

**RESOLUTION NO. 170 -2019, ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE
TO EXAMINE COMMUNITY CHOICE AGGREGATION AS AN
ENERGY PROCUREMENT STRATEGY IN SUFFOLK COUNTY**

WHEREAS, Community Choice Aggregation (“CCA”) is an energy distribution model in which local entities aggregate the buying power of individual customers within a defined jurisdiction in order to secure alternative energy supply contracts to protect the economic interests of ratepayers, the resiliency of the power grid, and the environment; and

WHEREAS, the New York State Public Service Commission has identified CCA as consistent with the stated goals of the “Reforming the Energy Vision” (“REV”) regulatory reform initiative; and has stated that CCA programs can result in more attractive energy supply terms than can be obtained by individual customers, through a) the bargaining power that aggregation provides, b) the expertise provided by municipal or consultant experts, and c) the competitive public process for choosing a supplier; and

WHEREAS, because Suffolk County ratepayers pay some of the highest electricity rates in the nation, and as members of a coastal community are subject to grave impacts of the effects of climate change, this Legislature finds it prudent to explore steps to lower the burden of energy costs for ratepayers, while advancing renewable energy opportunities; and

WHEREAS, aggregating the buying power of individual customers county-wide under a CCA model may provide the opportunity to secure cost-effective alternative energy supply contracts, in order to allow consumers greater control of diverse distributed energy resources, and lower costs for consumers; and

WHEREAS, several municipalities in the County are currently considering CCA as an energy procurement strategy, and efficiencies and economies of scale may be achieved through a coordinated, county-wide effort; now, therefore be it

1st RESOLVED, that a Community Choice Aggregation Task Force (“Task Force”) is hereby established to examine the feasibility of utilizing Community Choice Aggregation (“CCA”) as an energy procurement strategy in Suffolk County; and be it further

2nd RESOLVED, that the Task Force shall consist of the following nine (9) members:

- 1) The Chair of the Ways and Means Committee of the County Legislature, or his or her designee, who shall serve as Chair;
- 2) The Chair of the Environment, Planning and Agriculture Committee of the County Legislature, or his or her designee;
- 3) The Chair of the Public Works Committee of the County Legislature, or his or her designee;

- 4) The Presiding Officer of the County Legislature, or his or her designee;
- 5) The County Executive, or his or her designee;
- 6) The Commissioner of the Department of Public Works, or his or her designee;
- 7) A representative of the Suffolk County Supervisors Association;
- 8) A representative of the Suffolk County Village Officials Association; and
- 9) A representative of an organization that supports the development of renewable energy resources, to be appointed by the Legislature;

and be it further

3rd **RESOLVED**, that the Task Force shall hold its first meeting no later than thirty (30) days after the oaths of office of all members have been filed, which meeting shall be convened by the Chair, for the purpose of organization, and the selection of a vice chairperson and a secretary; and be it further

4th **RESOLVED**, that the members of said Task Force shall serve without compensation and shall serve at the pleasure of their respective appointing authorities; and be it further

5th **RESOLVED**, that the Task Force shall hold regular meetings, keep a record of all its proceedings, and determine the rules of its own proceedings with special meetings to be called by the chairperson upon his or her own initiative or upon receipt of a written request therefor signed by at least three (3) members of the Task Force. Written notice of the time and place of such special meetings shall be given by the secretary to each member at least four (4) days before the date fixed by the notice for such special meeting; and be it further

6th **RESOLVED**, that five (5) members of the Task Force shall constitute a quorum to transact the business of the Task Force at both regular and special meetings; and be it further

7th **RESOLVED**, that clerical services involving the month-to-month operation of this Task Force, as well as supplies and postage as necessary, will be provided by the staff of the County Legislature; and be it further

8th **RESOLVED**, that the Task Force may conduct such informal hearings and meetings at any place or places within the County of Suffolk for the purpose of obtaining necessary information or other data to assist it in the proper performance of its duties and functions as it deems necessary; and be it further

9th **RESOLVED**, that the Task Force may delegate to any member of the Task Force the power and authority to conduct such hearings and meetings; and be it further

10th RESOLVED, that the Task Force shall cooperate with the Legislative Committees of the County Legislature and make available to each Committee's use, upon request, any records and other data it may accumulate or obtain; and be it further

11th RESOLVED, that the Task Force shall issue a written report after a comprehensive study on the issues presented, which shall include findings and recommendations regarding the feasibility of establishing CCA in Suffolk County, an evaluation of the CCA establishment process and recommended action for the County, if any; and be it further

13th RESOLVED, that the written report shall be submitted to each member of the County Legislature, the Clerk of the Legislature and the County Executive within one year of the effective date of this resolution for review, consideration and appropriate action, if necessary, by the entire County Legislature; and be it further

14th RESOLVED, that the Task Force shall expire, and the terms of office of its members terminate, as of April 30, 2020 at which time the Task Force shall deposit all the records of its proceedings with the Clerk of the Legislature; and be it further

15th RESOLVED, that this study shall not be performed by any outside consultant or consulting firm unless explicit approval and authorization for such consultant or consulting firm is granted pursuant to a duly enacted resolution of the County Legislature; and be it further

16th RESOLVED, that this Legislature, being the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) lead agency, hereby finds and determines that this resolution constitutes a Type II action pursuant to Section 617.5(c)(26) of Title 6 of the NEW YORK CODE OF RULES AND REGULATIONS (6 NYCRR) and within the meaning of Section 8-0109(2) of the NEW YORK ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION LAW as routine or continuing administration and management not including new programs or major reordering of priorities that may affect the environment, and the Suffolk County Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) is hereby directed to circulate any appropriate SEQRA notices of determination of non-applicability or non-significance in accordance with this resolution.

DATED: March 5, 2019

APPROVED BY:

/s/ Steven Bellone
County Executive of Suffolk County

Date: March 8, 2019