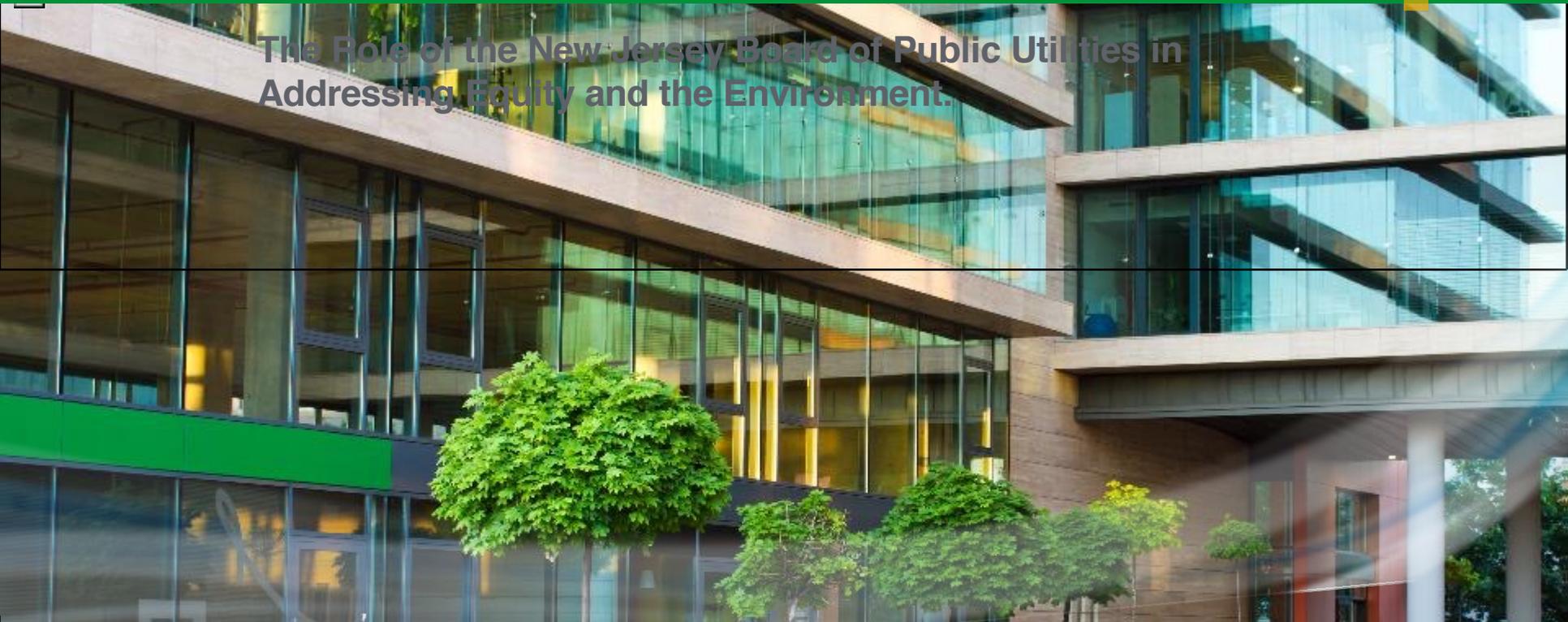


Clean Energy and Equity



The Role of the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities in Addressing Equity and the Environment.



New Jersey Board of Public Utilities



The New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (NJBPU) is the state agency with authority to oversee the regulated utilities, which provide critical services such as **natural gas**, **electricity**, water, telecommunications, and cable television.

The NJBPU's mission is to ensure safe, adequate, and proper utility services at reasonable rates for customers in New Jersey.



Division of Clean Energy

- The Division of Clean Energy manages and coordinates programs aimed at achieving 100% clean energy by 2050.
- The Division oversees numerous projects and initiatives including:
 - NJ Clean Energy Program (NJCEP)*
 - Office of Clean Energy Equity*
 - Energy Efficiency
 - Electric Vehicles
 - Offshore Wind
 - Solar Programs including Community Solar
 - Energy Storage

Equity at NJBPU

The NJBPU is committed to ensuring all New Jersey residents have access to clean energy and related workforce development and job opportunities. We believe that a more fair and equitable clean energy future, that affords its benefits to all communities, is possible and are working toward that goal.

CLEAN ENERGY ACT

The CEA calls for programs that “ensure universal access to energy efficiency measures, and serve the needs of low-income communities”. It seeks to reduce the inequity experienced by groups and individuals across NJ who disproportionately lack access to energy-efficient housing, appliances, and technologies.

ENERGY MASTER PLAN

The EMP establishes that the State’s priorities in developing its statewide EE structure are affordability, equity, environmental justice, economic development, decarbonization, and public health. There are seven strategies established to get New Jersey to 100% clean energy by 2050.

Office of Clean Energy Equity

PURPOSE AND GOALS

- Ensure equitable access for all residents, including New Jersey's low- and moderate-income (LMI) communities
- Oversee the development and implementation of clean energy policies, technologies, and programs, including energy efficiency programs
- Collaborate with partner agencies and organizations in the implementation of relevant policies, programs, training, and education, liaise with community-based organizations, and work within the communities to provide effective outreach on workforce training and program education initiatives

Energy Equity

EQUITY

- Capturing quantitative and qualitative program metrics
- Fostering meaningful and open participation to ensure equitable program outcomes
- Building trusting and reciprocal relationships with communities
- Reducing energy burden

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

- Identifying and sustaining well-paying jobs that have long term career growth opportunities for diverse applicants
- Training the workforce with the necessary skills to thrive in the new energy economy



Image source: [University of Michigan](#)

EQUITY IN ACTION



Energy Efficiency

NJCleanEnergy.com/CP

Comfort Partners

This free, energy-saving and education program is geared to low-income homeowners who have an income at or below 250% of the federal poverty guidelines.

Eligible participants may receive free installation by a Building Performance Institute (BPI) certified contractor of the following (on a home specific basis):

- Energy efficient lighting
- Hot water conservation measures (water heater insulation, water heater pipe insulation and energy-saving showerheads and aerators)
- Replacement of inefficient refrigerators and thermostats
- Insulation upgrades (attic, wall, etc.)
- Heating/cooling equipment maintenance

For assistance in
paying utility bills:

<https://www.bpu.state.nj.us/bpu/assistance/programs/>



EE Program Transition



Program areas staying with NJCEP:

- New Construction (residential, commercial, industrial, government)
- Large Energy Users
- Combined Heat & Power & Fuel Cells
- State Facilities Initiative
- Local Government Energy Audits
- Energy Savings Improvement Program



Program areas served by the Utilities:

- Existing Buildings (residential, commercial, industrial, government)
- Efficient Products
 - HVAC
 - Appliance Rebates
 - Appliance Recycling

Proposed New Programs & Features:
Dedicated multi-family program
More financing options
Quick home energy check-ups

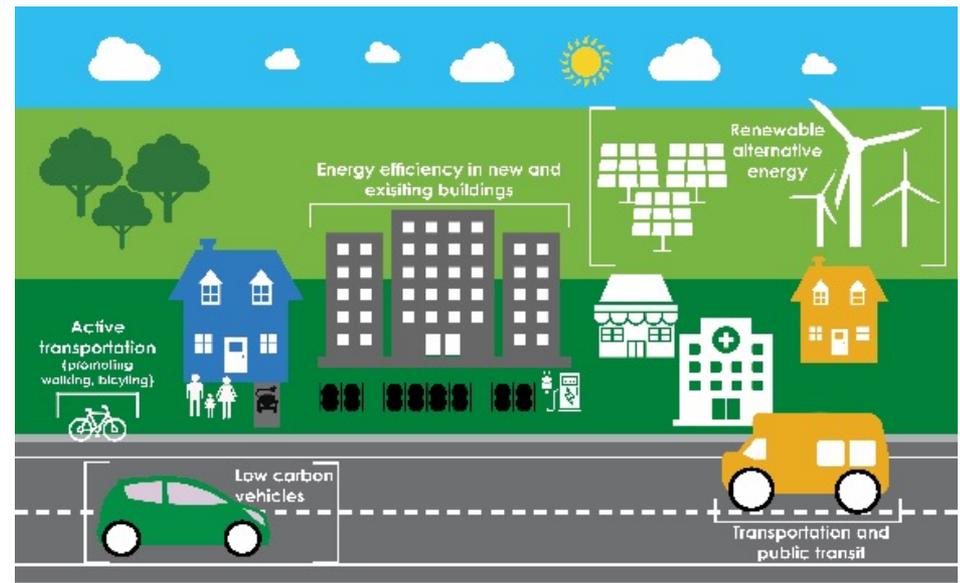


Will continue to be Co-Managed by the Utilities and the BPU



Community Energy Plan Grant

- In order to meet the Energy Master Plan goal of 100% clean energy by 2050, community-level action is imperative. This program provides communities the opportunity to localize the EMP's goals within their communities.
- All New Jersey municipalities are eligible, with Overburdened Municipalities eligible for larger grants and enhanced technical assistance



Community Energy Plans

A Community Energy Plan is a way for a community to work toward a better environment for all residents by using the state's Energy Master Plan (EMP) as a guide to develop goals and strategies to increase clean energy production, reduce energy use, develop sustainable strategies and reduce emissions.



Water Consumption



Lower Emissions



Stakeholder Outreach



Planning and Policy Measures

Electric Vehicles

NJ Underserved Communities EV Affordability Program

- Goal: To create a plan to provide access to clean transportation in urban and underserved/overburdened communities.
- Why: Vehicle emissions impact air quality, a health factor that is of particular concern in crowded and dense places like cities.
- Critical Areas Examined:
 - Plug-in Electric Vehicle (PEV)-based ride hailing
 - EV Car-sharing
 - Multi Unit Dwellings (MUDs)
- Community Engagement:
 - Multilingual Survey, informed the mobility plan
 - Preliminary Plan, to be presented to each community for feedback

Medium & Heavy Duty EVs

Current Straw Proposal recommends allowing utilities to fund Make Ready for:

- Public Transit
 - Government-owned public transit (includes school buses)
 - Private-owned, state-contracted public transit (includes school buses)
- Publicly Accessible MHDV Charging
- Rate Design that reduces the obstacles of demand charges and encourages off-peak fleet charging
- Potential for EDC ownership in Areas of Last Resort
- Planning and Technical support for light duty and MHD fleets

Offshore Wind

- NJ has awarded 3 Offshore Wind projects for a total of 3,758 MW, enough to power 1.6 million NJ homes
- Renewable energy reduces reliance on conventional, more polluting power generation, which disproportionately affects EJ communities
- Each project offers a multitude of economic development opportunities, with specific focus on diversity and EJ, e.g.
 - The Ocean Wind 2 Pro-NJ Trust Fund, which will provide grants supporting environmental justice initiatives and empowering minority, women, and veteran-owned, and/or small business entry into the OSW industry
 - An electric truck and an electric truck depot facility sponsored by Ocean Wind 2 at the Port of Newark/Elizabeth, intended to reduce pollution in EJ community
 - A green hydrogen pilot facility sponsored by Atlantic Shores Offshore Wind, where the hydrogen would be blended with natural gas to reduce natural gas emissions, which is often concentrated in EJ communities
- The NJ WIND Institute, supported by all projects, will coordinate workforce development, education, research, and innovation with special emphasis on equity

Energy Storage

- The Clean Energy Act requires 600 Megawatts of energy storage by 2021, and 2,000 Megawatts by 2030
 - Stakeholder process conducted and comments received
 - Energy Storage Analysis Report prepared and shared
- Techniques to Use Energy Storage in Underserved Communities:
 - Energy Resilience in Underserved Communities
 - Reduce Air Pollution by Supporting Electric Vehicle Fast Chargers
 - Reduce Air Pollution by Reducing the Run Time of Fossil Fueled “Peaker” Electric Generating Plants



Microgrid

NJBPU Town Center Distributed Energy Resources Microgrid Program

- Microgrids are clusters of critical facilities with hardened energy systems that can continue to serve public needs during a grid outage
- Projects are intended to allow critical public services to continue to operate during power outages. All of the projects would provide services such as public shelters, that would likely be highly utilized by underserved communities.
- BPU established TCDER Program & funded 13 Feasibility Studies
- In 2021, BPU awarded \$4 million in total to fund eight TCDER engineering design projects:

City of Atlantic City
Borough of Highland Park
City of Hoboken
Hudson County

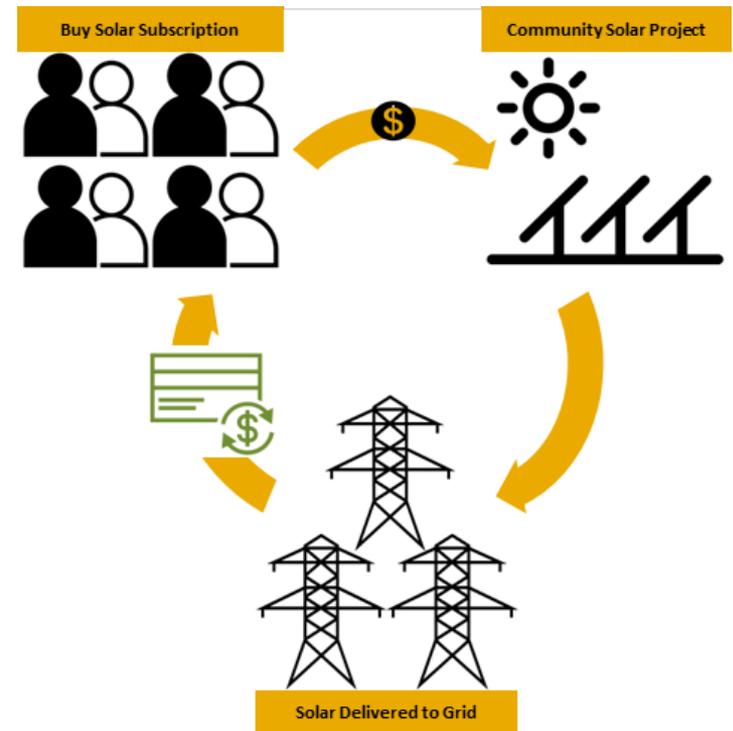
Montclair Township
Neptune Township
Trenton (via NJ Treasury)
Woodbridge

New Jersey's Solar Goals

- **Clean Energy Act of 2018, (May 28, 2018)** - mandated the replacement of the SREC as the primary tool to incentivize solar development; closure of SREC market to new entrants; study of the alternatives; and continued cost effective solar market development.
- **Energy Master Plan of 2019, (January 27, 2020)** – provides the statewide clean energy plan designed to reach the Administration's goal of 100% clean energy by 2050.
- **Solar Act of 2021, (July 9, 2021)** - codifies a comprehensive program design developed to provide incentives for the development of at least 3,750 megawatts of new solar power generation by 2026.

Community Solar

- A larger, remotely located solar array or facility that is virtually divided among multiple participants by means of a credit on their utility bill
- Provides access to solar energy to renters as well as households, institutions or businesses whose roofs aren't appropriate for solar installation
- Allows lower income communities access to a cleaner form of energy and helps them save money.



More Information

CRYSTAL PRUITT

Deputy Director, Office of Clean
Energy Equity
crystal.pruitt@bpu.nj.gov
(609) 802-1174

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