

# **Charge Up New Jersey**

**Fiscal Year 2025 Compliance Filing** 



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## I. Introduction

This Fiscal Year 2025 ("FY25") Compliance Filing provides the program description for the Charge Up New Jersey Program (the "Program"), administered by the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities ("BPU" or the "Board") and its Division of Clean Energy ("DCE"). The Charge Up New Jersey Program was developed in accordance with S-2252, <u>L</u>. 2019, <u>c</u>. 362, codified at N.J.S.A. 48:25-1 to -11 ("EV Act"), and amending, in relevant part, N.J.S.A. 48:3-60(a)(3), which directed the Board to establish and implement a program to incentivize the purchase or lease of new light-duty plug-in electric vehicles ("EV") in the State of New Jersey, as well develop an incentive for residential, athome EV charging equipment.

# II. Program Purpose and Strategy Overview

The Program was mandated by the signing of S-2252 into law on January 17, 2020, by Governor Murphy. The Program has been developed in three phases. Phase One of the Program enabled New Jersey residents who purchased or leased an eligible EV between January 17, 2020, and December 15, 2020, to apply for an incentive post-purchase. Phase Two provided an incentive at the point of sale. The vehicle incentive is supported by the 10-year, non-lapsing Plug-in Electric Vehicle Incentive Fund in the amount of \$30 million annually, funded by the societal benefits charge ("SBC"). Phase Three, launched in July 2022, provides the Electric Vehicle Charger Incentive. This FY25 Compliance Filing covers Phases Two and Three of the Program.

Following Board approval, and contingent upon Legislative appropriation of funding, the FY25 Program will take effect in the summer of 2024. The program will launch first with a flat rate incentive. Then, at a later date to be determined, an additional incentive for low-and-moderate income applicants will be introduced. Additional incentives will not be available retroactively if an applicant purchases or leases an eligible vehicle prior to the introduction of the additional incentive.

<u>Phase One – The Post-Purchase Vehicle Incentive</u>: Phase One of the Charge Up New Jersey Program covered individuals who purchased or leased an EV from January 17, 2020, through December 15, 2020. The post-purchase portal closed on March 15, 2021. During Phase One, applicants applied directly to the Center for Sustainable Energy ("CSE" or "Program Administrator") for the incentive at the official Program website, following the purchase or lease. Incentives were processed on a first-come, first-served basis by the Program Administrator and issued to eligible applicants in a single payment via check. All incentives were subject to availability of funds. Applications were to be filed by March 15, 2021, and approved applicants were paid an incentive based on the Terms and Conditions of Year One of the Program. Some applicants, due to the availability of funding, were paid at the start of FY22.

<u>Phase Two – The Point-of-Sale Vehicle Incentive</u>: In the summer of 2021 Phase Two launched, following Board approval. Phase Two was designed to further simplify the process for applicants, so that the applicant benefits from the incentive at the time of the vehicle transaction in a New Jersey dealership or showroom. The incentive is applied in full directly at the time of the point-of-sale ("POS") or transaction, and all documentation is facilitated by the salesperson or representative at the dealership or showroom. The incentives are paid by the Program Administrator to the dealership or showroom to reimburse them in full for the incentives paid to consumers. The total amount of this portion of the FY25 Charge up New Jersey Program is approximately \$33 million, which includes \$3 million in estimated carryforward funding from FY24. In addition to the \$30 million allocated from the Clean Energy Fund, an additional \$20 million is anticipated to be appropriated from the State General Fund to support.

<u>Phase Three – The Electric Vehicle Charger Incentive:</u> P.L. 2019, c. 362 authorized the BPU to develop and launch an incentive of up to \$500 for at-home, residential EV charging equipment, funded through the SBC. As a result

of feedback received during the stakeholder process for the Charge Up New Jersey Program, the Phase Three incentive amount was established at \$250 when Phase Three launched in July 2022 during FY23. The FY25 budget is estimated at \$4.5 million, which includes an estimated \$3.5 million in carryforward funding from FY24 for this program.

# III. Program Description

The intent of the Charge Up New Jersey Program is to encourage the purchase or lease of new light-duty plug-in electric vehicles in the State and assist New Jersey residents with making the switch to driving electric, consistent with N.J.S.A. 48:25-4(a). The FY25 Charge Up New Jersey Program ("FY25 Program") addresses the key market barrier of vehicle cost by offering a financial incentive at the point-of-sale – the time at which the applicant takes possession of the vehicle. Eligible applicants that have purchased or leased an eligible vehicle on or after the launch of the FY25 Program can receive the incentive at the time of the transaction at participating New Jersey dealerships or showrooms ("Dealerships or Showrooms"). Eligible FY25 Program applicants that have ordered an eligible vehicle on or after the launch of the FY25 Program can receive the sales or lease transaction. Specifically, they will receive their incentives as a line-item deduction on their purchase or lease contract that directly reduces the price they pay for the vehicle. The Dealership or Showroom will then apply for reimbursement from the Program Administrator who will process such applications on a first-come, first-served basis and reimburse Dealerships and Showrooms for the cost of the incentives they provided to eligible recipients.

The FY25 Program will follow the guidelines set by the EV Act and utilize best practices from similar incentive programs in other states.

The EV Act set goals for the State related to transportation electrification. It established the Plug-in Electric Vehicle Incentive Fund and mandated the Board to establish and implement an incentive program for new light-duty plug-in EVs. It also granted the Board the authority to establish and implement an incentive program for at-home, residential EV charging equipment. N.J.S.A. 48:25-4 and N.J.S.A. 48:25-6. The following State goals are related to transportation electrification for light-duty vehicles, as described in N.J.S.A. 48:25-3:

- 1. There must be at least 330,000 registered light-duty, plug-in EVs in New Jersey by December 31, 2025, and at least 2 million EVs registered in New Jersey by December 31, 2035.
- 2. At least 85% of all new light-duty vehicles sold or leased in New Jersey shall be plug-in EVs by December 31, 2040.

The BPU advances this Program with an aim of fulfilling these State goals and propelling the State toward transportation electrification, while also decreasing greenhouse gas emissions.

# IV. Eligibility for the Vehicle Incentive

## Applicant Eligibility

The Program seeks to support New Jersey residents who purchase or lease an eligible EV by providing an incentive at the POS. Applicants must meet the following requirements in order to be eligible to receive the vehicle incentive. The eligibility requirements will be checked by the dealer or showroom representative prior to completing the transaction to ensure the applicant meets the criteria to receive a POS incentive.

The applicant must:

- Be a resident of the State of New Jersey at the time of vehicle purchase or lease, which will be verified via a current New Jersey Driver's License. Only a New Jersey Driver's License is eligible for residency verification. Utility bills, tax documentation, and other items with the applicant's address will **not** be accepted.
  - a. Active-duty military members stationed in New Jersey, with permanent residency in another state, **will** qualify. Current military orders will be accepted as proof of residency documentation.

- b. The Charge Up New Jersey Program is limited to individuals only. Businesses and other commercial entities, non-profits, governments, and public entities are **not** eligible for this incentive.
- 2. Remain a resident of the State of New Jersey for at least two (2) years after the purchase or lease of the eligible EV that receives an incentive under the Program. This requirement does not apply to customers with permanent residency in another state who qualified for the incentive because they were active-duty military members stationed in New Jersey at the time they ordered, purchased, or leased their vehicle.
- 3. Acknowledge that the entirety of the purchase or lease for an eligible vehicle must occur on or after the official launch of the FY25 Point-of-Sale Program, and in the State of New Jersey at a participating Dealership or Showroom.
  - a. Vehicles ordered in advance of the launch of the FY25 Point-of-Sale Program will not be eligible for an incentive.
  - b. A vehicle ordered, purchased, leased, and/or delivered out-of-state is not eligible for the incentive, including vehicles ordered online and delivered outside of the State; any vehicle ordered online must be delivered in New Jersey to qualify for the incentive.
  - c. New Jersey residents, or active-duty military members stationed in New Jersey, who place an order with a participating New Jersey Dealership or Showroom to deliver a vehicle in New Jersey will be deemed to have placed that order in New Jersey regardless of whether they were physically in the State at the time.
- 4. Agree that the Program Administrator will deem a purchase or lease completed when the purchaser or lessee of the vehicle has executed and signed a purchase contract, lease, or security agreement. The applicant must commit to not modifying the vehicle's emissions control systems, hardware, software calibrations, or hybrid system.
- 5. Retain ownership, or an active lease agreement, and registration of the vehicle with the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission for a minimum of thirty-six (36) consecutive months immediately after the vehicle purchase or lease date. Customers who lease their vehicle must ensure that their original lease agreement explicitly lists a term of 36 months or longer.
- 6. Acknowledge that applicants may receive only up to three (3) vehicle incentives from the Program throughout the 10-year period that the Program is active.
- 7. To be eligible for the increased incentive for low- and moderate-income applicants, applicants must submit tax documentation to the Program Administrator verifying that in their most recent tax filing Modified Adjusted Gross income ("MAGI") met the following requirements:
  - Maximum MAGI of \$75,000 for single tax filers;
  - Maximum MAGI of \$112,500 for head of household tax filers; and
  - Maximum MAGI of \$150,000 for joint tax filers.

## Vehicle Eligibility

Eligible vehicle models are listed on the website. Pursuant to the EV Act, an eligible vehicle for the Program is defined as:

- A new light-duty plug-in electric vehicle with a Manufacturer Suggested Retail Price\* ("MSRP") below \$55,000;
- The entirety of the purchase or lease for an eligible vehicle must occur on or after the official launch of the FY25 Point-of-Sale Program;
- The order date shall be defined as the date which the customer places a down payment of any sort on the vehicle;

- Purchased or leased in the State of New Jersey at a participating Dealership or Showroom; and
- Registered in New Jersey to a New Jersey resident (or active-duty military stationed in New Jersey).

\*In order to maintain a consistent and standardized approach to the MSRP cap under the Program:

- The MSRP and its impact on incentive eligibility will be taken into account only up to the point-of-sale. Any additions made to the vehicle thereafter that would otherwise alter the value of the vehicle will not alter the vehicle's eligibility for an incentive under the Program.
- The MSRP cap **will include** all line items on the purchase or lease agreement which relate to the value of the vehicle itself (including but not limited to battery upgrades, autonomous upgrades, wheel and tire packages, audio, and infotainment system).
- The MSRP cap **will not include** maintenance or vehicle care packages, additional vehicle accessories (i.e. first aid kits, floor mats, cargo nets, etc.), destination and delivery charges, tax, registration fees, title fees, and documentation fees since these line items do not relate to the value of the vehicle itself, but rather to the logistics, care, and maintenance of the vehicle.

## **Incentives for Eligible Vehicles**

Staff of the BPU ("Staff") is primarily focused on structuring the Program's incentive amount to encourage buyers or lessors who might otherwise not have considered an EV due to cost concerns. Staff recognizes that the Program should prioritize "incentive-essential" customers; therefore, the FY25 structure provides additional incentives to low-and –moderate income qualified applicants. This structure is a result of reviewing best practices in other states, as well as feedback gained through the stakeholder process. The resulting incentive tiers comply with and retain the spirit of the EV Act.

As such, eligible electric vehicles, up to an MSRP of \$55,000, will have a fixed incentive of \$2,000. Those income qualified applicants, as identified in the Applicant Eligibility requirements, will be eligible for an additional incentive in the amount of \$2,000. Applicants who wish to claim the additional income-based incentive will be required to pre-qualify with the Program Administrator by providing tax documentation verifying their MAGI. Orders, purchases and leases made before the official introduction of the low-income adder will not be eligible for the additional incentive.

Incentives that are reserved at the time of order must have the same MSRP at the time of order and the time of the purchase or lease transaction.

Dealerships and Showrooms are expected to calculate the correct incentive, including validating that a low-ormoderate income participant has received pre-qualification for an additional incentive by the Program Administrator. Neither the BPU nor Program Administrator are responsible for miscalculated incentive amounts. Dealerships and Showrooms shall be responsible for verifying eligible vehicle models on the program website. Vehicle models not listed on the website are not eligible for an incentive. Dealerships and Showrooms shall acknowledge that the vehicle's Original Equipment Manufacturer ("OEM") must submit a request form to the BPU to add new vehicle years, makes, and models to the program website. Dealerships and Showrooms may reach out to the Program Administrator for clarification regarding the MSRP and incentive amount prior to finalizing the vehicle transaction.

Ineligible vehicles under the Program include:

- Aftermarket plug-in hybrid EVs ("PHEV");
- Pre-owned plug-in EVs;
- EV conversions;
- Electric scooters;
- Electric all-terrain vehicles;
- Neighborhood or low speed EVs;
- Electric motorcycles, as well as other two or three wheeled EVs;
- Any vehicles purchased or leased outside the State of New Jersey;
- Any vehicles purchased, ordered, or leased prior to the launch of FY25;
- Any PHEV purchased, ordered or leased on or after January 1, 2023; and
- Any vehicle not on the approved eligibility list on the program website, including year, make, and model

## V. Program Requirements

#### **Application Process**

<u>Phase One – The Post-Purchase Program</u>: Eligible applicants for the Post-Purchase Program purchased their vehicles between January 17, 2020, and December 15, 2020. The application period for the Post-Purchase Program closed on March 15, 2021. FY25's Charge Up Program does not include a post-purchase incentive.

<u>Phase Two – The Point-of-Sale ("POS") Program</u>: Dealerships and Showrooms must enroll to participate in the Program by providing dealership and showroom contact and Automated Clearing House ("ACH") information via the dedicated Program website in advance of the Program's launch. Upon verification of information submitted through the enrollment application, representatives will gain access to a log-in portal to submit applications and check the status of existing applications on behalf of their customers. CSE provides dealerships with training on the incentive reimbursement application process and Program requirements.

For an individual to receive the incentive, they must purchase or lease an eligible EV from a participating Dealership or Showroom in the State of New Jersey. Dealership representatives will verify vehicle and applicant eligibility at the POS. After verifying eligibility, the representative will be required to reduce the contracted purchase or lease price by the full incentive amount. The incentive must be reflected as a clearly identifiable line item deduction in the contract. The representative will upload the required documentation to the Program application portal. Required documentation for each incentive application includes:

- New Jersey vehicle registration;
- Signed and executed vehicle contract;
- Proof of New Jersey Driver's License or Military Orders; and a
- Signed copy of the Program Terms and Conditions.\*

Applicants who wish to claim the additional income-based incentive will be required to pre-qualify with the Program Administrator by providing tax documentation verifying their most recent tax filing MAGI. Required documentation can include, but is not limited to:

- Tax Transcript from current or previous years
- Alternate Proof of Income including W2's, Wage and Income Transcript, or other IRS documents
- Bank statements or other documents for proof of income

These document requirements may also apply to the applicant's household members to ensure a complete financial picture has been presented.\*

\*At the time a representative applies for an incentive through the Program portal, the most current version of the Terms and Conditions will apply. In addition, an electronic signature will be accepted and considered valid for the acknowledgement and signing of the Program Terms and Conditions.

Funding will be reserved upon application submission. Dealers shall submit incentive applications through the Dealer Web Portal at https://chargeup.njcleanenergy.com. Dealerships and Showrooms may reserve funding. If a dealership or showroom elects not to reserve funding at the time of vehicle order, they must notify the customer in writing that while eligible for the Charge Up Incentive, no funds shall be reserved until the purchase or lease transaction, at which point funding may not be available. Dealerships and Showrooms will have <u>fourteen (14)</u> calendar days from the purchase or lease transaction date to apply for a reimbursement of the incentive from the Program. Applications started more than <u>fourteen (14)</u> calendar days after the vehicle transaction is completed will be blocked from submitting an application. Once an application is started, representatives will have <u>fourteen (14)</u> calendar days to complete the application and submit for review by the Program Administrator. The BPU will reserve the incentive funds once the application is submitted. If the application is cancelled due to inactivity or improper documentation, the representative will need to reapply. The representative will work directly with the CSE to submit or resubmit required documents, as necessary, to meet Program requirements. Approved applications will be batched at least monthly for ACH payment issued directly to the Dealerships or Showrooms.

If the Program Administrator announces that the Program will close due to expending all available funds, there will not be an opportunity to reserve funds for orders made outside of the normal fourteen (14)-day window.

#### **Applicant Responsibilities**

Point-of-Sale applicants must obtain the incentive directly from the participating Dealership or Showroom via a deduction of the full incentive amount on their purchase or lease contract before the Program closes. Incentives will not be issued post-purchase or post-lease or after the Program has closed. Applicants must adhere to the Vehicle Eligibility and Applicant Eligibility requirements defined in Section IV above and agree to the Program Terms and Conditions in place at the time of application submission.

Applicants who wish to claim the additional income-based incentive will be required to pre-qualify with the Program Administrator by providing tax documentation verifying their MAGI. This documentation may include tax transcripts, IRS Wage & Income Forms, proof of participation in another eligible income-verified program, or other IRS documents to ensure a complete financial picture has been reviewed for the applicant. The additional incentive will not be applied post-purchase, which means that pre-qualification must occur prior to the vehicle's sale or lease.

## **Dealership Participation Requirements**

Participating Dealerships and Showrooms shall only apply incentives to eligible applicants and vehicles in accordance with Terms and Conditions. Participating Dealerships and Showrooms must notify eligible customers of the existence of the incentive and the enhanced incentive at the point-of-sale. Participating Dealerships and Showrooms must communicate to customers that the line-item deduction on the purchase or lease contract is a function of the Charge Up New Jersey Program. Participating dealerships and Showrooms must deliver vehicles to customers prior to completing applications for purchased and leased vehicles. No further actions, such as additional charges, vehicle mark-ups, payment contingencies or holds, shall be taken against the customer for the incentive. The full incentive is to be applied at the point-of-sale. The enhanced incentive requires applicants to pre-qualify prior to purchase or lease. Incentives may not be held until the application is approved, nor issued as a check after the transaction is completed. Participating dealerships and Showrooms may not recover the value of the incentive from a customer in the event that an application is cancelled due to Dealership or Showroom error or penalty.

(Example: The Program Administrator denies an incentive reimbursement application because the Dealership or Showroom submitted/completed the application past the fourteen (14) calendar day deadline, or any other deadline established by the Program Administrator in accordance with the Terms and Conditions. In this scenario, the Dealership or Showroom is prohibited from clawing back or attempting to claw back the value of the incentive from the customer.)

In order to ensure consumer confidence in the Program and prevent price gouging, dealers must provide fair, transparent pricing details. Price markups that diminish the value of the State's incentive for the consumer are not permitted. Dealers may not include mark-ups or market price adjustments for which there is no specific line item or additional underlying value. The Program Administrator may therefore deny any incentive reimbursement application when the total pre-incentive price paid by the customer exceeds the MSRP without justification. For example, the Program Administrator may deny an incentive reimbursement application for a vehicle sold above MSRP when there are no line items demonstrating that the customer received additional product or service options in exchange for paying a pre-incentive price that exceeds MSRP. The Program Administrator may likewise

deny an application when line-item charges for additional product or service options appear to significantly exceed their typical market value.

Dealerships and Showrooms shall be required to provide weekly order data and estimated delivery dates to the Program Administrator. Dealers are encouraged to collect all supporting documentation required for an incentive at the time of order.

Dealerships and Showrooms that violate the Terms and Conditions risk denial of incentive reimbursements to which they would otherwise be entitled. CSE may bar such Dealerships and Showrooms from continuing to participate in the FY25 Program and/or future program years.

#### **Reservation of Incentive Funds at time of Order**

In order to boost consumer confidence in the Program, the Program Administrator provides an opportunity for Dealerships and Showrooms to reserve funding at the time of order. Applications must be started within fourteen (14) calendar days of order.

If Dealerships or Showrooms do not intend to reserve funding at the time of order, they must provide written notice to the applicant that eligible vehicles will remain eligible for the incentive at the time of purchase or lease, pending availability of Program funds.

Dealerships and Showrooms that do not enter orders must provide updates to the Program Administrator regarding the number of pending orders as outlined in the Terms and Conditions.

For vehicles that reserve funding at the time of order, the MSRP at the time of order must match the MSRP at time of purchase or lease.

If the Program Administrator announces that the Program will close due to expending all available funds, there will not be an opportunity to reserve funds for orders made outside the normal fourteen (14)-day window.

#### Failure to Adhere to Program Requirements

If a vehicle for which an incentive payment was issued is sold, returned, or traded in, a lease is transferred or assumed by another party, or the applicant leaves the state prior to the expiration of the minimum ownership period or lease agreement in or the minimum post-purchase or lease residential period, the purchaser or lessee may be required to reimburse the Program. Exemption from the thirty-six (36)-month period in Section IV(5) or the two (2)-year residential requirement in Section IV(2) may be allowed if necessitated by unforeseen or unavoidable circumstances, such as military relocation outside the State of New Jersey, death of an applicant, or determination by the Program Administrator that the vehicle has been totaled.

To qualify for an exemption, applicants will be required to submit a written request to the Program Administrator (CSE) and include official documentation demonstrating proof of one of the above-noted circumstances. CSE will review all submitted exemption requests and respond back with either an approval, denial, or request for additional documentation within fourteen (14) days of submission. All exemption requests will be stored with the original application in the incentive processing platform. To request an exemption for a special circumstance other than those listed above, an applicant can submit a written request explaining the circumstances along with any official corresponding documentation. The Program Administrator will review the appeal request with BPU to determine if the requirements for an exemption have been met.

#### **Changes to the Program**

In the event the federal government establishes a new incentive or tax credit for EVs effective during the FY25 Program, Board Staff may reduce the amount of the Program incentive by up to fifty (50) percent to ensure the efficacy and solvency of the Program without reducing the sum of all available incentives to eligible applicants.

#### **Appeal Process**

Dealerships, Showrooms, or applicants must email their appeals to BPU Staff at EV.Programs@bpu.nj.gov within forty-five (45) calendar days of the date the Program Administrator notified them that it was denying their application or reimbursement application. The written appeal must set forth the basis for the appeal by describing the relevant issue(s) in detail and explaining why the applicant or Dealership or Showroom believes BPU Staff should grant the appeal. Dealerships' and Showrooms' and applicants' written appeal must include their contact information, a copy of the FY25 Program application or reimbursement application they submitted, and a copy of the required documents submitted with the application.

Appeals will not be granted in cases where an applicant fails to establish strict adherence to the FY25 Terms and Conditions unless an applicant establishes to the satisfaction of BPU that an exemption to the FY25 Terms and Conditions is warranted. Applicants filing an appeal on the grounds of exceptional circumstances must state the same in their appeal, must fully describe the basis of any claims, and provide any necessary documentation to support the claims. For appeals that allege exceptional circumstances, BPU in its sole discretion shall determine: (1) whether the stated reason for the exemption rises to the level of exceptional circumstances; and (2) whether the exceptional circumstances raised and successfully supported by an applicant justify granting the appeal.

BPU Staff will review the submitted documentation and respond as soon as possible. BPU Staff will acknowledge receipt of appeals within five (5) business days of submission. If, after five (5) business days, an applicant or a Dealership or Showroom has not received an acknowledgment, they should contact the BPU at EV.Programs@bpu.nj.gov. After acknowledging receipt of an appeal, BPU Staff will review the submitted documentation and provide a substantive response as soon as possible.

#### **False Statements**

An applicant, Dealership, Showroom, or vehicle manufacturer providing a false statement in any of the information submitted to the FY25 Program may be criminally liable in accordance with applicable state or federal statutes. Any such false statement could result in incentive denial or incentive reimbursement denial and/or removal from the Charge Up New Jersey Program for a Dealership, Showroom, or vehicle manufacturer and a finding of ineligibility beyond FY25 for an applicant.

#### **Incentive Application Submission**

The Program Administrator will process all eligible incentive reimbursement applications. The Program Administrator will directly reimburse the Dealership or Showroom for the cost of providing the incentive once the Program Administrator determines that the applicant was eligible to receive it.

#### **Ineligible Vehicles**

Vehicles ordered, purchased, or leased prior to the FY25 Program's launch date are not eligible for an incentive. Vehicles ordered, purchased or leased after the FY25 Program has closed are not eligible for an incentive if a

reservation was not submitted in accordance with terms and conditions of the Program. Dealerships and Showrooms shall be responsible for making this point clear at the time the vehicle is ordered or purchased, and shall require the vehicle buyer or lessee to provide written acknowledgement that this information was disclosed to them.

# Dealership or Showroom Location, FY25 Program Registration, Vehicles Offered, and Timing of Application Submissions

To participate in the point-of-sale program, a Dealership or Showroom must be located in the State of New Jersey and offer new, incentive-eligible vehicles for purchase or lease. In addition, dealerships and showrooms must register with the Program Administrator and enroll in the FY25 Program to be recognized as an eligible New Jersey Dealership or Showroom capable of offering the incentive at the point-of-sale ("Dealers," or "Dealership or Showroom").

Dealers or showrooms shall submit incentive reimbursement applications through the Dealer Web Portal at https://chargeup.njcleanenergy.com. Dealers or showrooms shall have fourteen (14) calendar days from the Vehicle Transaction Date to submit the application, including the required documents outlined in the Terms and Conditions. The BPU will reserve the incentive funds once the Dealer submits the application. The Program Administrator will cancel any applications not submitted and/or updated within fourteen (14) calendar days of the Vehicle Transaction Date, and the BPU will release any funds reserved for the canceled application. The Program Administrator will notify the Dealer of the cancellation via email. Dealers or showrooms are responsible for ensuring that they receive and review these email communications.

# VI. Electric Vehicle Charger Incentive

Phase Three of the Program, the Electric Vehicle Charger Incentive, launched in July 2022.

## **Applicant Eligibility**

Applicants must meet the following requirements in order to be eligible to receive the Electric Vehicle Charger Incentive ("Charger Incentive") offered by the Program. The eligibility requirements will be checked by the Program Administrator.

## **Equipment Eligibility**

Under the Charger Incentive of the Charge Up New Jersey Program, only a new Level-Two EV charger capable of capturing data (also known as a "smart" or "networked" charger) intended for residential use that has been preapproved by the State of New Jersey and is ENERGY STAR certified is eligible for an incentive. The pre-approved eligibility list shall be provided on the Charge Up website and shall be updated regularly. Applicants agree to comply with all data sharing requirements as directed by the Program.

## **Incentives for Eligible Equipment**

The Charger Incentive will utilize the same platform as Phase One of the Charge Up New Jersey vehicle incentive and operate as a post-purchase incentive. The incentive amount will be \$250. The incentive will not cover the associated installation costs, permitting fees, etc., though utilities may offer incentives to install the "make ready" infrastructure for residential chargers. The incentive amount may not exceed the purchase price of the charger. To be eligible for the incentive, applicants would need to upload scanned copies of all required documents.

## **Required Documentation**

- Proof of purchase and installation of an eligible Level-Two smart charger, either a digital or scanned hard copy, with the date of purchase clearly visible;
- Scanned photo of the serial number on the charging equipment itself; and
- New Jersey Driver's License as proof of residence and a unique identifier and a valid New Jersey EV registration showing a residential address in New Jersey;
  - One charger incentive per NJ address (including one per apartment in a Multi-Unit Dwelling); and
  - Each applicant (tracked by their New Jersey Driver's License) may receive up to two (2) charger incentives throughout the duration of the 10-year Charge Up New Jersey Program, but no more than one per address. Applicants may only receive one (1) charger incentive per EV registration (tracked by VIN number).

# VII. Call Center Coordination

The Program Administrator, CSE, maintains a call center for the Program, which employs thirty (30) individuals trained in processing light-duty EV incentives. The call center has a dedicated toll-free phone number and program specific email for applicant inquiries. The CSE has been working closely with the New Jersey Clean Energy Program main call center in order to create a seamless pathway for customer inquiries and Program information.

# VIII. Quality Control Provisions

Documented policies and procedures will provide proper guidelines to ensure consistency in the processing and quality control for all Program participants. Staff at the CSE will verify and ensure all applications for adherence to eligibility requirements and technical information contained within this FY25 Compliance Filing. Applicant and representative information, supplied via the secure program platform, will be housed in the program database, and electronic files will be maintained containing all application documents. The State Contract Managers for the Program will perform internal quality assurance reviews on monthly program reports.

The CSE has guiding program documentation, including Standard Operating Procedures, Implementation Manuals, and quality control procedures to ensure that a rigorous standardized process is adhered to by all incentive processing specialists. The State Contract Managers for the Program will evaluate the CSE's quality control activities based on the processes documented in an approved Program Management Plan.