

**BECOME A CLEAN ENERGY
COMMUNITY**

CLEAN ENERGY COMMUNITIES PROGRAM 3.0

PRESENTATION OVERVIEW

- Welcome & Introductions
- Tug Hill Commission with Gabriel Yerdon
- Clean Energy Communities Program Overview
- How Municipalities Can Participate
- Current Grants Available & Award Amounts
- Utilizing Grant Funding
- High-Impact Actions Overview
- Village of Pulaski Case Study with Mayor Jan Tighe
- Q&A Session
- Clean Energy Communities Contact Information



PRESENTERS



GABRIEL YERDON

Project Specialist

NYS Tug Hill
Commission



SAMANTHA
FRANCISCO, MVEDD

Clean Energy Specialist

Mohawk Valley Region



SHAWNEA HULL,
ANCA

CEC Coordinator

Jefferson & Lewis
County



AMANDA MAZZONI,
CNY RPDB

**CEC Regional
Coordinator**

Cayuga, Cortland, Madison,
Onondaga, & Oswego Counties



AMANDA WHALEN,
MVEDD

CEC Coordinator

Mohawk Valley
Region

A scenic landscape featuring a calm lake in the foreground, surrounded by dense green forests. In the background, rolling mountains are visible under a soft, hazy sky. The overall tone is peaceful and natural.

WHAT IS THE THE CLEAN ENERGY COMMUNITIES PROGRAM?

NYSERDA's Clean Energy Communities Program is for any municipality who wants to benefit from the clean energy economy. This program gives municipalities the opportunity to invest their efforts in clean and sustainable climate smart and energy initiatives while improving the environment.

NYSERDA rewards these efforts and initiatives with access to grants to provide funding for more clean energy projects.

Through this program, the Clean Energy Communities Coordinators will offer free technical assistance and help municipalities identify High-Impact Actions that meet their community's needs.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE

Complete High-Impact Actions

High-Impact Actions are steps municipalities take to improve their local community. Each high-impact action has set requirements and specifications.

Submit High-Impact Actions

Submitting these actions are how municipalities earn credit for completion.

Earn a Clean Energy Grant

Municipalities are eligible for grants based on the accumulation of points, and how many high-impact actions are submitted. These grant awards are used to fund more clean energy projects.

TWO PATHWAYS TO GRANT FUNDING

DESIGNATION GRANTS

A designation grant is awarded after 4 high-impact actions are submitted and approved.

Grants are awarded based on the number of points that are accumulated by completing and submitting the high-impact actions.

ACTION GRANTS

Earn grants for completing campaigns, and earn more funding as more community members participate.

A community campaign focuses on local outreach and education about clean technologies (community solar, clean heating and cooling, and electric vehicles) with the goal of encouraging adoption by residents.



DESIGNATION GRANTS BEFORE 10/1/2024

Designation Level	Number of Points	Funding for Small Municipalities (Up to 39,999 population)	Funding for Large Municipalities (40,000 or greater population)
CEC Designation - must complete 4 high-impact actions	N/A	\$5,000	\$5,000
1-Star Designation ★	1,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
2-Star Designation ★★	3,000	\$50,000	\$125,000
3-Star Designation ★★★	5,000	\$100,000	\$200,000
4-Star Designation ★★★★	7,000	\$175,000	\$275,000
5-Star Designation ★★★★★	9,000	\$250,000	\$350,000

DESIGNATION GRANTS ON OR AFTER 10/1/2024

Designation Level	Number of Points	Funding for Small Municipalities (Up to 39,999 population)	Funding for Large Municipalities (40,000 or greater population)
CEC Designation - Must complete 4 high-impact actions	N/A	\$5,000	\$5,000
1-Star Designation ★	1,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
2-Star Designation ★★	3,000	\$40,000	\$100,000
3-Star Designation ★★★	5,000	\$75,000	\$150,000
4-Star Designation ★★★★	7,000	\$125,000	\$200,000
5-Star Designation ★★★★★	9,000	\$200,000	\$300,000

ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITY: Disadvantaged Communities Bonus Grants

DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITIES

Project components located within a Disadvantaged Community may be eligible for additional CEC grant funding. [Disadvantaged Community](#)

These bonus grants can now be earned for grants over \$5,000. These grants may be eligible for a grant bonus up to 50% of the awarded amount for a clean energy project. This project must be located in a disadvantaged community.

If you are located in a Disadvantaged Community, please contact your Clean Energy Communities Coordinator.

HOW CAN GRANT FUNDING BE USED?

PRE-APPROVED PROJECTS

- Solar
- EVs (road and non-road)
- Charging Stations
- Heat Pumps
- Building Energy Upgrades (with energy study)
- Purchasing Electric Landscaping Equipment



CUSTOM PROJECTS



The background image shows an electric vehicle charging station. A silver car is parked at a charging station with a blue and yellow lightning bolt logo. The car's charging port is open, and a charging cable is plugged in. The scene is outdoors, with trees and a building visible in the background. A semi-transparent blue banner is overlaid on the image, containing the text.

**WHAT HIGH-IMPACT ACTIONS ARE A
GOOD FIT FOR YOUR COMMUNITY?**

BENCHMARKING



BENCHMARKING-ADVANCED REPORTING (300 POINTS)

- Adopt the Benchmarking policy
- Upload and share 24 months of energy-use data for municipal buildings 1000 square feet and larger in Energy Star Portfolio Manager

BENCHMARKING-LARGE PRIVATE BUILDINGS (1,500 POINTS)

- Adopt Benchmarking policy for commercial and multifamily buildings 25,000 square feet and larger

BUILD READY

Program Lookback date: 12/13/23

Advance large-scale renewable energy projects on underutilized land (ie. brownfields, landfills, parking lots, former industrial sites, etc.)

SITE NOMINATION (100 POINTS)

- An elected official, local community member, private company, or other interested party nominates a potential Build-Ready site through NYSERDA's Build Ready nomination form.

SITE SELECTION (700 POINTS)

- Submit a copy of the signed Memorandum of Understanding between the municipality and NYSERDA
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FaXbKCqCKuo>

RENEWABLE ENERGY



CDG SUBSCRIPTION (300 POINTS)

- Municipal subscription to Community Distributed Generation (CDG) projects like solar, hydro, or wind
- Municipalities that have already received credit for CDG subscriptions under Clean Energy Upgrades in the a previous round of the CEC program are not eligible

100% RENEWABLE ENERGY (700 POINTS)

- Municipality purchases Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs)
- RECs must be produced in the same calendar year as the electricity consumption; electricity consumption must occur in 2021 and later to earn credit for this action

RENEWABLE ENERGY

Program Lookback date: 01/26/2021

HOST CLEAN ENERGY GENERATION INSTALLATION ON MUNICIPAL PROPERTY (400-1,500 POINTS)

- Municipalities that allow third-party owners to install clean energy projects on municipal rooftops, parking lots, landfills or other sites
- Eligible technologies are solar, hydro, or wind
- Points are tiered based on project size

CLEAN ENERGY GENERATION INSTALLATION OWNED BY MUNICIPALITY (600-2,100 Points)

- Municipalities are eligible for points if they own clean energy projects
- Points are tiered based on project size

CLEAN ENERGY UPGRADES



CLEAN ENERGY UPGRADES (500-1,000 POINTS)

- Earn credit for building retrofits and upgrades
- Tiered points based on % reduction in emissions for municipal buildings owned or occupied that are 1,000 square feet or larger
- Upgrades must be substantially completed after August 1, 2016

EXAMPLES OF CLEAN ENERGY UPGRADES

LIGHTING UPGRADES

- Interior and/or exterior



BUILDING HVAC

- Controls / Building Management
- Boiler and chiller plant upgrades
- On demand water heaters
- Heat pumps

BUILDING UPGRADES

- Insulation
- Air Sealing



WATER AND WASTEWATER FACILITIES

- Motors and Variable Frequency Drives (VFDs)

MUNICIPAL BUILDING DEMONSTRATION

MUNI BUILDING DEMO: CLEAN HEATING & COOLING (700-1,700 Points)

- Earn credit for installing ground- and/or air-source heat pump systems as a building's primary (75% or greater) heating and cooling system
- Lookback date: August 1, 2016



MUNICIPAL BUILDING DEMONSTRATION

MUNI BUILDING DEMO: NET ZERO (500-1,300 Points)

- Municipal buildings that are built or retrofitted to be zero emissions through renewable energy technology installation, energy efficient technology installation and energy efficient operation strategies.
- Lookback date: August 1, 2016

MUNI BUILDING DEMO: POOL HEAT PUMPS (100 Points)

- Municipal pools that use a heat pump pool heater after December 13, 2023 can earn credit



LED STREETLIGHTS



50% CONVERSION OF COBRA HEAD STREETLIGHTS (700 POINTS)

- Earn credit if half of all municipal and utility-owned cobra head streetlights are converted to LEDs
- Municipalities with less than 20 streetlights can earn credit if at least 10 fixtures are converted to LEDs

50% CONVERSION OF DECORATIVE STREETLIGHTS (200 POINTS)

- Earn credit if half of all municipal and utility-owned decorative streetlights are converted to LEDs
- Municipalities with less than 20 streetlights can earn credit if at least 10 fixtures are converted to LEDs

THERMAL ENERGY NETWORKS

THERMAL ENERGY NETWORK: STUDY (500 POINTS)

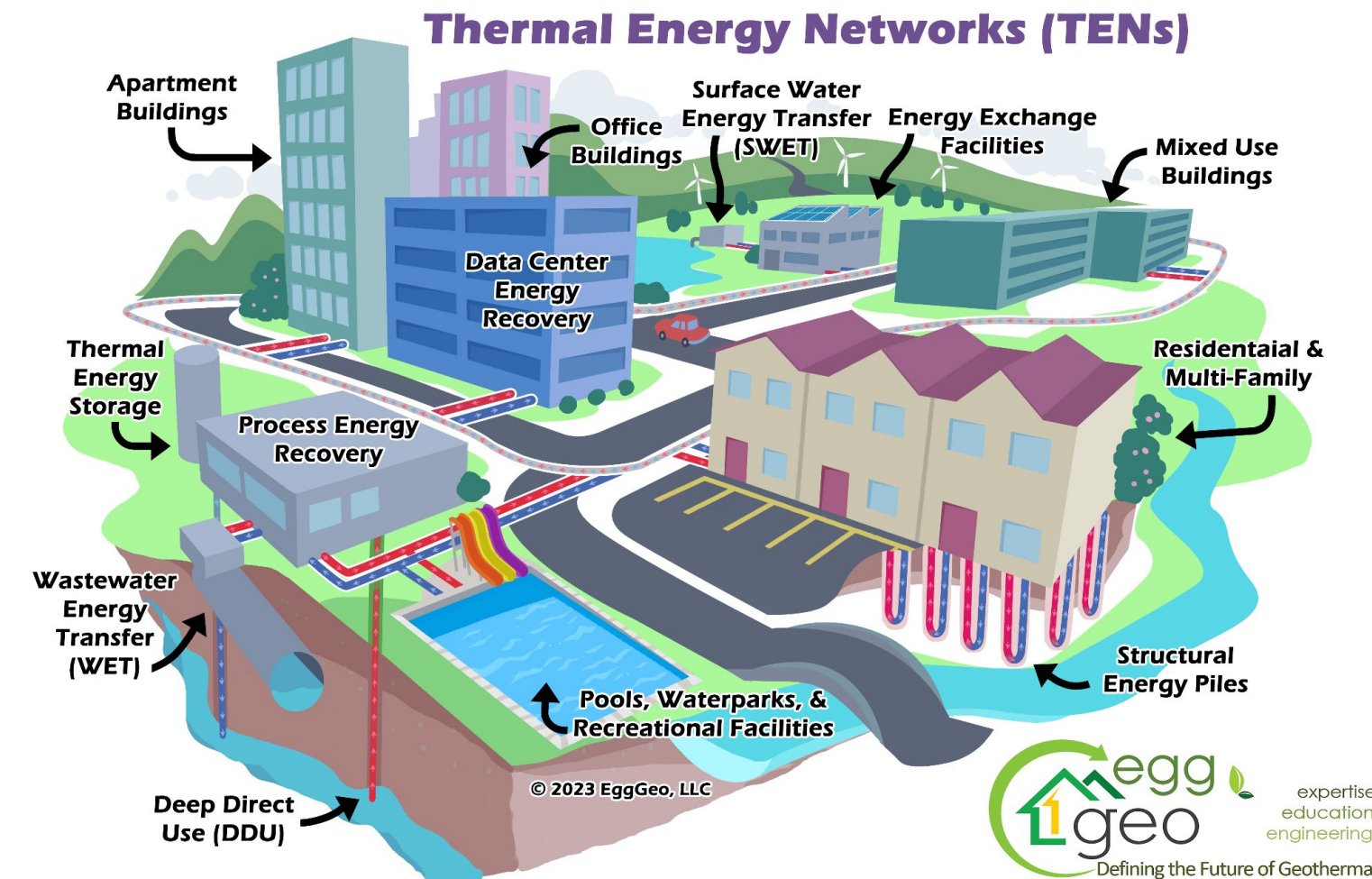
- Conduct Thermal Energy Network feasibility study funded through NYSERDA's FlexTech Program (<https://www.nyserda.ny.gov/All-Programs/FlexTech-Program>) to assess if this is the right fit for your community

THERMAL ENERGY NETWORK: RFP (500 POINTS)

- Issue a Request for Proposal (RFP) after December 13, 2023 to earn credit

2024 NY THERMAL ENERGY NETWORKS SUMMIT

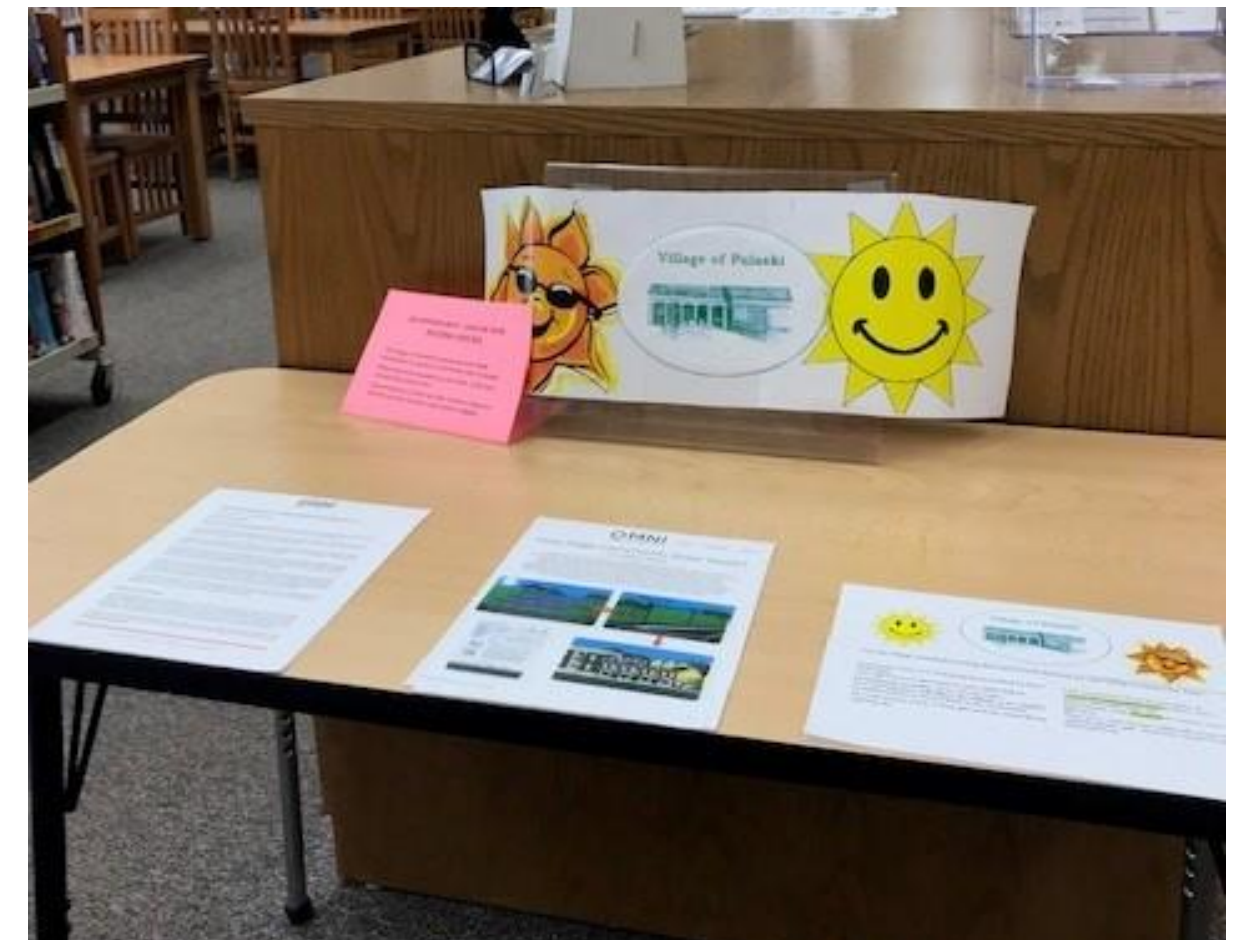
- March 6, 2024, Albany Capital Center
- [Register Here](#)



COMMUNITY CAMPAIGNS



- Undertake a community campaign to increase number of residents benefiting from clean energy
 - Community solar
 - Electric vehicles
 - Clean heating and cooling
- Earn grants for completing campaigns, and earn more funding as more community members participate
- Earn up to 3,800 points
- CEC designation not required



Village of Pulaski community solar campaign table at library

COUNTY HOSTED TRAININGS

ONLY APPLICABLE TO COUNTY GOVERNMENTS

- Convene and support municipalities to advance local action on clean energy
- Four trainings available, 300 points each
 - Overview of Model Solar Energy Law
 - Overview of Model Battery Energy Storage System Law
 - Clean Energy and Your Comprehensive Plan
 - Solar PV Permitting and Inspecting (Approved for 2-hours of In-Service training credit)
- Trainings can be in-person or virtual
- At least 35 percent of the municipalities in the county must attend to earn credit



ENERGY CODE ENFORCEMENT TRAINING

ENERGY CODE ENFORCEMENT TRAINING (300 POINTS)

- Municipal code official attends free training on both residential and commercial NYS Energy Codes
- Trainings after January 26, 2021 count towards credit under this action

UPCOMING TRAININGS:

- Albany - Mar 20, 2024 8-5
- Lake Placid - April 2, 2024 8-5

To register or find more trainings, visit:

<https://www.newportventures.net/nyserda-energy-code-enforcement-training>



CLIMATE SMART COMMUNITIES CERTIFICATION

BRONZE CERTIFICATION (800 POINTS) and SILVER CERTIFICATION (600 POINTS)

- Certification level must be current when submitting to NYSERDA Portal
- Can submit for this action again if muni has earned recertification
- Submit SEPARATELY to earn full 1,400 points

To learn more, please contact your regional [CSC Coordinator](#).



Left: Town of Richland
CSC Certification

Middle: CNY CSC
Certification group,
March 2022

Right: Village of Pulaski
CSC Certification



COMMUNITY CHOICE AGGREGATION

CCA - 50 TO 100% RENEWABLE DEFAULT SUPPLY MIX WITH 100% Opt-up Option
(500 Points)

CCA - 100% RENEWABLE DEFAULT SUPPLY MIX (1,500 POINTS)

- Allows local elected officials to choose where the energy comes from for their community
- Purchase power in bulk for virtually all homes and small businesses within the participating jurisdiction
- Ensure that a greater percentage of electricity is coming from renewable sources.
- Deliver fixed-rate electricity prices and cleaner energy for your constituents



GREEN FINANCING



OPEN C-PACE AUTHORIZATION (200 POINTS)

- Requires adoption of a local law and signing a municipal agreement with the C-PACE Administrator

COMPLETE OPEN C-PACE PROJECT (400 POINTS)

- Financing provides a low cost, long-term alternative to traditional loans to fund clean energy projects in commercially owned buildings

NY GREEN BANK PROJECT CLOSING (400 POINTS)

- New York State-sponsored investment fund at NYSERDA — dedicated to filling financing gaps in clean energy and sustainable infrastructure markets.
- Promoting NYGB financing opportunities on municipalities website (Social Media/News Posts)
- Outreach to developers regarding NY Green Bank Financing programs PRIOR to loan closing

CLEAN FLEETS



LIGHT DUTY ELECTRIC VEHICLES (CLASS 1-2) (300 - 1,500 POINTS)

MEDIUM/HEAVY-DUTY ELECTRIC VEHICLES (CLASS 3-8) (600 POINTS)

- Examples: Box Truck, HD Pickup, Bucket Truck, Single-Axle, School Bus, Rack Truck, Transit Bus, Truck Tractor, Dump Truck
- Vehicle must be new and manufactured for use primarily on public streets, roads, and highways (55 MPH minimum)
- Must be purchased AFTER December 13, 2023

Office of General Services, Inflation Reduction Act Tax Credits, NYSERDA Truck Voucher Program

CLEAN FLEETS



LIGHT DUTY NON-ROAD VEHICLES (200 POINTS)

- Examples of eligible vehicles: UTV/ATV, Forklift, Snowmobiles
- One submission allowed per municipality.
- Vehicle must be purchased AFTER December 13, 2023

MEDIUM/HEAVY-DUTY NON-ROAD VEHICLES (700 POINTS)

- Examples of eligible vehicles: Aerial Lifts, Backhoes, Cement Mixer, Crawler Tractor, Dumpers, Excavator, Loader, Paver/Paving Equip., AT Forklift, Skid Steer Loader, Sweepers, Tractor, Trenchers
- One submission allowed per municipality.
- Vehicle must be purchased AFTER December 13, 2023



CLEAN FLEETS



LEVEL 2 - EV CHARGING STATIONS (200 - 1,200 POINTS)

- Tier 1 - Two ports = 200 Points
- Tier 2 - Four ADDITIONAL ports to Tier 1 = +400 Points
- Tier 3 - Ten ADDITIONAL ports to Tier 2 = +600 Points

NEW - LEVEL 3 - DC FAST CHARGING STATIONS (500 - 2,500 POINTS)

- Tier 1 - One port = 500 Points
- Tier 2 - Two ADDITIONAL ports to Tier 1 = +800 Points
- Tier 3 - Three ADDITIONAL ports to Tier 2 = +1,200 Points



ELECTRIC LANDSCAPING EQUIPMENT



NEW - ELECTRIC LANDSCAPING EQUIPMENT (200 POINTS)

- Must be purchased AFTER December 13, 2023.
- In-Service Date = Date of Completion



MUNICIPAL CLEAN FLEETS INVENTORY



NEW - MUNICIPAL CLEAN FLEETS INVENTORY (200 POINTS)

- Inventory must have been completed ON or AFTER January 1, 2023.
- Minimum of five vehicles and must include all required 11 categories for every four-wheeled owned/operated by the municipality

Manufacturer: MACK TRUCKS INC.

DBAs:

Vehicle Type: INCOMPLETE VEHICLE

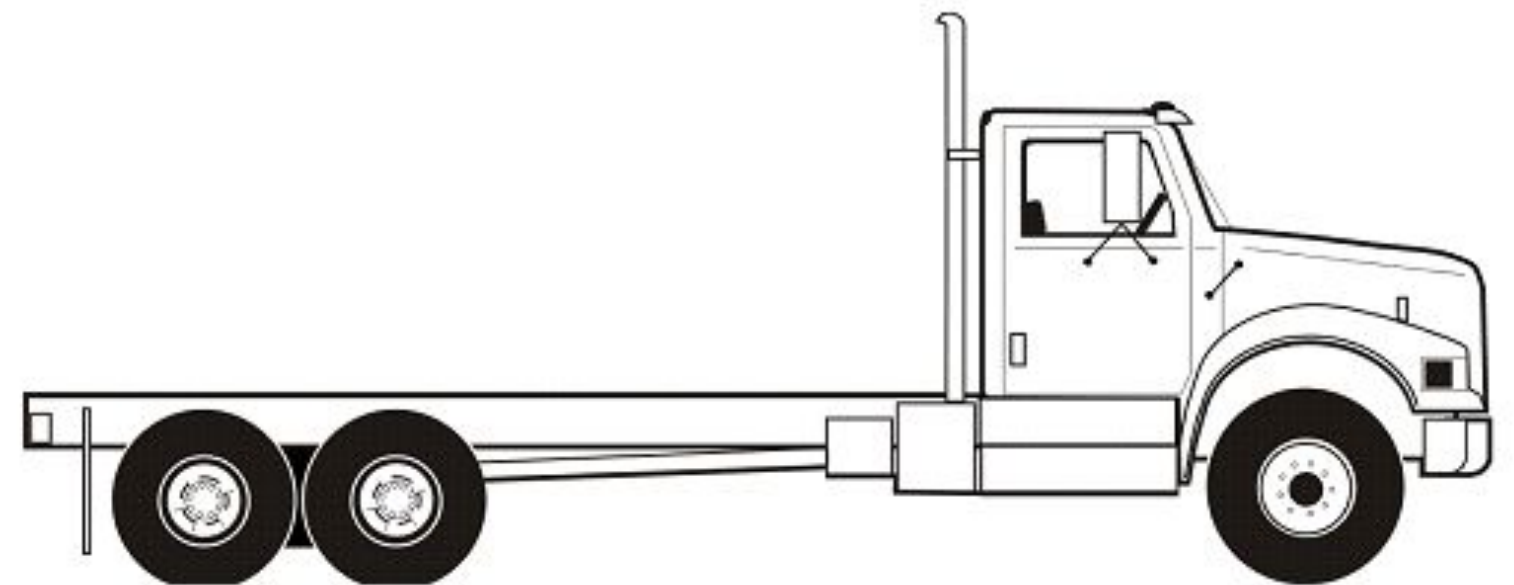
Model Year: 2015

Make: MACK

Model: GU (Granite)

Body Class: Truck

Show All Vehicle Details




CASE STUDY: VILLAGE OF PULASKI



Jan Tighe, Mayor
of the Village of
Pulaski

Select Your Community: Village of Pulaski

Village of Pulaski



A NYSERDA Clean Energy Community

2,365
POPULATION (2010 CENSUS)

Central New York
REGION

Oswego
COUNTY

Accomplishments

Advanced (v3.0) (★★)

(Earn 1000 points for 3-Star status)

13

ACTIONS COMPLETED



4,000

POINTS EARNED

High Impact Actions

	Count	Points
Benchmarking	2	300
Clean Energy Upgrades	1	500
Clean Fleets	1	200
Clean Heating and Cooling Demo	1	700
Climate Smart Communities Certification	1	600
Community Campaigns	1	200
Energy Code Enforcement Training	2	200
LED Street Lights	2	900
Transportation and Landscaping	1	200
Unified Solar Permit	1	200
Grand Total	13	4,000

An aerial photograph of a suburban neighborhood, showing a mix of green trees and residential buildings. A semi-transparent blue rectangular overlay covers the middle portion of the image, serving as a background for the text.

QUESTIONS?

CLEAN ENERGY COMMUNITIES PROGRAM CONTACT INFORMATION

ANCA

NANCY BERNSTEIN:
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AND FRANKLIN
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