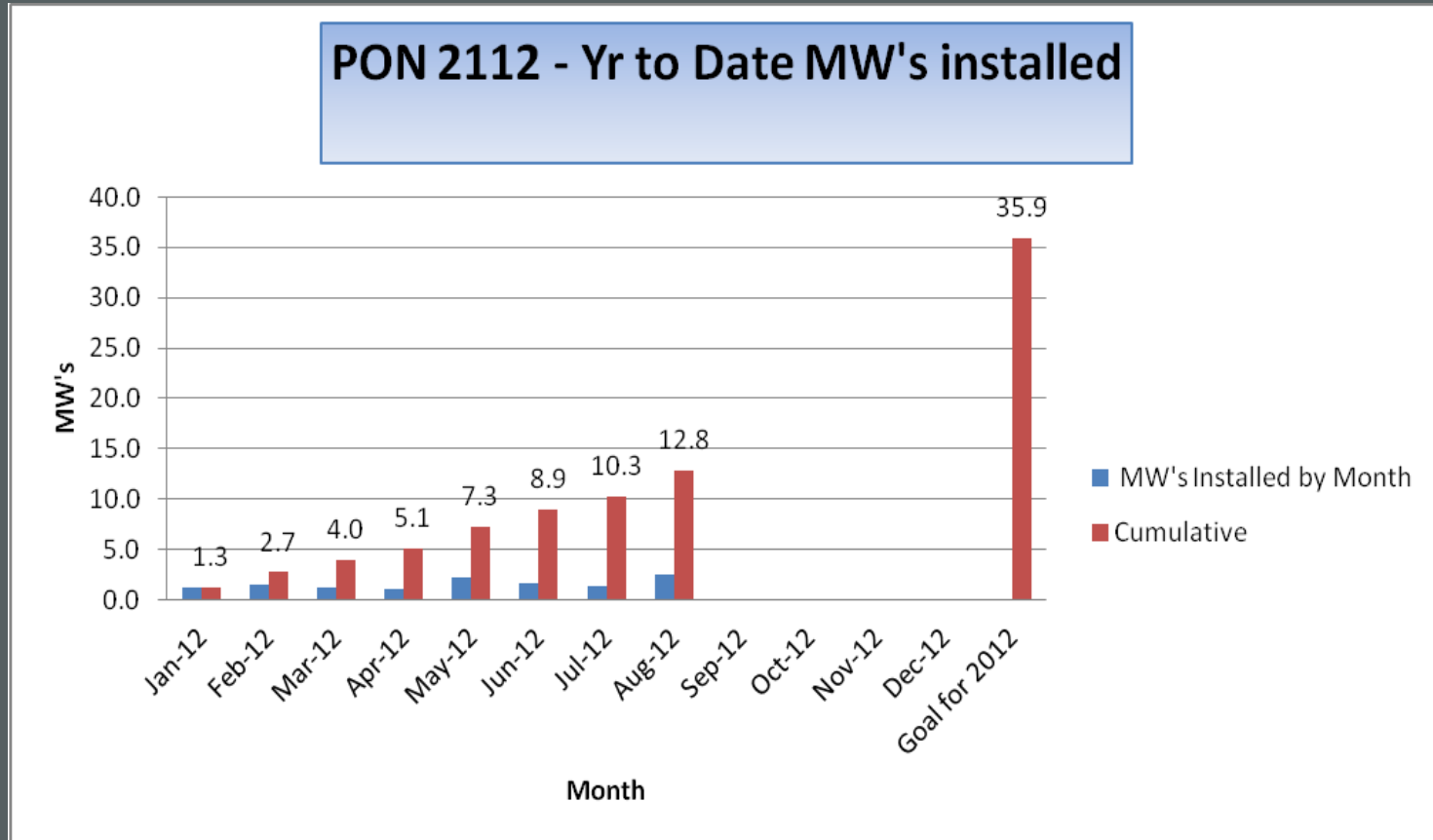


Monthly PV Funding Activity



# Program Status Charts

## Smaller Systems



# PON 2589 -- \$107 million for PV

## Large “Customer” PV Systems

- Cash incentives for the installation of new grid-connected Solar Electric Photovoltaic (PV) systems chosen through competition based on low bid price
- Incentives are paid based on actual measured performance over a 3-year run period, plus some upfront cash-flow
- Bonus payments (not to exceed \$3 million cap) for systems installed within “Strategic Locations”
- Incentive Pool has \$107 million through the end of 2013 (\$70 more million in 2014, and \$70 million more in 2015)
- **Rapid Progress: Maximum 8 months from “Award Notification” to “Fully Operational”**

# PON 2589 -- \$107 million for PV

## Large “Customer” PV Systems

- **Three (3) due dates -- Proposals Due:**  
November 8, 2012 and March 14, 2013 and August 29, 2013  
Maximum \$3 million per project Maximum \$6 million per Team per Due Date
- **Competitive Selection:**
  - Step 1: Review for Administrative Completeness
  - Step 2: “Short-list” based on passing the “merit review”
  - Step 3: “Selection” based on Bid Price (i.e., incentive being requested)
- **PV system size:**
  - Minimum = 50 kW
  - Maximum = annual production (kWh) does not materially exceed need of site
- **Eligible sites:**
  - Connected to Electric Grid and pay RPS Surcharge
  - In NYISO zones A through J (i.e., throughout NYS, except Long Island)
- **NYSERDA will host several Bidder Teleconferences and “Connection” events**

# New York State Energy Research and Development Authority

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