



Kyle Kimball
Vice President
Government, Regional &
Community Affairs

January 29, 2020

The Honorable Costa Constantinides
Councilmember, 22nd District
The Council of the City of New York
250 Broadway, Suite 1778
New York, NY 10007

Dear Councilmember Constantinides,

Con Edison submits this letter in general support of the Renewable Rikers Act. The concept of a large solar farm within New York City is an exciting proposition. As you know, any renewable power that can be created locally can begin to offset traditional fossil fuel-based power generation.

Con Edison, Inc. is the 2nd largest solar developer in North America and, although we are currently not able to bring that expertise to our own grid and in furtherance of meeting the State's Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA) goals, we would like to be a resource to the City in implementing the Renewable Rikers Act.

To meet New York State and City clean energy goals we need a major increase in large-scale renewable energy. We think it makes sense to let customers own and operate these large-scale renewable resources through their utilities, not solely through private merchant developers. These new renewable assets can be constructed by private developers, but the financing and operating costs will be lower for our customers if utilities own them. This is because utility ownership means a permanent and guaranteed source of renewable energy for New Yorkers, lowering costs and increasing union jobs.

Besides installing a solar farm on Rikers Island, synergies with a potential wastewater treatment plant such as using district energy solutions and renewable natural gas, among other ideas, should also be considered. Our recently approved investment plan facilitates these 21st century solutions and we are eager to promote their implementation here in New York City.

Finally, the idea of a renewable energy hub with a public access component is of special interest to Con Edison. Educating the wider public about our City's clean energy future is more important than ever. That is why Con Edison invests in the communities where we live and work and support an effort to provide more hands-on interaction with clean energy technologies, how they are operated and maintained, and empowering the next generation of green jobs.

As you know, the past year has been transformational for the State and City's climate legislation agenda. Local Law 97 and the CLCPA will fundamentally accelerate the transition to a low-carbon future. We support these efforts and are already working toward achieving these targets while still providing safe, reliable energy for all New Yorkers.



We look forward to working with your office, the City of New York, and other stakeholders on this important project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kyle Kimball', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Kyle Kimball