



## ***NEW JERSEY CLEAN ENERGY LEADERSHIP AWARDS***

### **2008 Nomination Guidelines & Criteria**

## **NOMINATION GUIDELINES & CRITERIA**

The New Jersey Clean Energy Leadership Awards honor individuals, municipalities, businesses, industries, and organizations that have improved New Jersey's economic competitiveness and its environment through the effective and innovative use of renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies and have demonstrated clean energy technologies as effective climate change solutions for New Jersey.

Projects must be developed and/or located in New Jersey to be eligible. Preference will be given to those projects that: 1) **include investment above and beyond NJCEP incentives or financing**; 2) **exhibit leadership** in demonstrating outstanding economic, environmental, or social benefits of clean energy technologies and in motivating other organizations or institutions to adopt similar practices or programs; 3) **adopt a holistic approach** by integrating energy efficiency, renewable energy technologies, and social development (e.g., public education) into the project design.

## **ELIGIBLE NOMINATIONS**

Eligible nominations may include:

- Solar energy installations or outstanding projects that promote the use of renewable energy technology in New Jersey schools, communities, or businesses;
- Cleantech companies based in New Jersey;
- Businesses that demonstrate innovation in advancing the market for clean energy and clean energy technologies;
- Educational programs (not exclusive to schools);
- Energy efficient building design;
- Projects that use renewable energy in combination with energy efficiency technologies or processes;
- Renewable energy initiatives at a school, college, or non-profit;
- New industrial processes and/or equipment;
- Clean energy innovations, which include new methods utilizing existing technologies; and/or
- Use of alternative fuels; and/or use of renewable energy.



## JUDGING CRITERIA

All applicants must answer the following questions (see attached nomination form):

- 1. DOCUMENTED ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFIT (30 Points)** -- What is your best documented estimate of the climate benefits (CO2 reductions) and overall environmental benefits of this program/project or individual accomplishment over the past year? For example: avoided CO2 and other greenhouse gas emissions, pollution prevented or avoided, resources or energy conserved. Complete the Environmental Savings chart included if applicable.
- 2. MEETING NEEDS (20 points)** -- How does this program/project or individual accomplishment contribute to the environmental needs of the state of New Jersey? Describe such issues as: originality, effectiveness in improving existing methods of meeting this need, and the risks that were overcome.
- 3. LEADERSHIP/INNOVATION (15 points)** -- How does this program/project or individual accomplishment show leadership and take steps beyond "traditional" clean energy efforts (e.g. leadership in terms of financing, use of technology, and organizational commitment)?
- 4. COVERAGE AND REPLICABILITY (20 points)** -- How does this program, project or individual accomplishment have a long-term impact on your business, community, region, or the state? How replicable is the project to other areas (i.e., across media areas, into other locations, industries, or states)?
- 5. EDUCATION AND OUTREACH (15 points)** -- What education and/or outreach about the program/project was undertaken for affected individuals (employees, stakeholders, community, contractors, consultants etc.)? How can others in a similar line of work use what has been done to learn from these efforts?

## GENERAL GUIDELINES

- To assure fairness and consistency, all submissions must be prepared in accordance with the format described in this announcement.
- Projects completed within the last eighteen months (from January 2007 – June 2008) are eligible.
- Projects in operation for at least one year with documented energy savings and environmental benefits are preferred and receive greater weight.
- All information submitted is considered in the public domain unless it is labeled proprietary. All proprietary information must be clearly identified. The Office of Clean Energy (OCE) reserves the right to request additional information during the judging process. No materials will be returned. Award applicants and winners agree to have their project or program shared with others through a written case study with photos to appear in the Awards program and online at the NJCleanEnergy.com website.
- There is no fee or limit to the number of entries per applicant. The program applicant is defined as the organization or individual that submits the application. The applicant can be one or more entities or individuals.
- Each project must be submitted as a separate entry. Former winning projects are not eligible. Projects currently funded by the Office of Clean Energy are eligible; however, projects that received funding and financing in addition to any funds received from the NJCEP will receive greater weight. Past recipients of the New Jersey Clean Energy Leadership Award are eligible to submit a new project.

*The New Jersey Clean Energy Leadership Awards Program is administered by the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (BPU) and New Jersey's Clean Energy Program, a statewide initiative, administered by the BPU, that provides financing and incentives to promote the development and use of clean energy technologies for New Jersey residents, businesses, and communities.*

***For more information, go to [www.NJCleanEnergy.com](http://www.NJCleanEnergy.com).***

## AWARD CATEGORIES

### **NJ Clean Energy Business Leader of the Year**

A New Jersey business that demonstrates leadership by setting a higher standard for its industry through its clean energy goals and implementing clean energy projects that benefit business and are good for New Jersey.

### **NJ Clean Energy Market Innovator**

A clean energy business or organization that shows innovation in advancing New Jersey's clean energy market either through the introduction of new products or services, use of a dynamic business model, or by reaching new customers.

### **NJ Cleantech Company**

A cleantech company based in New Jersey that has helped grow the market for clean energy, stimulated economic development, and demonstrates that clean energy in New Jersey is a winning strategy.

### **NJ Clean Energy Educator**

A public or private educational institution or non-profit organization that demonstrates that energy efficiency and/or renewable energy is just plain smart when it comes to saving energy, lowering costs, and protecting the environment.

### **NJ Clean Energy Municipality**

A New Jersey city/town that demonstrates that energy efficiency and/or renewable energy is just plain smart when it comes to saving energy, lowering costs, and protecting the environment.

### **Clean Power Purchaser of the Year**

This award will be presented to a company or organization that demonstrates leadership through the procurement of renewable energy either through the New Jersey **CleanPower** Choice Program<sup>SM</sup> or through a competitive supplier and the purchase of comparable renewable energy certificates. The significance of the purchase will be considered relative to the strategic goals and commitment, size of the purchase, clean power benefits, and public recognition of the purchase.

### **NJ Clean Energy YOUR POWER TO SAVE Project of the Year**

A New Jersey-based project that demonstrates Your Power to Save by showing New Jersey communities, businesses, and residents that energy efficiency and/or renewable energy is just plain smart when it comes to saving energy, lowering costs, and protecting the environment.

### **NJ Clean Energy Small Business**

A New Jersey-based small business that demonstrates that energy efficiency and/or renewable energy is smart business - no matter what size you are.

## JUDGING AND AWARD NOTIFICATION

A panel of judges will review the entries. Judging will be based mainly on the information submitted in the project narrative. The transferability and innovation/creativity of the project will be taken into account. Winning projects will be selected by the Awards Committee. Written notification of the judges' decision will be sent to all participants before August 29, 2008.

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The BPU President, in consultation with the Office of Clean Energy and the Awards Committee, reserves the exclusive right to make the final decision. The winners will be recognized at an awards ceremony in October 2008. All entrants will also be recognized at that ceremony for their participation.

## HOW TO ENTER

Please submit an application in electronic format AND also submit one original and three copies of your entry to:

NJ Clean Energy Leadership Awards  
NJ Board of Public Utilities  
Office of Clean Energy  
PO Box 350  
Trenton, New Jersey 08625  
[Anne.mcshea@bpu.state.nj.us](mailto:Anne.mcshea@bpu.state.nj.us)

**PROJECT ENTRIES MUST BE POSTMARKED BY JULY 11, 2008**

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