Long Island leads New York in solar energy. In partnership with the solar industry, LIPA will exceed our share of New York’s 6,000 megawatt distributed solar goal by 2025.

LIPA has installed 40 percent of all distributed solar systems in New York to date. Yet, Long Island accounts for only 12.5 percent of all electric produced in the state. Due to our investment in solar, LIPA is on track to exceed its share of New York’s 6GW distributed solar goal.

LIPA’s 2020 budget invests $291 million in clean energy programs, including $41 million for distributed solar energy and $148 million for utility-scale renewables, such as solar farms in Calverton, Kings Park, Riverhead, Shoreham, and Upton.

Long Island is on Track to Exceed its Share of New York’s 6GW 2025 Distributed Solar Goal

Source: New York State Energy Research and Development Authority and PSEG Long Island
Here are some common myths and facts surrounding solar on Long Island.

**MYTH**  “LIPA has no distributed solar goal”

**FACT**  LIPA has committed to achieving 750 megawatts of distributed solar by 2025. This is Long Island’s share of the state’s 6-gigawatt distributed solar goal.

**FACT**  LIPA is already 75% of the way to its distributed solar goal (563 of 750MW).

**FACT**  LIPA is moving faster than the rest of the state, which is 25% of the way.

**MYTH**  “LIPA and PSEG Long Island do not invest in distributed solar”

**FACT**  LIPA will spend $41 million in 2020 alone on distributed solar incentives through its Net Energy Metering (NEM) and Value of Distributed Energy Resources (VDER) programs. This amount is forecasted to increase significantly in future years.

This investment is separate from and in addition to the $89 million 2020 Energy Efficiency Plan and the $148 million investment in utility scale renewable power.

**MYTH**  “The Long Island solar market is shrinking”

**FACT**  Long Island is adding over 60 megawatts of new solar installations, per year.

66.2 megawatts were installed in Long Island in 2018.

67 megawatts were installed in Long Island in the first three quarters of 2019.

**MYTH**  “LIPA is devaluing community solar on January 1, 2020”

**FACT**  In 2017, the rest of the state’s utilities began paying community solar projects using VDER pricing.

**FACT**  In 2017, LIPA’s Board authorized net metering for community solar projects for a fixed, two-year period (ending 1/1/2020) to provide a smooth transition for community solar.

After January 1, 2020 new community solar projects will still be subsidized. They will be paid according to their value, PLUS a bonus incentive called the “community credit.”

**MYTH**  “LIPA is not doing enough to support the solar industry”

**FACT**  LIPA has many programs that support a vibrant solar industry on Long Island:

- Net metering incentives for onsite solar
- Demand response incentives for solar and hybrid solar+storage
- VDER incentives for community distributed generation, remote, and large onsite solar
- Feed-in-tariffs (FITs)
  - FITs are only available in Long Island (not in the rest of the state)
  - FITs provide long-term fixed prices to solar projects, lowering risk
- Large scale procurements

**FACT**  In November 2019, LIPA and PSEG Long Island announced a new program called PSEG Long Island Solar Communities. It will add 20 megawatts of shareable solar, with the benefits dedicated exclusively to our low-and-moderate income customers. The program will nearly double the community solar market on Long Island.