

The meeting
will begin in
a few minutes



Renewable Energy (RE) Stakeholder Meeting

October 10, 2024

Disclaimer

This presentation is provided for informational purposes only and should not be taken to represent the views of the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities, its Commissioners, or the State of New Jersey. Please be aware that any information presented is subject to change if there are changes to New Jersey statutes, rules, or policies.

All viewers are responsible for ensuring that they rely only on current legal authority regarding the matters covered in the presentation.

Agenda

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Renewable Energy Programs
3. Solar Program Best Practices
 - Abandoned Customers
 - Trade Ally Categories
 - Contractor Remediation Procedures (CRP)
 - SEIA Consumer Protection Standards
 - Best Practices for Educating Customers
4. Solar Program Updates
 - Remote Net Metering
 - Dual-Use Solar Pilot Program
5. Q&A
6. Items of Interest for Next Meeting



Purpose of the Meeting

- To engage with renewable energy industry stakeholders
- Provide an open forum for questions
- Discuss best practices and identify program challenges
- Review new program rules and requirements
- Welcome suggestions on topics for discussion for future meetings

New Jersey's Clean Energy Program

Renewable Energy (RE) Stakeholder Meeting



Renewable Energy Programs

www.NJCleanEnergy.com/Renewable-Energy



Solar

Successor Solar Incentive Program (SuSI)

- ✓ Competitive Solar Incentive (CSI)
- ✓ Administratively Determined Incentive (ADI)

Includes Community Solar

Contact:

NJREinfo@NJCleanEnergy.com



Offshore Wind

Target 11,000 GW of offshore wind by 2040

Establish a supply chain to support New Jersey and the East Coast

Contact:

Wind-OSW.Stakeholder@bpu.nj.gov



Electric Vehicles

Goal of registering 330,000 light-duty electric vehicles by 2025

Creating a charging infrastructure

Contact:

ChargeUpNJ@energycenter.org



Energy Storage

Under development

Contact: Michael Hornsby
Michael.Hornsby@bpu.nj.gov

Solar Program Best Practices



Abandoned Customers - Nationwide Issue

Several solar companies that are non-responsive, have recently gone out of business or ceased operations have resulted in hundreds of customers being left stranded.

Customers are left with no assistance in submitting any remaining registration documents to complete their ADI registration packets.

These distressed customers fall under several scenarios:

- 1) Solar installation has not begun, but an initial registration has been submitted
- 2) Solar installation is complete, but no final documents have been submitted
- 3) An incomplete Final As-Built packet has been submitted, and the registration is pending additional documentation for completion
- 4) Solar system is not fully operational and requires service or maintenance

Trade Ally Categories

Per Board order of the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (NJBPU) dated February 14, 2024 - two new Trade Ally Categories:

1. Assistance for Distressed Customers

Assistance for Distressed Customers was created to provide a resource to help customers with projects that were abandoned by their solar installer. Typically, projects are at various stages of maturity, ranging from those for which only an initial registration has been submitted to those that have received Permission to Operate (PTO) and require only completion and submission of their post-construction certification packages. NJBPU and TRC are encouraging such distressed customers to seriously consider hiring a new installer to assist them in completing their projects and registrations.

2. Operations and Maintenance

Operations and Maintenance was created to help customers who are interested in engaging a contractor to maintain and/or repair their systems post-installation. This interest can arise from, among other things, the initial installer ceasing operations or one party or the other choosing not to continue their relationship on an ongoing basis.

Contractor Remediation Procedures (CRP)

Solar installers who meet the following may be subject to CRP:

- An unacceptable high number of registrations that are not compliant with the ADI program standards, rules, and regulations.
- Submit a high-percentage of registrations that violate applicable regulations that require a Board-approved waiver of those regulations to be eligible for continued processing and final approval
- Submit a high volume of incomplete ADI registrations and Final As-Built packets

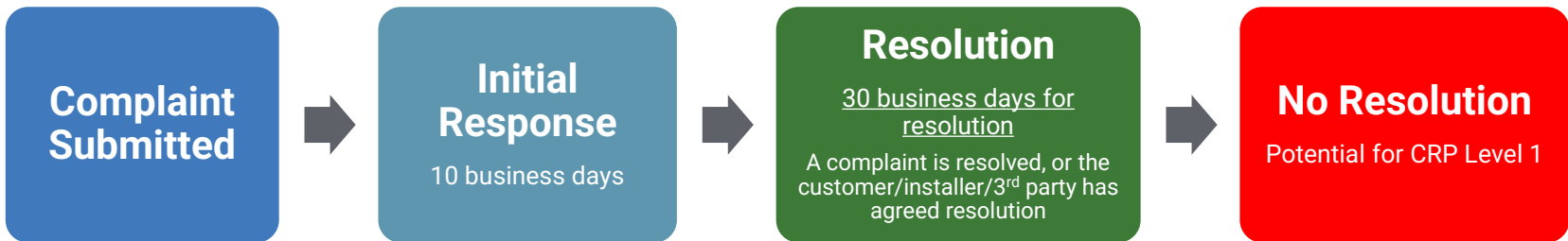
CRP Infraction Levels	
Level 1	Coaching
Level 2	Probation
Level 3	Suspension
Level 4	Debarment

Customer Complaints

False promises told to the customer:

- Free new roof installation
- Free solar panels
- The solar system will produce more energy vs. actual system production
- Customer will not receive a utility bill after the solar system is installed

Complaint Response Timeline:



Solar Energy Industry Association (SEIA) New Consumer Protection Standards

The Solar Energy Industries Association (SEIA) is a national trade association representing the US solar industry. SEIA released two new consumer protection standards for public comment in July 2024 to promote ethical and transparent solar sales practices:

SEIA Standard 401: Solar and Energy Storage Consumer Protection

- Outlines training requirements for solar salespeople to help establish ethical sales practices and ensure all solar customers have a thorough understanding of their investment before committing to installing solar or energy storage
- Companies and salespeople trained under this standard will provide customers with comprehensive and clear disclosure costs, key contract terms, and technology information

SEIA Standard 201: Solar and Energy Storage Installation Requirements (Residential and Commercial)

- Creates a new baseline for how residential and small commercial solar and storage systems are installed and covers electrical and fire safety, distribution grid connections and various weather conditions

Companies and salespeople trained and certified by SEIA under these standards will give customers the confidence they need to make the best decision.

Best Practices for Educating Customers

- **Educate customer** on registration process and timeline for issuance of NJ Certification Number
- Ensure the customer understands **who owns the Solar Renewable Energy Credits** (SREC-IIs)
- Customers should be made aware if the Solar Installer or an Aggregator is **managing the customer's SREC-IIs**
- Solar Installer should **provide a copy of the Final As-Built Technical Worksheet for customer's records** to register the required equipment information with PJM-GATs
- **Provide a copy of the *Permission to Operate*** and inform the customer that this date is required to be entered when registering for SREC-IIs and the date of SREC-II qualification life begins
- **Provide guidance** on changing SREC-II ownership (Schedule A Form)

Solar Program Updates



Remote Net Metering

- New ADI market segment: Remote Net Metering
- 50 MW (dc) capacity will be allocated for each utility territory
- Registrants must be a public entity
- Solar facilities cannot exceed 5 MW dc
- \$90 incentive value
- Projects not eligible for public adder

Design in development with Board Staff
Launch date: Fall/Winter


Dual-Use Solar Pilot Program

- The Dual-Use Solar Energy Act directs the Board to establish a program to “permit the construction, installation, and operation of dual-use solar energy projects that are connected to the distribution or transmission system owned or operated by a New Jersey public utility or local government unit and located on unpreserved farmland, while maintaining the affected land in active agricultural or horticultural use.” N.J.S.A. 48:3-87.13(a)
- Request for public comments with Straw Proposal issued June 10, 2024
- Responses to public comments were due June 24, 2024

Design in development with Board Staff
Launch date: TBD

CONTACT US

For more information or questions about the Dual-Use Solar Pilot Program:

Laura Scatena
 Laura.Scatena@bpu.nj.gov

See website for additional information:

<https://www.njcleanenergy.com/renewable-energy/programs/dual-use-solar-pilot-program>

General Q&A



Items of Interest for Next Meeting

Survey to be emailed immediately following this meeting



Renewable Energy Stakeholder Meetings

www.NJCleanEnergy.com/Renewable-Energy



The Renewable Energy Stakeholder Meeting will be conducted on a quarterly basis

- Next meeting - date TBD

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Thank you

The screenshot displays the NJ Clean Energy website's 'Renewable Energy' page. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for 'Press Room | Library | FAQs | Calendar | Newsletters | Contact Us | Site Map' and a search box. The main header includes 'Home', 'Energy Efficiency', 'Electric Vehicles', and 'Renewable Energy'. The left sidebar lists various programs: SUCCESSOR SOLAR INCENTIVE PROGRAM (SUSI), ADMINISTRATIVELY DETERMINED INCENTIVE PROGRAM (ADI), COMMUNITY SOLAR ENERGY PROGRAM (CSEP), FOR SUBSCRIBERS, SUBSCRIBER ORGANIZATIONS, FAQS FOR DEVELOPERS, COMPETITIVE SOLAR INCENTIVE PROGRAM (CSI), TRANSITION INCENTIVE PROGRAM (TI), SREC REGISTRATION PROGRAM (SRP), OFF SHORE WIND, PREVIOUS PROGRAMS, GRID MODERNIZATION, and ENERGY STORAGE. The main content area features 'Renewable Energy' with 'Important Links' such as Utility Interconnection Contacts, Solar Activity Reports, Metering Requirements, SREC Tracking System, SREC Pricing, Solar Proceedings, RPS Background Information, RPS Compliance Reports, Prevaling Wage Questions, Become a Solar Trade Ally (Vendor), Find a Solar Trade Ally (Customer), Solar Customer FAQs, Solar Ownership and Financing Options, A Basic Guide to Solar Electric Systems, Interconnection Complaint Form, and Solar Complaint Form. Below this is the 'New Jersey Solar Programs' section, which explains the SuSi Program and lists links for SuSi, TI, SRP, and Offshore Wind. A 'Click on a link below to take you to a NJ solar program:' section follows. The bottom right sidebar contains 'Program Updates', 'Solar Activity Reports' (203,613 Solar Installations), 'Find a Solar Trade Ally', and 'Solar Energy' with a 'Learn About Solar Energy' link.