

NYC SOLAR & STORAGE INNOVATION & PILOT PROJECTS GUIDANCE



Looking for an opportunity to pilot a technology in coordination with NYC?

PILOTS AT BROOKLYN ARMY TERMINAL (BAT)

Pilots at BAT, run by the NYC Economic Development Corporation (EDC), gives emerging climate tech companies the opportunity to test, refine, de-risk and demonstrate their products in a real-world, urban environment at the Brooklyn Army Terminal (BAT)- a vital 60-acre industrial campus on the South Brooklyn waterfront. NYCEDC selects pilots on a quarterly basis via a rolling application. [Apply here!](#)

NYC SMART CITY TESTBED PROGRAM

The Testbed Program welcomes all urban innovation solutions that can improve operations, service delivery and efficiency, close the digital divide, and enhance the social impact in communities. Any public asset can now serve as a test site for technological innovations that could one day be deployed across more than 55 city agencies and entities. This program is inspiring innovation within City government by streamlining and accelerating the citywide process for piloting emerging technologies. [Apply here!](#)

INNOVATIVE DEMONSTRATIONS FOR ENERGY ADAPTABILITY (IDEA) PROGRAM

NYC Department of Citywide Administrative Services (DCAS) launched the IDEA Program in 2014 to advance the City's emissions reductions goals by engaging vendors to test new or underutilized technologies in City buildings. Participating vendors receive support in building use cases for their solutions, while addressing City building system or operational challenges and informing DCAS cleantech strategy and investments. [Apply here!](#)

HELPFUL STEPS & CONTACTS:

Start conversations early with FDNY and DOB.

These agencies will coordinate depending on the technology proposal.

IS YOUR PILOT PROJECT A NEW TECHNOLOGY, OR A NOVEL USE OF AN EXISTING TECHNOLOGY, THAT HAS NOT BEEN DEPLOYED IN NYC BEFORE? IF YES:

FDNY: Begin with the submission of a “Concept Proposal Tech Document” application to the FDNY’s Technology Management Unit (TMU), which is an open-ended proposal for new technology or idea(s) that are not specifically covered by the fire code. It is intended to allow applicants to understand FDNY protocols, codes, and regulations that would apply to the proposed project/technology. The TMU will provide comments on the proposal from a fire safety perspective.

Note that filing a Concept Proposal Tech Document does not authorize the applicant to install or use the proposed design, but it does inform applicants of the likelihood of obtaining approval prior to filing an application. Once the concept proposal review is complete, the applicant would then progress to submit any required plan approvals identified via the concept proposal review.

Online application portal and detailed instructions.

DOES YOUR PILOT PROJECT INVOLVE USE OF BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE? IF IT DOES:

DOB: Reach out to DOB’s Office of Technical Certification and Research (OTCR) and Office of Alternative Energy for early conversations about your proposed technology.

Office of Technical Certification & Research

Phone: (212) 393-2626

Email: OTCR@Buildings.nyc.gov

Office of Alternative Energy

Phone: (212) 393-2626

Email: OAE@Buildings.nyc.gov

CONTACT AN NYC DG OMBUDSMAN:

NYC DG Hub Ombudsmen provide technical assistance on permitting and other aspects of deploying solar and storage installations in New York City. For assistance, please contact smartdghub@cuny.edu.