



Taking the big Steps Forward

(without stepping on what we have today)

Where are we?



- ▶ Despite the popularity of criticizing our current infrastructure, electricity is seen by the general population as an extremely safe and dependable source of energy.
- ▶ Events preventable (with rational economics) that interrupt power availability over widespread areas are relatively rare.



Furthermore:

- ▶ NYC presents unique challenges to large scale pv implementation because of the lack of open space, tall buildings with lots of shading and roof obstructions, and extremely high densities of population and power utilization.
- ▶ Competing political agendas often result in situations where we have agreement on ultimate goals, but very different ideas on how they can and should be achieved.

NYC Itself

- ▶ NYC has shown tremendous leadership in reduction of greenhouse gases with broad-based and practical initiatives:
- ▶ Rationalization of municipal vehicles fleets including extensive use of hybrid and plug in vehicles as well as CNG.
- ▶ Local legislation mandating energy efficiency improvements across both public and private sectors.





- ▶ Improvements in the regulatory environment relating to location and installation of alternative energy projects.
- ▶ Large scale efforts to improve the energy utilization and management across the NYC government real estate portfolio.
- ▶ Close to 500 participants gathered here today, the CUNY Solar Initiatives, and the CUNY role in bringing interested parties together are extremely valuable.

Stop and Count to 10 Before You Make a Move

- ▶ Because of our societal reliance on a dependable supply of electricity, any movement to change the manner in which power is distributed must not diminish the users expectations of availability or affordability, any project that does so (in a real or perceived manner) will receive significant pushback.
- ▶ The real stakeholders are the user communities, both business and resident, all of us can be replaced, made irrelevant, or simply be ignored. To think otherwise is institutional arrogance which can create huge obstacles to the path to the future.





- ▶ Any projects that add large scale storage options, community micro grids, and/or non conventional grid ties need to be implemented with the idea that quality and dependability are a critical aspect of the scope, failures will make it very difficult to secure opportunities in the future.

What is this guy selling?

- ▶ The Joint Industry Board of the Electrical Industry for almost 75 years has represented a partnership between professional electrical contractors and the skilled workforce represented by IBEW Local Union #3.
- ▶ Among our many roles, one of paramount importance is to for enhanced skills training for current journeyman, and apprenticeship training for the next generation of electrical workers.
- ▶ Alternative energy and sustainable construction methods are an important part of that training, we stand ready to train and provide the manpower to enable these initiatives to move forward with the quality and reliability of result that will required to foster public acceptance.



Real Leadership Engenders “Followership”

- ▶ To that end, the new Electrical Industry Training Center in Long Island City is nearing completion, it will offer state of the art opportunities for training in all electrical disciplines.
- ▶ The leadership of Local #3, in particular our Business Manager, Christopher Erikson, has taken an enlightened view of the importance of recognizing the effects of climate change, the need to move forward, but along a rational and well thought out path that both leads us to the future, and allows future generations to share in the new economy.

