



New Found Energy

Incentives: Wind Turbine Systems-New York

<http://www.windpoweringamerica.gov> is an excellent resource for wind power information and initiatives at the national and state levels.

Real Property Tax Exemption:

Section 487 of the New York State Real Property Tax Law provides a 15-year real property tax exemption for solar and wind energy systems constructed in New York State. As currently effective, the law is a *local option* exemption, meaning that local governments are permitted to decide whether or not to allow it. The exemption was mandatory prior to a 1990 reenactment in which the local option clause was added. The exemption is valid unless a government opts out of the exemption, as opposed to the more common practice of requiring governments to "opt-in" in order to offer an exemption.

The exemption applies to systems that are (a) existing or constructed prior to July 1, 1988 (mandatory), or (b) constructed subsequent to January 1, 1991, and prior to January 1, 2011 (local option). The law intends to encourage the installation of solar, wind and farm-waste energy equipment systems and to ensure property owners that their real property taxes will not increase as a result of the installation of these systems. The amount of the exemption is equal to the increase in assessed value attributable to the solar, wind or farm-waste energy system. The exemption applies only to general municipal and school district taxes; it cannot be applied to special assessments or special ad valorem levies.

With respect to systems constructed after January 1, 1991, and before January 1, 2011, each county, city, town, village and school district (except the city school districts of New York, Buffalo, Rochester, Syracuse and Yonkers) may choose whether to disallow the exemption. The option must be exercised by counties, cities, towns and villages through adoption of a local law and by school districts through adoption of a resolution. Click [here](#) for a list of local bodies that have opted not to offer the exemption. Alternately, a local government is permitted to require the property owner to enter into a contract for payments in lieu of taxes, not to exceed the amount payable without the exemption.