

**TOWN OF BEDFORD
OFFICE OF THE SUPERVISOR**

Chris Burdick
Supervisor

Lee V. A. Roberts
Deputy Supervisor

Bea Rhodes
Confidential Secretary to the Supervisor



TOWN BOARD
Don B. Scott
MaryAnn Carr
Kate Galligan

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 31, 2018

**Town of Bedford Earns Clean Energy Community Designation for its
Commitment to Cut Costs and Reduce Energy Consumption**

BEDFORD HILLS, N.Y. - The Town of Bedford today announced it has been designated a Clean Energy Community by the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA), recognizing its leadership in reducing energy use, cutting costs and driving clean energy locally.

Announced by Governor Cuomo in August of 2016, the \$16 million Clean Energy Communities initiative supports local government leaders across the State to implement energy efficiency, renewable energy and sustainable development projects in their communities. Clean Energy Communities advances the Governor's Reforming the Energy (REV) strategy by demonstrating the importance of communities in helping New York reach its Clean Energy Standard of 50 percent of the state's electricity coming from renewable energy resources by 2030.

The Town of Bedford received the designation for completing four of 10 high-impact clean energy actions identified by NYSERDA as part of the Clean Energy Communities initiative.

Town Supervisor Chris Burdick stated "The NYSERDA designation is a significant honor for the Town which reflects our cutting edge leadership in environmental protection. By receiving the Clean Energy Community designation, we are able to share in the State's new energy vision by playing a critical role in affecting energy choices in our community, both in terms of the Town's government operations as well as across home, businesses and institutions."

To earn the Clean Energy Community designation, the Town of Bedford completed the following high-impact clean energy actions:

- Adopted a benchmarking policy to track and report the energy use of the Town's municipal buildings.
- Installed 12 electric vehicle charging ports throughout the Town.
- Implemented Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) so residents can gain greater choice and control over energy use as a group.
- Established an Energize NY Finance Program that enables long-term, affordable Property Assessed Clean Energy financing for energy efficiency and renewable energy projects at commercial buildings and not-for-profits.

“Congratulations to the Town of Bedford on this important accomplishment and for its efforts to transition to more sustainable energy practices, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and lower costs,” said Alicia Barton, President and CEO, NYSERDA. “Under Governor Cuomo’s nation-leading energy strategy, New York is helping communities drive broader adoption of energy efficiency, renewables and other clean technologies.”

Cities, counties, towns and villages that complete at least four of 10 high-impact clean energy actions are designated Clean Energy Communities and are eligible to apply for funding of up to \$250,000 with no local cost share with the option of receiving up to 25 percent paid in advance to support additional clean energy projects. At least two of the four actions must have been completed after August 1, 2016. NYSERDA is accepting applications for funding on a rolling basis through September 30, 2019 or until funds are exhausted, whichever comes first. Funds are being provided through the Clean Energy Fund and the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative.

Clean Energy Community Coordinators are also available at no charge to support cash- or resource-strapped communities to develop and prioritize clean energy goals; access easy-to-use resources such as guidance documents and case studies; and take advantage of available funding and technical assistance opportunities.

For more information on Clean Energy Communities, visit www.nyserdera.ny.gov/cec. Local government officials or employees can find contact information for their respective coordinator [here](#) for assistance navigating the program.