

VILLAGE AND TOWN OF NEW PALTZ



THE BACKGROUND

Solar-electric power is generated from the conversion of sunlight into electricity through a photovoltaic (PV) or solar cell. Photovoltaics provide Power NaturallySM and reliably. While the initial system cost can be considerable, NYSERDA has introduced an innovative program to make PV systems

more affordable

and to encourage new PV installations through qualified system installers.

THE STORY

The Village and Town of New Paltz have joined in a collaborative initiative to offset operational expenses, conserve resources and reduce air pollution through the use of renewable energy.

A photovoltaic (PV) system atop the Department of Public Works building converts sunlight to electricity, powering the shared Village and Town municipal buildings with clean, renewable energy.

This highly visible PV system is located in the municipal complex on Plattekill Avenue, the major pedestrian and vehicular artery connecting SUNY New Paltz and the commercial core of the community.

The Village of New Paltz is also in the process of becoming an Energy Smart community, and is taking measures to implement Energy Smart activities. The Village and Town of New Paltz are collaborating with SUNY New Paltz, the New Paltz Central School District, and the New Paltz Regional Chamber of Commerce to provide PV and Energy Smart-related science education opportunities for the college and school district through curriculum, seminars, and workshops.

For more information call 1-866-NYSERDA or log on to www.PowerNaturally.org

Thanks to the NYSERDA Photovoltaic Incentive program, places like the Village and Town of New Paltz can install affordable PV systems. It's part of NYSERDA's commitment to help make New York State more energy efficient.

THE TEAM

- **NYSERDA:** funding and coordination of this PV project, and 11 other municipal PV projects, is a result of the settlement of a lawsuit by the New York State Office of the Attorney General (OAG) against the Virginia Electric Power Company (VEPCO). www.PowerNaturally.org
- **John Calhoun:** A PV consultant, responsible for assisting New Paltz in the design and procurement of its PV system.
- **Hudson Valley Clean Energy, Inc:** A NYSERDA "Eligible installer", responsible for installing the New Paltz PV system. www.hvce.com

THE SYSTEM

The 14.85 kW PV system is located on the Department of Public Works (DPW) building. While it looks like one system, it is actually three different systems that are connected to the utility grid through three utility meters that serve the Village Hall offices, the Village Fire Department, and the Town Police Department. A solar-powered battery back-up system provides supplemental power for the Fire Department during utility outages. The system cost is approximately \$143,380 and the NYSERDA incentive is \$96,200.

THE SAVINGS

The New Paltz PV system will generate approximately **15,500** kilowatt-hours of electricity annually.

Emissions of CO₂ will be reduced by over **14,270** pounds annually.

