

RESOURCES

Community Energy Planning Grants

www.NJCleanEnergy.com/CEP

New Jersey's Clean Energy Program

www.NJCleanEnergy.com

New Jersey 2019 Energy Master Plan

www.NJ.gov/EMP

Federal Guide to Community Energy Strategic Planning

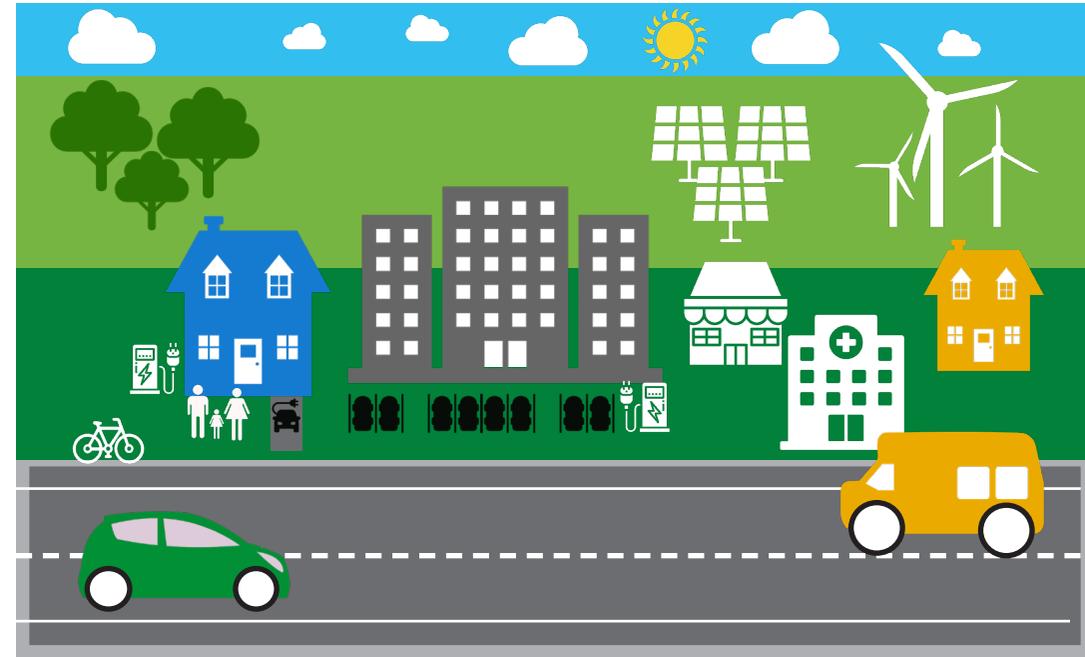
www.energy.gov/eere/slsc/guide-community-energy-strategic-planning

Sustainable Jersey Climate Action Plan

<http://www.sustainablejersey.com/actions-certification/actions/#open/action/26>



COMMUNITY ENERGY PLANS



For more information please visit: NJCleanEnergy.com
Call: **866-NJSMART (866-657-6278)**

New Jersey's Clean Energy Program is a statewide program administered by the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities that promotes energy efficiency and renewable energy for all New Jersey ratepayers, including residences, businesses, schools, and municipalities.

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What is a Community Energy Plan?

A Community Energy Plan is a way for a community to work toward a better environment for all residents by using the state's 2019 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.

A Community Energy Plan is created through a task force comprised of government officials, businesses, residents, and other stakeholders working first to benchmark community energy use and production, and then to develop goals and timelines to work toward the state's EMP goals.



Who is involved?

Community Energy Plans are designed to get communities to start thinking about energy use in a more global way – not just how much energy you are using in your home or your business, but how your behaviors are impacting energy usage as a whole. Energy use is more than how much electricity you use; it's about considerations like how you get where you're going, and how you deal with waste and storm water. Community Energy Plans are about improving efficiencies across the board.

The first step to creating a Community Energy Plan is to create a task force, which can include:

- Government Officials
- School Officials
- Businesses
- Non-profits
- Environmental Groups
- Residents
- Municipal Wastewater Facilities
- Transportation Partners (i.e. school buses, senior transportation)

Community Energy Planning Grants

NJBPU has created a grant to help you begin the process and to implement your Community Energy Plan. The first step is to create a task force to write the plan. When creating the task force, be sure to include a diverse snapshot of your community including government, schools, businesses, large institutions, small businesses, transportation partners, residents, and local non-profits.

The task force will first establish benchmarks for energy consumption, energy generation, emissions, vehicle miles traveled, and any other relevant data. Those benchmarks will help the task force determine how much work needs to be done and what the community's priorities will be. Once the benchmarks are established, have some public meetings to discuss what the community wants to do and what it can do.

From there, the task force can establish milestones designed to hit the EMP's long-term goals and can detail options for how to get there. Those goals, milestones, and strategies will be the basis for the Community Energy Plan.

We've got a Community Energy Plan, now what?

NJBPU has a number of Clean Energy Programs that provide incentives for reducing energy consumption. NJDEP also has programs to incentivize conservation efforts.

You may also want to explore grants from NJDOT, NJTRANSIT, NJEDA, your local utilities, environmental groups, or non-profits. There are lots of entities working toward the same goals, but the most important thing is to promote, promote, promote. The best way to reduce our impact on the environment is to change our behaviors, and doing so on a community level can help make the impact more tangible.

Working together as a community will have a huge impact on New Jersey's ability to reach our statewide goals.