# STATE OF NEW YORK

9602

# IN ASSEMBLY

March 24, 2022

Introduced by M. of A. CUSICK -- read once and referred to the Committee on Energy

AN ACT to amend the public authorities law, in relation to providing a municipal renewable energy system siting database

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

Section 1. Legislative intent. Implementing renewable energy systems is critical to achieve the goals in the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act. This bill would establish an actively managed database for municipalities interested in siting renewable energy systems on available land within their boundaries. This database will allow municipalities to publish their renewable energy goals and facilitate the development of renewable energy systems.

§ 2. The public authorities law is amended by adding a new section 1885 to read as follows:

**§ 1885. Municipal renewable energy system siting database. 1. The authority shall establish and manage a municipal renewable energy siting database to help municipalities facilitate the deployment of renewable energy systems, as defined in section sixty-six-p of the public service law, on municipal property within their boundaries.**

**2. The database shall be publicly available and at a minimum include the following information for municipalities that notify the authority of their interest in participating:**

**a. contact information for the designated municipal representative;**

**b. the type or types of renewable energy systems the municipality is interested in developing;**

**c. an estimate of the amount and type of available municipal property;**

**d. a summary of applicable local laws concerning the environment or public health safety to help facilitate compliance with the permitting process pursuant to section ninety-four-c of the executive law; and**

**e. any other information the authority deems relevant.**

**3. The authority shall provide any technical assistance to help promote siting.**

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

LBD15103-02-2

**4. The database shall be actively managed and updated regularly by the authority.**

**5. The authority shall prepare and publish on their website an annual report that contains at a minimum the following information:**

**a. how many new municipalities were added to the database since the prior year;**

**b. what type of renewable energy systems were primarily requested by municipalities;**

**c. the estimated number of megawatts generated by renewable energy systems that were developed as a result of the database; and**

**d. steps taken to promote awareness of the database.**

§ 3. Paragraph (b) of subdivision 1 of section 1902 of the public authorities law, as added by section 6 of part JJJ of chapter 58 of the laws of 2020, is amended to read as follows:

(b) In making such assessment the authority shall give priority to previously developed sites, existing or abandoned commercial sites, including without limitation brownfields, landfills, former commercial or industrial sites, dormant electric generating sites, **locations listed on the municipal renewable energy system siting database pursuant to section eighteen hundred eighty-five of the public authorities law** or otherwise underutilized sites;

§ 4. This act shall take effect on the one hundred eightieth day after it shall have become a law; provided, however, that the amendments to paragraph (b) of subdivision 1 of section 1902 of the public authorities law made by section three of this act shall be subject to the expiration and repeal of such section and shall expire and be deemed repealed therewith.