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NYSERDA Announces Village of Cazenovia, Town of Cazenovia and Village of Pulaski Earn Clean Energy Community Designation

Communities are Recognized for Their Commitment to Reduce Energy Consumption, Cut Costs and Drive Clean Energy

August 01, 2017

The New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) today announced the Village of Cazenovia, Town of Cazenovia and Village of Pulaski have been designated Clean Energy Communities, recognizing their leadership in reducing energy use, cutting costs and driving clean energy in its communities. These designations are supported by the Accelerating Central NY Rising initiative which is the overall regional plan designed to attract a talented workforce, grow business and drive innovation.

Announced by Governor Cuomo in August, 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.

Alicia Barton, President and NYSERDA, said, "Under the leadership of Governor Cuomo, New York continues to make great progress in reducing greenhouse gas emissions and creating more sustainable communities. Congratulations to these communities for serving as role models for other communities and taking control of their clean energy future."

The three communities received the designation for completing four of 10 high-impact clean energy action items identified by NYSERDA as part of the Clean Energy Communities initiative. In addition, the designation gives each of the communities an opportunity to apply for up to \$50,000 toward additional clean energy projects, with no local cost share. There are currently more than 85 Clean Energy Communities across the State.

Village of Cazenovia

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

- **Adopted the New York State Unified Solar Permit** to streamline the approvals process for local solar projects.
- **Completed energy code enforcement training** on best practices in energy code enforcement for code compliance officers and other municipal officials.
- **Approved an energy benchmarking policy** to track and report energy use in the Village's municipal buildings.
- **Installed electric vehicle changing stations** to encourage clean transportation options.

"The Village of Cazenovia is proud to have earned the designation as a Clean Energy Community," said Cazenovia Mayor, Kurt Wheeler. "The public has been very supportive of our efforts. Our citizens are not only proud of the positive impact we are having on the environment but they are appreciative of the long-term savings that will be associated with many of these efforts."

Town of Cazenovia

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

- **Adopted the New York State Unified Solar Permit** to streamline the approvals process for local solar projects.
- **Initiated a community-based Solarize campaign** to reduce solar project costs through joint purchasing.
- **Completed energy code enforcement training** on best practices in energy code enforcement for code compliance officers and other municipal officials.
- **Approved an energy benchmarking policy** to track and report energy use in the Town's municipal buildings.

"The Town of Cazenovia is proud of our designation as a Clean Energy Community. We have been