



New Jersey Board of Public Utilities

NEWS RELEASE

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Christie Administration Receives 2013 ENERGY STAR® Sustained Excellence Award

- New Jersey's Clean Energy Program Recognized for its Home Performance
with Energy Star Program™ -

TRENTON, N.J. – The New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (BPU) announced at today's Energy Efficiency Committee stakeholder meeting that the Clean Energy Program is receiving the 2013 ENERGY STAR Partner of the Year - Sustained Excellence Award for its continued leadership in protecting the environment through superior energy efficiency programming. BPU's accomplishments will be recognized at an awards ceremony in Washington, D.C. on March 26, 2013.

The BPU will be honored by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for its long-term commitment to energy efficiency, specifically for the accomplishments of its residential energy efficiency retrofit program, Home Performance with ENERGY STAR (HPwES). The HPwES program helps homeowners save up to 30% on their energy bills by incentivizing energy efficient upgrades installed in their homes by Building Performance Institute (BPI) accredited contractors. The program provides up to \$5,000 in rebates and 0% interest loans to NJ residents. The program completed 13,051 home assessments and 3,702 projects in 2012 alone. Since 2007, over 12,000 HPwES projects have been completed.

"The New Jersey Board of Public Utilities is committed to providing energy-efficient opportunities to our residents, businesses, and local governments through our partnership with ENERGY STAR," said Bob Hanna, BPU President. "Investing in energy-efficient practices not only helps the individual or business to lower their energy costs, but it also reduces energy consumption which helps to clean our environment and lower the cost of energy for everyone."

Top companies and organizations are leading the way toward a more energy-efficient future. Over the last 20 years with help from ENERGY STAR, American families and businesses have saved more than \$230 billion on utility bills and prevented more than 1.8 billion metric tons of greenhouse gas emissions, according to the EPA.

The 2013 Partner of the Year - Sustained Excellence Awards are given to a select group of organizations that have exhibited outstanding leadership year after year. These winners have reduced greenhouse gas emissions by setting and achieving aggressive goals, and employing innovative energy efficiency approaches. These awards recognize ongoing leadership across the ENERGY STAR program, including energy-efficient products, services, new homes, and buildings in the commercial, industrial, and public sectors. Award winners are selected from the nearly 20,000 organizations that participate in the ENERGY STAR program.

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About the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (NJBPU)

The NJBPU 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 NJBPU 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 NJBPU, visit our web site at www.nj.gov/bpu.

About the New Jersey Clean Energy Program (NJCEP)

NJCEP, 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 (NJBPU), and its website is www.NJCleanEnergy.com.

About ENERGY STAR

ENERGY STAR was introduced by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in 1992 as a voluntary market-based partnership to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through increased energy efficiency. Today, ENERGY STAR offers businesses and consumers energy-efficient solutions to save energy, money, and help protect the environment for future generations. Nearly 20,000 organizations are ENERGY STAR partners committed to improving the energy efficiency of products, homes, and buildings. For more information about ENERGY STAR, visit www.energystar.gov or call toll-free 1-888-STAR-YES (1-888-782-7937).