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## Climate and Ag/Working Lands

**Guest:** Ziggy Majumdar (NYSERDA)

**Organizers:** Patrick Beary & Cynthia Mathys (Cornell Atkinson), Steven Wolf (NATR)

**Date:** Monday, July 27th, 2020; 12:00-1:15 PM

**Zoom:** [Click here to join.](#)

**Password:** 604821

**Abstract:** NYSERDA is interested to identify and prioritize novel approaches to reduce New York State's greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by improving natural working lands and utilization of biomaterials that include crops, wood and waste. Natural working lands, such as agricultural land and forests, supply resources such as food, provide jobs and regulate climate by altering solar albedo and acting as a net sink for atmospheric carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>). Improved utilization of biomaterials can further reduce emissions, such as by avoiding landfill methane, nutrient recycling, or creating products that can substitute materials with high embodied emissions, such as cement, steel, plastics, certain building insulation and many others. Taken together, these can offer significant reductions in State GHG emissions.

The goal of this discussion is to get input from NY Ag & Land experts and other relevant subject matter experts on:

- 1) High priority areas for investment,
- 2) Novel approaches that have transformative/disruptive potential,
- 3) The role for NYSERDA compared with other local, federal and private funding organizations,
- 4) What can NYSERDA do to give NY a greater competitive advantage in these areas to support growth of a low-carbon economy.

Some generic categories of opportunity that have so far been identified will be discussed (that do not reflect the opinion of NYSERDA as an organization) and questions posed to audience members to provide input.

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