



STATE OF NEW YORK  
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER  
ALBANY 12224

VETO # 37

October 20, 2023

TO THE SENATE:

I am returning herewith, without my approval, the following bill:

Senate Bill Number 6218-A, entitled:

“AN ACT to amend the public authorities law, in relation to enacting “the planned offshore wind transmission act”

NOT APPROVED

This bill would amend the Public Authorities Law to require the New York State Energy and Research Development Authority (NYSERDA), in consultation with the New York Independent System Operator, the New York State Department of Public Service, and certain other entities, to establish a plan related to distribution and transmission infrastructure if the State's offshore wind goals are expanded.

The bill's new requirements would, if the State's offshore wind goals are expanded, be largely duplicative of the planning requirements already in place. New York's Accelerated Renewable Energy Growth and Community Benefit Act (Accelerated Renewables Act) currently requires the Public Service Commission (PSC) to identify the energy infrastructure needed to achieve the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA) goals. The PSC has already started this work. To the extent that this bill's planning requirements are not duplicative, they would cause confusion by assigning contradictory and overlapping planning responsibilities to NYSERDA.

This bill would also authorize the alienation of parkland in Long Beach, Nassau County for the development of an offshore wind facility. It is incumbent on renewable energy developers to cultivate and maintain strong ties to their host communities throughout the planning, siting, and operation of all large-scale projects. Here, the City Council of Long Beach, the host community for the wind power project, has made clear that, while it supports the State's efforts to transition from the use of fossil fuels, it would not support or authorize any alienation of parkland in furtherance of this project. New York State encourages all renewable energy developers to build and maintain strong and continued local support from host communities so that the State can realize the full potential of our green economy and protect New Yorkers from the climate crisis.

In light of these concerns, I am constrained to veto this bill.

The bill is disapproved.

*Ruth Hochel*