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**MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF
A.7275-C (Jenne) / S.5549-C (Griffo)
In Relation to Maintaining the Continued Viability of the State's
Existing Large-Scale, Renewable Energy Resources**

June 4, 2018

The Alliance for Clean Energy New York (ACE NY) supports A.7275-C/S.5549-C and urges its immediate passage. This bill would allow New York State to maintain its leadership role in developing and implementing renewable energy by supporting the State's already existing large-scale renewable energy resources. Supporting existing renewable energy facilities will help to save the jobs that these generators have created, encourage generators to sell their renewable energy credits in New York rather than out-of-state, and allow New York to achieve state goals at the lowest cost to ratepayers.

New York has a 50% renewable energy by 2030 target that will require use of the full range of renewable technologies, and large-scale energy resources will play a crucial role in meeting that goal. In order to achieve this task, we must both build new renewables *and* retain existing projects. This requires providing adequate pricing signals and financial incentives for existing projects to remain in operation, as this bill sets out.

In 2016, twenty-four percent of the State's electric load was supplied by renewable resources, all while supporting over 22,000 jobs in the renewable generating sector. Should these existing resources fall out of operation, New York State will lose valuable jobs. By ensuring that the utilities are responsible for procuring renewable energy from existing facilities, this bill would help to keep those facilities in operation.

In addition, this bill would help New York get to 50% by retaining existing clean attributes in state. Currently, New York does not allow existing generators to participate in state procurements, but RPS programs in neighboring states do. This has created the imminent threat of losing some of our baseline clean energy generation to out-of-state customers, which this bill is intended to remedy. Furthermore, a recent study performed by Synapse Energy Economics shows the substantial cost savings of retaining our existing renewable generation on our path towards 50%.

If New York State is to achieve its clean energy, climate change, and resiliency goals, then we must further promote and incentivize the development and retention of renewable energy. This bill will also ensure fuel diversity for the State's energy portfolio, providing energy security, system reliability, and protection to consumers from potential price spikes or shortages.

For the above reasons, the Alliance for Clean Energy New York supports this legislation. For more information contact Anne Reynolds, Executive Director, at 518-432-1405.