

Permanent Generator Initiative FAQs

1. What is the Permanent Generator Initiative?

NYSERDA established this Initiative to provide grants to install permanent emergency generators (generators) at strategically located gas stations in the downstate region (Nassau, Suffolk, Rockland, Westchester, Bronx, Kings, Queens, Richmond and New York counties).

2. How much money is available?

Up to \$12 million is available.

3. What is the Initiative timeline?

Applications will be accepted for evaluation until September 15, 2016, or until all funds are committed, whichever comes first. Projects must be installed and documentation complete and submitted to NYSERDA no later than December 2, 2017.

4. How much is NYSERDA paying per station?

Eligible gas station owners/operators may apply for up to 100% reimbursement of project costs per station to install a generator. Cost sharing is not required. However, applicants may propose 90% funding to improve their cost evaluation in the selection process.

5. Which gas stations are eligible to apply?

All gas stations located in the downstate region, comprised of Nassau, Suffolk, Rockland, Westchester, Bronx, Kings, Queens, Richmond, and New York counties, that are outside of the 500-year floodplain and have a minimum of 4 dispensers (a dispenser can fuel 2 vehicles simultaneously).

6. How do I know if I'm in a flood plain?

Gas stations may check their address online at <http://stormrecovery.ny.gov/fuel-ny>. If any part of the gas station property is in a flood plain, it is not eligible for the program.

7. How do I participate in the Permanent Generator Initiative?

Gas stations may apply for the program online [here](#). Only online applications will be accepted. A Scoring Committee will evaluate complete applications in periodic selection rounds. The most strategic gas stations will be selected for grant funding.

8. What information is necessary to complete the application?

- Gas station owner's official business name & information (as reported on your taxes)
- Contact information of authorized representative for the gas station – not the contractor
- Gas station operational information
 - Service details such as number of dispensers, fuel types, convenience store size
 - Hours of operation
 - Letter of confirmation if station is used for fueling by local or state authorities or emergency responders
- Project details such as generator size

- A detailed cost quote with labor and material costs. An example quote is included in the Permanent Generator Initiative PON 3256.

9. What is the next step if my station is selected?

After the application is selected, NYSERDA will issue a grant agreement to sign. Return the signed grant agreement to NYSERDA. NYSERDA will then sign and provide a final executed agreement.

10. When will grant payments be made?

Grant payments will be made after:

- Installation is completed
- A completed Permanent Generator Initiative Payment Request Form is received, including:
 - Local Electrical Inspection Certificate.
 - Proper documentation of the installed equipment.
 - A detailed invoice including labor and equipment costs from the electrical contractor
 - Current Certificate of Insurance for official business name used on your taxes
- NYSERDA has performed a site verification visit, which is dependent upon facilitation by gas station owners.

A Payment Request Form will be provided with the executed agreement. An example Payment Request Form is included in the Permanent Generator Initiative PON 3256 at: (link). For assistance with the grant program, station owners/operators may call toll free 1-855-323-3030 or send an email to GeneratorGrants@arcadis.com. Gas stations will NOT be required by NYSERDA to make up-front payments to their electrical contractor for the grant amount.

11. If I did not participate in the Gas Station Back-Up Power Program, can I still participate in the Permanent Generator Initiative?

Yes. If the gas station meets the program eligibility criteria, it may participate in the Permanent Generator Initiative

12. If I did participate in the Gas Station Back-Up Power Program, can I still participate in the Permanent Generator Initiative?

Yes, participants in the Gas Station Back-Up Power Program are eligible to apply to the Initiative.

13. Is there a generator size required for funding?

The generator must be, at a minimum, sufficient capacity to provide power to operate all dispensers and dispensing equipment, life safety systems, environmental monitoring systems, payment-acceptance equipment, and other systems necessary to ensure that such outlets can continue safe fuel sales operations during an electricity outage. Applicants are encouraged to include additional systems such as convenience store electrical loads in the sizing of the electrical upgrades.

14. Does this work have to be done by a NYSERDA-approved contractor?

No, but it has to be installed by a licensed electrician in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications and all applicable provisions of NYS and local fire prevention and building codes.

15. Will I need a local building permit to install a generator?

Local permits are typically required for generator installations. NYSERDA will need a copy of the electrical certification in order for the station to receive payment.

16. How long could it take to get my building permit?

It can sometimes take weeks to get an electrical permit for the work.

17. Will there be an inspection?

Typically, local building code inspectors will inspect generator installations and issue a certificate if it passes.

18. How long could it take to get my electrical certificate?

It can sometimes take weeks to schedule a local building code inspection and receive a certificate once the work has been completed. Please take this into account in your project timeline. All documentation must be submitted to NYSERDA by December 2, 2017.

19. Is there a way for the installer to be paid directly?

No, but the applicant may request a two-party check when requesting payment. The check will be made out to the installer, but it has to be cosigned by the applicant for the installer to be able to deposit it.

20. Do I need proof of insurance?

Gas stations selected into the Initiative will need to provide a Certificate of Insurance (COI) for a minimum of \$1,000,000 in liability coverage that lists "NYSERDA and the State of New York" as additional insured. This is required at the time of contract.