



# New Jersey Board of Public Utilities

## PRESS RELEASE

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**Contact:**  
Doyal Siddell  
973-468-8515

### **NJ BPU APPROVES DETAILED PLANS FOR \$8.33 MILLION IN ARRA FUNDING FOR ENERGY EFFICIENT APPLIANCE REBATE PROGRAM**

*Program Calls for Some New Appliance Rebates and Enhancements of Some New Jersey Clean Energy Programs Currently in Effect*

(NEWARK, NJ) – The New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (BPU) has approved and submitted a proposal to the U.S. Department of Energy (USDOE) for \$8.33 million in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funding that is being made available to encourage New Jerseyans to purchase ENERGY STAR qualified home appliances. After receiving USDOE approval, the BPU anticipates program launch on January 1, 2010.

“This proposal will build upon our record of success driven by New Jersey’s Clean Energy Program,” said BPU President Jeanne M. Fox. “Our existing appliance programs have received national recognition from the US EPA and US DOE for our achievements, which include providing rebates to over 330,000 New Jersey residents, representing a savings to those residents of approximately \$78 million per year. The proposal approved by the Board represents another step towards achieving the goals outlined in Governor Corzine’s comprehensive Energy Master Plan, which includes a goal to reduce the projected growth in energy consumption by 20 percent by 2020.”

The Board’s action was part of a final application outlining the state's plans for the DOE’s energy efficiency rebate program funding, and has been submitted to them for approval.

Specific Energy Star appliances and rebate amounts approved include the following:

<b>Appliance</b>	<b>Rebate Amount (or Range)</b>
Clothes Washers	\$35
Dishwashers	\$25 to \$75
Refrigerators	\$75 to \$100
Water Heaters, Electric Heat Pump	\$250
Water Heaters, Solar (gas-back up)	\$1,200

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In addition to the new appliances that are eligible for rebates, the Board’s proposal also expands eligibility for New Jersey’s Clean Energy Program rebates to customers of the 10 municipal utilities found throughout the state. These include Butler, Lavallette, Madison, Milltown, Park Ridge, Pemberton, Seaside Heights, South River, Sussex Rural Electric Cooperative and Vineland. Eligibility also is expanded to include heating oil and propane users. Municipal utility customers – along with heating oil and propane users – previously were not eligible for New Jersey Clean Energy Program rebates because they did not contribute to the Societal Benefits Charge, which funds the Clean Energy Program.

Current New Jersey Clean Energy Programs that will be expanded by the Board’s action – and the group or entity to whom they have been expanded – include:

<b>Appliance/Program</b>	<b>Rebate Amount</b>	<b>Party Rebate Will be Expanded To</b>
Central Air Conditioners	\$300	Municipal Utility Customers
Water Heaters, Gas Storage	\$ 25	Propane Customers
Water Heaters, Gas Tankless	\$ 300	Propane Customers
Air Source Heat Pumps	\$ 300	Municipal Utility Customers
Gas Furnaces	\$ 300	Propane Customers
Gas Boilers	\$ 300	Propane Customers
Oil Furnaces	\$ 300	Oil Customers
Oil Boilers	\$ 300	Oil Customers
Ground Source Heat Pumps	\$ 400	Municipal Utility Customers
Refrigerator/Freezer Rebate	\$50	Accommodate More Units

While the program’s kickoff, which is contingent upon DOE approval, is expected on January 1, 2010, some appliances and products eligible for the new rebates will be launched on a seasonal or limited-timeframe basis in 2010. The BPU proposal would also expand the Refrigerator/Freezer Recycling Program that was launched in July 2009 to accommodate more units.

For more information about existing Energy Star product rebates being offered through New Jersey’s Clean Energy Program, visit [www.njcleanenergy.com](http://www.njcleanenergy.com) or call 1-866-NJSMART.

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**About the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (NJBP):**

*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 NJBP 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 NJBP, visit our web site at [www.nj.gov/bpu](http://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 (BPU), and its website is [www.njcleanenergy.com](http://www.njcleanenergy.com).*