

STATE OF NEW YORK

8889

IN SENATE

April 27, 2022

Introduced by Sen. HINCHEY -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Finance

AN ACT to amend the executive law and the state finance law, in relation to requiring funds received pursuant to mitigation payment requirements in furtherance of the major renewable energy development program to be used for farmland protection programs

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. Paragraph (e) of subdivision 3 of section 94-c of the executive law, as added by section 4 of part JJJ of chapter 58 of the laws of 2020, is amended to read as follows:

2 (e) (i) To the extent that environmental impacts are not completely
3 addressed by uniform standards and conditions and site-specific permit
4 conditions proposed by the office, and the office determines that mitigation of such impacts may be achieved by off-site mitigation, the
5 office may require payment of a fee by the applicant to achieve such
6 off-site mitigation. If the office determines, in consultation with the
7 department of environmental conservation, that mitigation of impacts to
8 endangered or threatened species that achieves a net conservation benefit can be achieved by off-site mitigation, the amount to be paid for
9 such off-site mitigation shall be set forth in the final siting permit. The office may require payment of funds sufficient to implement such
10 off-site mitigation into the endangered and threatened species mitigation bank fund established pursuant to section ninety-nine-hh of the
11 state finance law.

12 (ii) To the extent a permit to develop a major renewable energy facility involves siting such a facility on viable agricultural land as defined in section three hundred one of the agriculture and markets law, the office, in consultation with the department of agriculture and markets, shall require the payment of a fee by the applicant to be used for farmland protection conservation easements and purchase of development rights as part of the state farmland protection program established pursuant to article twenty-five-AAA of the agriculture and markets law. Such funds will be deposited in the agricultural and farmland viability

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [-] is old law to be omitted.

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1 protection fund pursuant to section ninety-nine-pp of the state finance
2 law.

3 § 2. The state finance law is amended by adding a new section 99-pp to
4 read as follows:

5 § 99-pp. Agricultural and farmland viability protection fund. 1.
6 There is hereby established in the joint custody of the comptroller and
7 the commissioner of taxation and finance a special fund to be known as
8 the "agricultural and farmland viability protection fund".

9 2. Such fund shall consist of all revenues received pursuant to the
10 provisions of paragraph (e) of section ninety-four-c of the executive
11 law and all other moneys appropriated, credited, or transferred thereto
12 from any other fund or source pursuant to law.

13 3. All moneys deposited in the agricultural and farmland viability
14 protection fund shall be available for agricultural and farmland
15 protection activities pursuant to article twenty-five-AAA of the agri-
16 culture and markets law.

17 4. Monies shall be payable from the fund on the audit and warrant of
18 the comptroller on vouchers approved and certified by the commissioner
19 of agriculture and markets.

20 § 3. This act shall take effect on the ninetieth day after it shall
21 have become a law and shall apply to all permit applications issued on
22 and after such date; provided that the amendments to section 94-c of the
23 executive law made by section one of this act shall not affect the
24 repeal of such section and shall be deemed repealed therewith.