



New Jersey Board of Public Utilities

PRESS RELEASE

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Contacts:
Doyal Siddell
973-468-8515
Sherri Jones
973-648-2014

NJ BPU HONORED BY CLEAN ENERGY STATES ALLIANCE FOR 'STATE LEADERSHIP' IN CLEAN ENERGY

Group Recognizes New Jersey and Four Other States, Releases New Data on the Progress of State Clean Energy Programs in the U.S. and Proposes Federal/State Partnership for Moving Forward

(NEWARK, NEW JERSEY) – The New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (BPU), along with four other states, was recognized by the Clean Energy States Alliance (CESA) – as it launched its inaugural “State Leadership in Clean Energy Awards” at a press conference and panel event at the National Press Club in Washington, DC. CESA awarded The New Jersey Board of Public Utilities’ *Solar Renewable Energy Certificate (SREC) Program* for its efficient, market-based approach to providing solar developers and building owners with financial incentives without reliance on rebates.

CESA is a national nonprofit organization that works with clean energy funds and state agencies to advance markets for clean energy technologies. It provides information and technical services to its members and shares its knowledge with the federal government and influential policymakers. At today’s event, CESA released new data that details the progress of all of the public and state clean energy funds in the U.S. and presented a new federal/state partnership proposal for moving forward with clean energy economic development.

“New Jersey is proud to have been selected as a leader in these growing ‘clean energy times,’” said BPU President Jeanne M. Fox. “We will continue to work towards meeting the aggressive goals of Governor Corzine’s Energy Master Plan of \$30 billion in total energy savings between 2010 and 2020. Now is the time to invest in our state’s energy future.”

New Jersey’s SREC Program is the first program of its kind in the nation to successfully transition away from reliance on rebates to a market-based system relying solely on SRECs. The program has 39 MW of solar capacity in the pipeline, and 7 MW installed, demonstrating the effectiveness of this approach. This pioneering program followed an in-depth stakeholder process ensuring market acceptance and broad public benefit. New Jersey is the first state to establish an SREC trading program and platform.

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CESA's "State Leadership in Clean Energy Awards" recognize state-level programs that are most effectively accelerating adoption of clean energy technologies and advancing clean energy markets. The organization and this event exemplify the groundbreaking clean energy infrastructure work taking place at the state level.

"The innovative SREC Program has played an important role in making New Jersey a true national leader in solar energy, and this award recognizes New Jersey's efforts," said CESA Executive Director Mark Sinclair. "CESA's close work with the states has convinced us that the best way for the federal government to achieve a nimble, effective economic stimulus effort is by working with and through the states to implement clean energy projects rapidly and massively."

A panel of judges reviewed nominations from across the country to identify the most successful programs. Judges include: Glen Anderson (Energy Policy Specialist, National Conference of State Legislatures); Hans Detweiler (Manager of State Legislation and Policy, American Wind Energy Association. Michael Northrop (Program Director, Rockefeller Brothers Fund); Rhone Resch (Executive Director, Solar Energy Industries Association); Julie Rosenberg (Branch Chief for EPA's State and Local Clean Energy-Environment Programs in the Climate Protection Partnerships Division within the Office of Air and Radiation); Gil Sperling (Program Manager for the Weatherization and Intergovernmental Program of the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy at the US Department of Energy); and Ryan Wisner (Staff Scientist, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory).

To learn more about CESA and its "State Leadership in Clean Energy Awards," visit www.cleanenergystates.org.

To learn more about New Jersey's Clean Energy Program, visit www.NJCleanEnergy.com or call 1-866-NJSMART.

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About the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (NJBPUP)

The New Jersey Board of Public Utilities is a state agency and regulatory authority mandated to ensure safe, adequate and proper utility services at reasonable rates for New Jersey customers. Critical services regulated by the NJBPUP include natural gas, electricity, water, wastewater, telecommunications and cable television. The Board has general oversight responsibility for monitoring utility service, responding to consumer complaints, and investigating utility accidents. To find out more about the NJBPUP, visit our web site at www.nj.gov/bpu.

About the New Jersey Clean Energy Program (NJCEP)

New Jersey's Clean Energy Program, established on January 22, 2003, in accordance with the Electric Discount and Energy Competition Act (EDECA), provides financial and other incentives to the State's residential customers, businesses and schools that install high-efficiency or renewable energy technologies, thereby reducing energy usage, lowering customers' energy bills and reducing environmental impacts. The program is authorized and overseen by the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (NJBPUP), and its website is www.njcleanenergy.com.

About Clean Energy States Alliance (CESA)

Clean Energy States Alliance (CESA) is a national nonprofit organization that works with clean energy funds and state agencies to expand the nation's clean energy infrastructure and advance markets for clean energy technologies. CESA provides information and technical services to its members and shares its knowledge with the federal government and influential policymakers. CESA's member states manage programs that will invest nearly \$6 billion in the next ten years to support clean energy. Clean Energy Group (CEG) created CESA in 2002 and now manages it.