STATE OF NEW YORK

4408

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

February 4, 2025

Introduced by Sen. MAY -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Environmental Conservation

AN ACT to amend the environmental conservation law, in relation to agreements related to renewable energy development rights on reforestation areas

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

Section 1. The environmental conservation law is amended by adding a new section 9-0508 to read as follows:

§ 9-0508. Agreements related to renewable energy development rights on reforestation areas.

Notwithstanding any provisions of article seven of the public lands law to the contrary, the department may, in any lands acquired by the state in accordance with section 9-0501 of this title, enter into agreements, such as leases or easements, for the purpose of aiding in the siting and connectivity of renewable energy installations and the transmission and distribution of electricity therefrom. Such installations shall include, but not be limited to, solar power and wind power, under such terms as may be prescribed by the department, and upon such conditions that the exercise of such agreement rights shall not interfere with the operation of such reforestation areas for the purposes for which they were acquired and as defined in section three of article fourteen of the New York state constitution. Any agreement made and entered into pursuant to this section shall be recorded in the office of general services and be made available to the public on the official website of such office.

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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

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