

Renewables Can't Do It Alone!

A clean reliable source must be available – only nuclear power can do the job.

Highlights:

- New York is trying to create a decarbonized grid using solar and wind. It will not work.
- On many nights there will be little wind, no sun for sure, and no charged batteries, leading to rolling blackouts.
- There must be a large, carbon-free source that is always available and able to supply whatever electric output is needed.
- Nuclear power is the only reliable, affordable, sustainable solution.

The Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act mandates **carbon-free electricity by 2040** in NY. That power must be reliable and affordable. Yet the Public Service Commission has declared *“there is a gap between the capabilities of existing renewable energy technology and expected future system reliability requirements.”* (PSC Order, May 18, 2023). Filling this gap requires a clean resource that can operate reliably throughout the year.



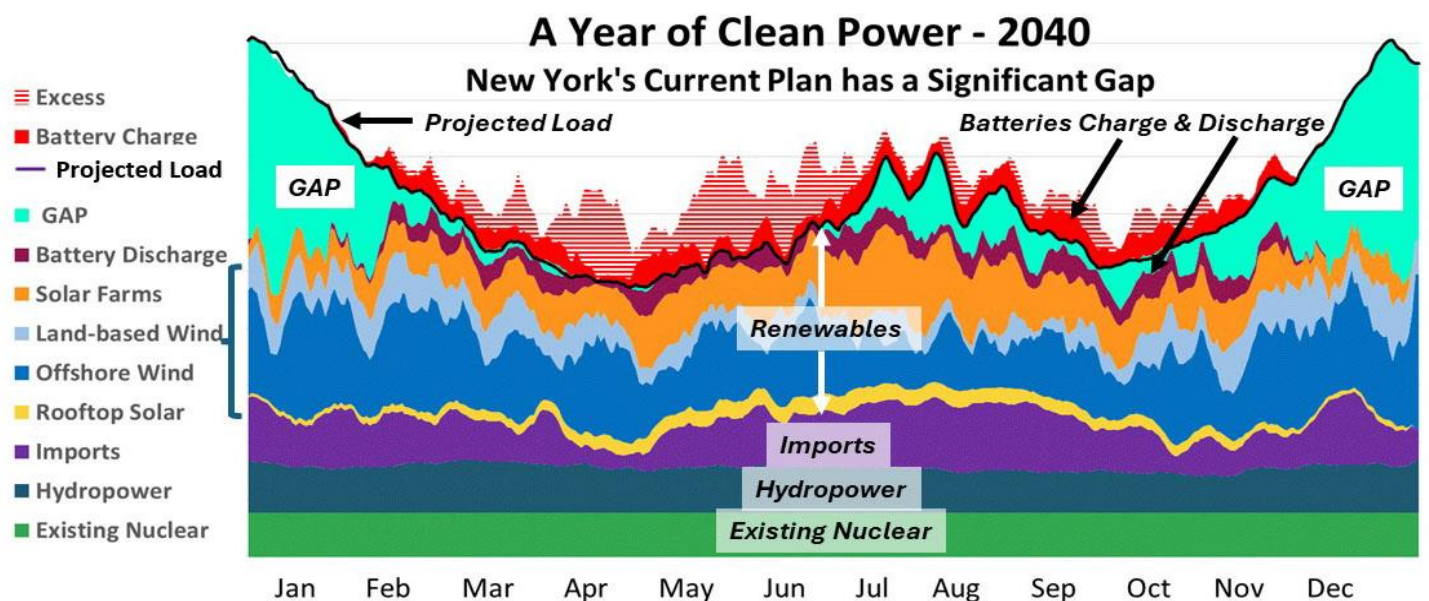
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By 2040, both NYSERDA, the energy planner, and NYISO, the grid operator, estimate the grid will experience a winter peak need of 46-50 GW. Yet, even with the wind blowing at full capacity, no more than 35 GW will be available at night. Batteries will be useless: little or no excess solar capacity exists to charge them, and, of course, solar is not available at night.

The visualization below tells the story. Based on an hour-by-hour analysis, it shows a large gap which must be filled by a carbon-free resource which is available 24/7 throughout the year.

In a detailed paper, we suggest alternatives that use **always-on (baseload) nuclear power** along with an additional nuclear source that can respond to varying demands and ensure a reliable grid. That approach costs much less than the State's plan and causes much less environmental disruption. See *Filling the Gap in New York's Decarbonization Plan: A New View of the Electric Grid*, bit.ly/3Vx7pJ3



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