



ACE NY

ALLIANCE FOR CLEAN ENERGY NEW YORK, INC.

Renewable Energy in New York

Sept. 14, 2026

aceny.org



ACE NY

ALLIANCE FOR CLEAN ENERGY NEW YORK, INC.

Disclaimer

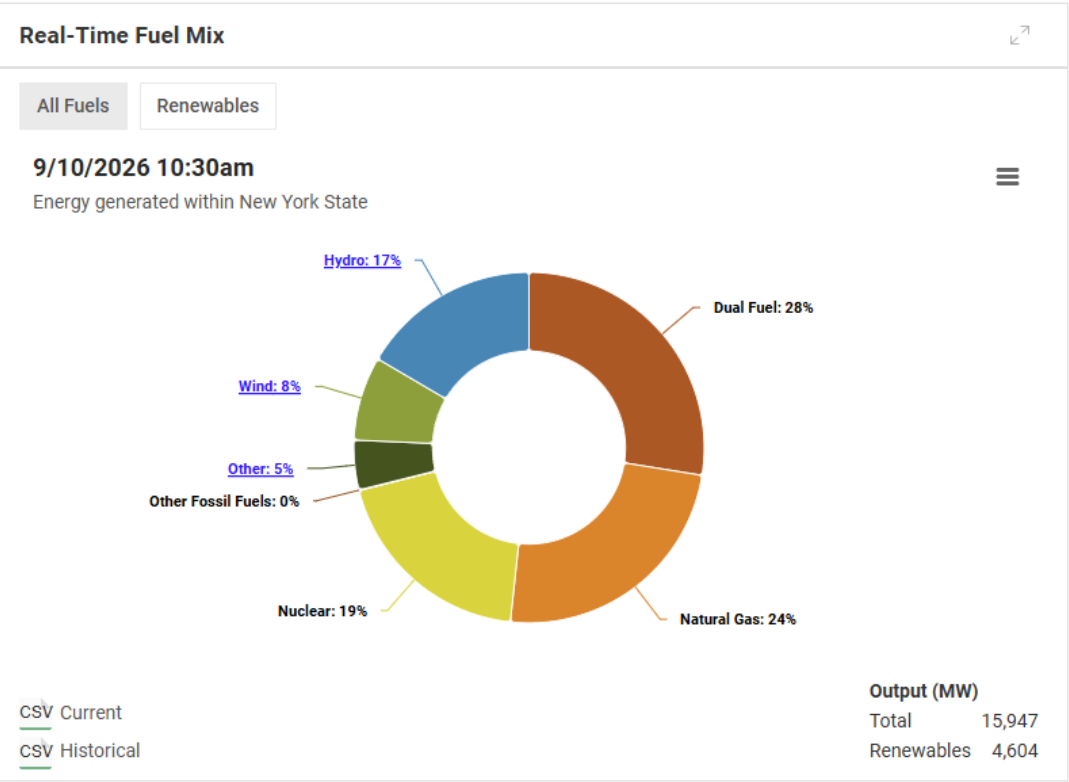
Sept. 14, 2026

aceny.org

New York's Nation-Leading Climate Goals

- CLCPA mandates:
- 70% renewable energy by 2030
- 100% emission-free energy by 2040

Current Sources of Electricity in New York



Deep Dive Opinion Library Events Press Releases

Generation T&D Grid Reliability Electrification Load Management Renewables Stor

New York hits 5.6 GW hourly solar generation record

At the same time, the state's electric system is "operating with the narrowest reliability margins in recent years," said a report from the New York Independent System Operator.

Published June 10, 2026



Diana DiGangi
Reporter

Share License Add us on Google



Ice floats cover part of the Hudson River along the Manhattan shoreline as New York City experiences frigid temperatures following a winter storm on Jan. 30, 2026. New York is transitioning toward a winter-peaking system with winter peaks rising more quickly than summer peaks, the New York Independent System Operator said in its 2026 Power Trends report. *Spencer Platt via Getty Images*

Solar generation met around 29% of New York's electricity demand with more than 5.6 GW of generation during the noon hour on June 3, reaching a new record for the state, the New York Independent System Operator said Tuesday.

Most of that generation — 5.1 GW — was behind the meter, NYISO said. Front-of-the-meter solar accounted for 530 MW.

Need to Build Renewables in NYS to Achieve CLCPA

FIGURE 7: ACTUAL AND FORECAST ANNUAL PEAK DEMAND:
2024-2045

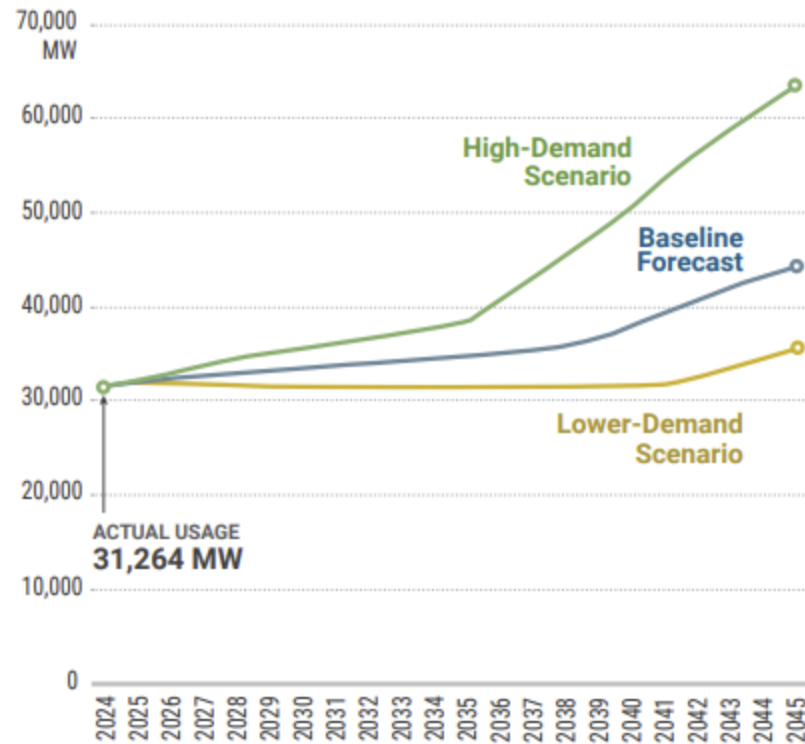
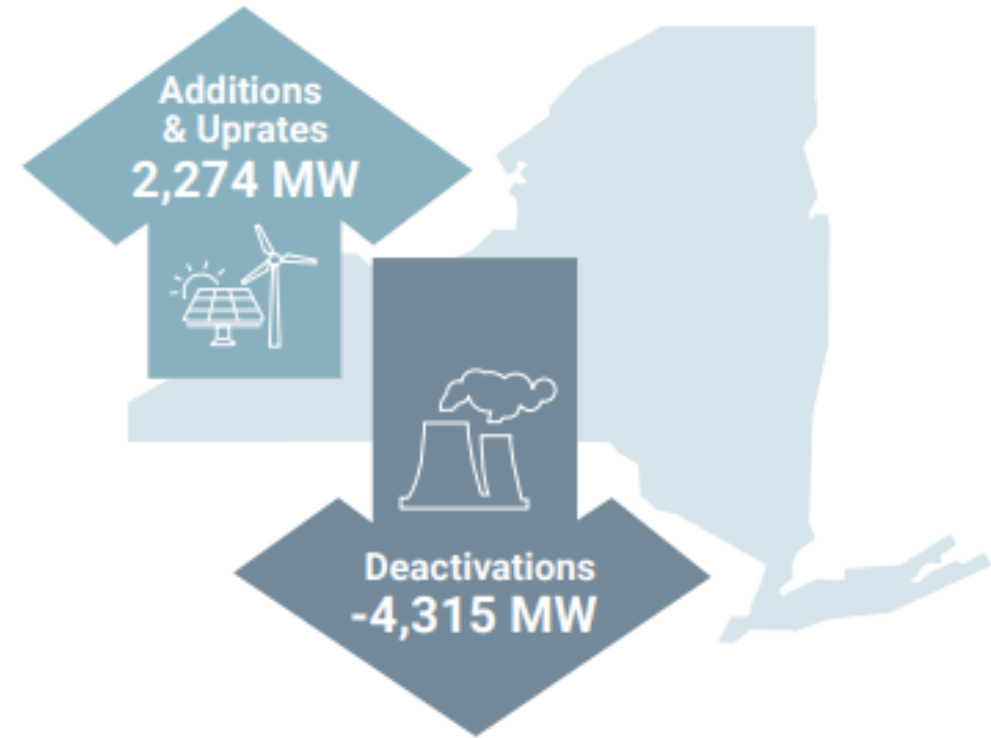
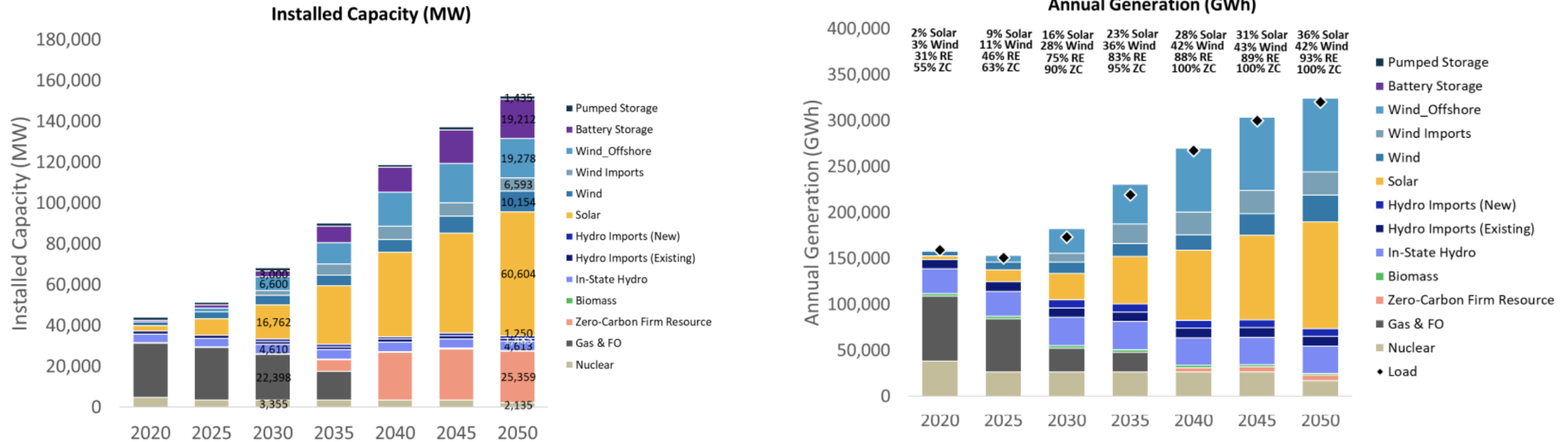


FIGURE 8: ADDITIONS AND DEACTIVATIONS SINCE 2019

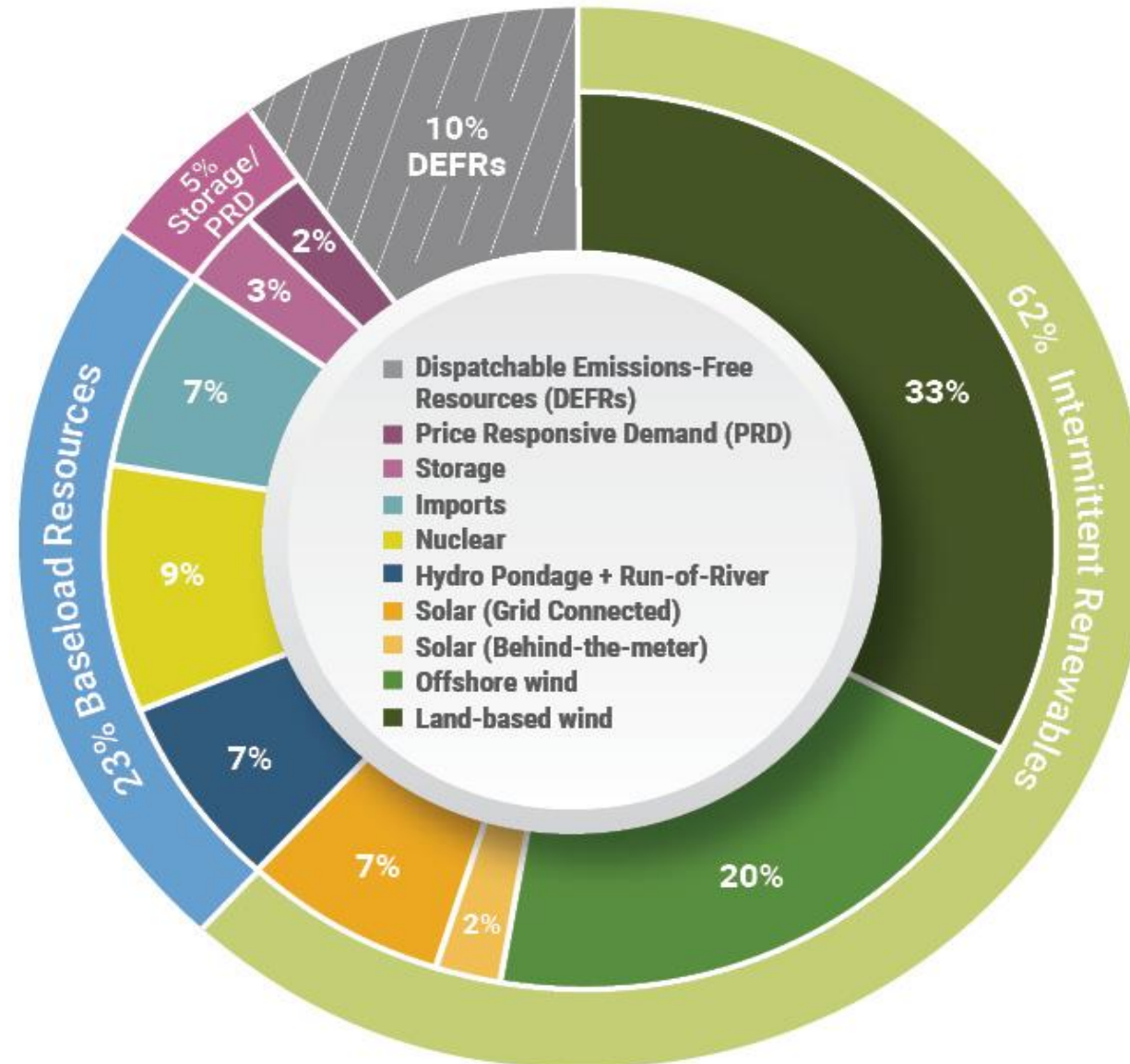


Predicted Need for Renewables from the Climate Scoping Plan (Appendix G)

Figure 29. Installed Capacity and Annual Generation for Scenario 3: Accelerated Transition away from Combustion³⁰



Sources of Electricity in 2040, If NY Achieves CLCPA



Celebrating Success



Celebrating Success



Solar Supports Farms, It Doesn't Replace

New York's farmers are facing unprecedented economic pressures—but the data shows they are turning to solar as a way to **keep farming**, not get out of the business.



Farmers in New York who sign solar leases were 3x more likely to use that money to invest in their farms, not reduce their ag operations

*Cornell February 2026 Study



85% of farmland with solar installations remains or eventually returns to agricultural use

*USDA Data



Nationally, 3x more Prime Farmland is used for golf courses than for solar

*US Department of Agriculture Economic Research Service



From 2017 to 2022, New York lost 365,000 acres of farmland, only 1,728 was used for solar.

This Summer!

- Celebrating the largest energy buildout in New York State history
- Under construction:
 - 2.6 GW of utility-scale wind and solar
 - 1.7 GW of offshore wind
 - 1.0 GW of distributed solar
 - Enough energy to power **five million homes**
- **More Progress Leads to More Opposition**

The Problem

The renewable industry is fighting project-by-project while the opposition is building a national narrative infrastructure.

- **Social media & influencer campaigns** Viral content and coordinated groups on Facebook, Instagram, X, and TikTok rapidly spread opposition. Influencers like Alexandra Fasulo have posted hundreds of times reaching millions, fueling local fights that go national.
- **Partisan realignment is rapid and structural** Pew 2026: Republican preference for prioritizing wind/solar over fossils fell from 65% (2020) to 28%; overall U.S. support dropped from 79% to 57%.

How people get their news

21%

Adults regularly get news from news influencers on social media²

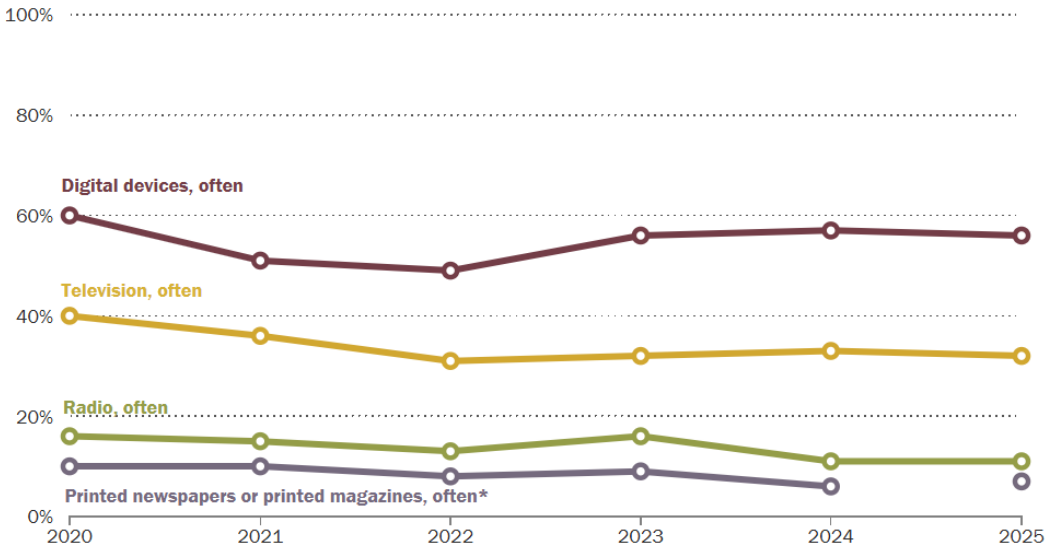
38%

18-29 year olds²

News consumption across all platforms

% of U.S. adults who say they get news from ...

1

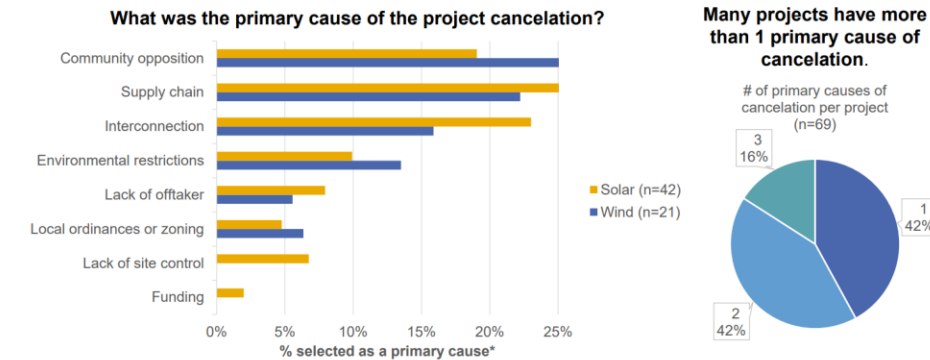


2 [News Influencers Fact Sheet](#), Pew Research Center, November 2025

Project Delays and Cancellation

- “Community opposition” is the number one reason for project cancellation.
- “Local ordinances/zoning” and “community opposition” are the number 1 and 4 reasons for a delay.

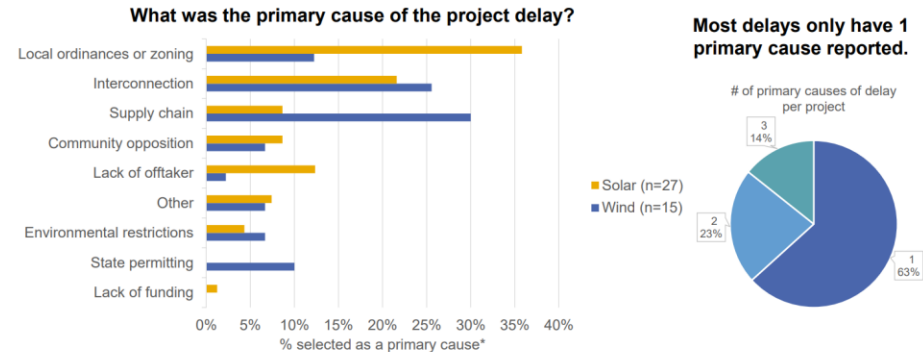
Leading causes of project cancellation are community opposition, supply chain, and interconnection



ENERGY TECHNOLOGIES AREA | ENERGY ANALYSIS AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS DIVISION | ENERGY MARKETS & POLICY

47

Local ordinances or zoning is responsible for 36% of significant solar project delays.



ENERGY TECHNOLOGIES AREA | ENERGY ANALYSIS AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS DIVISION | ENERGY MARKETS & POLICY

54

The impact

Public support is eroding at the same time that anti-renewable narratives are becoming more organized, more political and easier to amplify.



57%

**OF AMERICANS SUPPORT
BUILDING SOLAR FARMS
IN THEIR LOCAL AREA**

Source: Yale Climate Opinion Maps 2025



-13 PTS

**DECLINE IN AMERICANS
FAVORING MORE SOLAR
POWER SINCE 2020**

Source: Pew Research Center, 2025



-15 PTS

**DECLINE IN AMERICANS
FAVORING MORE WIND
POWER SINCE 2020**

Source: Pew Research Center, 2025



~1 IN 3

**WIND AND SOLAR SITING
APPLICATIONS WERE CANCELED
IN THE PAST 5 YEARS**

Source: Lawrence Berkeley National
Laboratory Developer Survey, 2023



~1 IN 2

**WIND AND SOLAR PROJECTS
EXPERIENCED DELAYS OF
6 MONTHS OR MORE**

Source: Lawrence Berkeley National
Laboratory Developer Survey, 2023



\$200k /MW

**ESTIMATED COST OF PROJECT
DELAYS (WIND AND SOLAR)**

Source: Lawrence Berkeley National
Laboratory Developer Survey, 2023

A message primed to work



1

Farmland
under threat



2

Wildlife and
habitat harm



3

Government
overreach



4

Communities
ignored

SOCIAL-LISTENING THEME CLUSTER



Environment
and land use



Wildlife and
conservation



Government
and policy



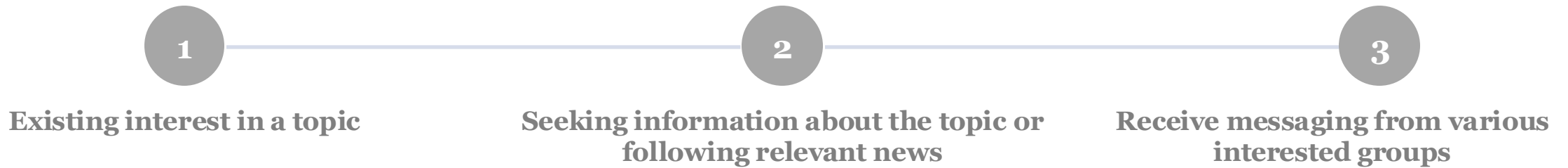
Community impact
and fairness



Activism and
mobilization

Social outreach is no longer limited by existing topic interest

Direct or linear distribution



Social outreach is no longer limited by existing topic interest

Algorithmic distribution

1

Emotional or strongly opinionated content is shown to more people

2

They watch, comment, and share due to a mix of interest in the topic and the style of the message

3

The content is shown to a wider and wider audience as the algorithmic boost gets bigger

Emotional appeals and a strong personal point of view can take a niche issue into a much larger spotlight.

Algorithms reward evidence of interest

1

AUDIENCE RESPONSE

- Watch-through and rewatch
- Likes, comments, and shares
- Follows and repeat viewing

2

RELEVANCE PREDICTION

- Behavior is matched with viewer history
- Topic, sound, language, and location add context
- Skips and “Not interested” work against it

3

WIDER DISTRIBUTION

- High-scoring videos reach similar viewers
- Recommendations can extend beyond followers
- Eligibility and freshness still matter

Early follower engagement can be the spark for much broader algorithmic reach.

Opposition packaged in highly shareable terms



A scalable anti-solar content model

One creator can supply a steady stream of locally adaptable anti-renewable content.

1

Identity-rich framing

Her public profile describes her as an “eco reporter” and president of the American Land Rescue Fund, positioning anti-development messages in an environmental and land-preservation frame rather than an overtly fossil-fuel frame.

2

High-volume content production

More than 500 solar-related posts in one year creates repetition, search visibility, and ready-made material for local opponents to share.

3

Narrative themes to code and monitor

Farmland loss, outside/foreign corporate control, community character, wildlife, local control, and distrust of developers.

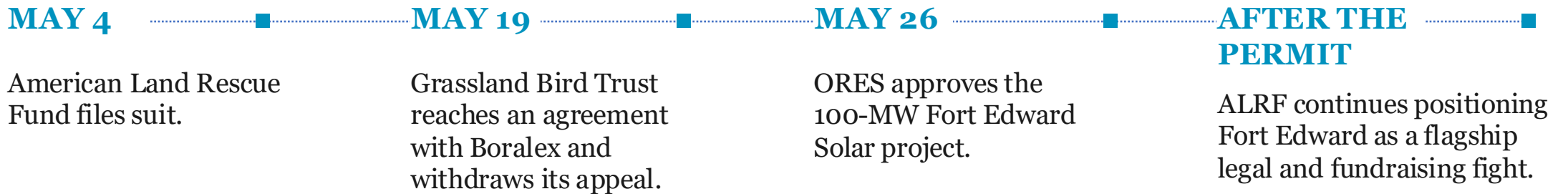
4

Strategic implication

Monitor the *message supply chain*—which claims originate with prominent creators, which are repackaged locally, and which move into public-comment or ordinance debates.

A permit is not the end of the narrative

The project process created an organization, a legal vehicle, fundraising infrastructure, and a narrative that can survive the permit decision.



THEN:

Project outcome ≠ narrative outcome.

A project can move forward while the opposition story becomes more organized, more durable, and more transferable to the next project.

How You Can Help

Be a Voice for Clean Energy Online 🌱

You don't have to be an expert to make a difference.

- **GET LOUD**
Share, like, repost, and comment on accurate clean energy content. Your voice helps good information cut through the noise.
- **KNOW WHERE TO SPEAK UP**
News articles • Politician pages • Local community pages • Industry posts • Public conversations
- **BE RESPECTFUL — BUT FIRM**
Correct misinformation without attacking people. Stick to the facts, not the fight.
- **USE THE FACTS**
Bring credible statistics, research, and real-world examples into the conversation. Specifics carry weight.
- **THINK BEYOND THE PERSON YOU'RE REPLYING TO**
You probably won't change the mind of the person you're responding to — and that's okay. Your response may reach hundreds of people quietly reading along.
- **Your comment could be the one that someone remembers.**

Learn More on How to Support

Examples:

Instead of:

"This is completely false. Do your research."

Try:

"I've seen this claim too, but the research actually shows something different. Here's the data..."

Negative Comment: "Nobody wants these projects in their community."

Your response → "Community concerns are important, but it's also worth hearing from the farmers, landowners, and communities that support and benefit from these projects."



Small Steps to Big Impact: Supporting Clean Energy Efforts with Len Luka

Plugging In!



0:00     1x   15:34



[Listen Here](#)