

New Jersey's Clean Energy Newsletter

Energy Saving Tips for New Jersey businesses, residents, municipalities and schools



[HOME](#)

[EVENTS](#)

[RESIDENTIAL](#)

[COMMERCIAL INDUSTRIAL](#)

[RENEWABLE ENERGY](#)

New Jersey's Clean Energy Program Newsletter DECEMBER 2008

New Jersey's Clean Energy Program (NJCEP) Newsletter is designed to show you that you have the "Power to Save" - throughout your home, business and your community. We hope you find this newsletter to be useful and that you visit the links below to learn more about financial incentives to save on energy efficient and renewable energy technologies.

[New Jersey Board of Public Utilities](#)

Rebates Available

Rebates are available on many of the items you use every day, when shopping for new appliances look for the ENERGY STAR® label. These energy efficient products can also help lower your monthly energy bill!

ENERGY STAR Rebate Information Quick Links:

- [Clothes Washers](#)
- [Dehumidifiers](#)
- [Furnaces](#)
- [Heat Pumps](#)
- [Central Air Conditioners](#)
- [Water Heaters](#)

[Continue Reading about Rebates and Promotions](#)

Rebates Still Available for Wind and Biomass Projects

In 2009 the federal investment tax credit for wind projects will allow small wind projects (<100 kW) to receive a tax incentive of 30% of the installed cost, capped at \$4,000. Also in 2009 the funding for wind and biomass projects has been approved and the proposed program will be identical to the current program.

Renewable Energy | [CORE Program](#)

Headlines

Energy Master Plan Released by Governor Jon S. Corzine

The Energy Master Plan (EMP) was released on October 22, 2008 by Governor Corzine. The EMP lists a series of goals and action items that will put the State on track to successfully meet the energy challenges facing New Jersey, while developing the clean energy industry as a cornerstone of the State's economy. For more details, please visit the EMP website at nj.gov/emp.

2008 Leadership Awards Announced

The New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (BPU) recently recognized eight New Jersey businesses and organizations for their leadership and innovations in

In This Issue:

[Rebates Available](#)

[Headlines](#)

[Program News](#)

[Also in the News](#)

[Ask the Energy Guru](#)

[Featured Success Story](#)



Ask the Energy Guru

Featured Question:

Q: I'm struggling with paying my energy bills. Are there any programs available to help me reduce my overall energy use?

A: Yes! The [Comfort Partners Program](#) is available to income qualified New Jersey residents. Energy efficiency measures can be installed in your home at no cost. For information on assistance programs available in New Jersey, visit the [BPU website](#).



Do you have a question you'd like answered?

[Submit Your Question](#)

creating clean energy solutions that save energy and help reduce greenhouse gases. "This year's award winners are clear examples that investing in clean technology is good for the environment and the economy," said NJBPU President Jeanne M. Fox. [Click here](#) to read about the 2008 Leadership Award winners.

NJBPU Takes Significant Steps to Foster Offshore Wind in NJ

The BPU has awarded a \$4 million grant to Garden State Offshore Energy to develop what could be the first offshore wind farm on the East Coast. When completed, the facility will produce enough electricity to power 125,000 homes. In addition, the Board also approved the application process for a \$12 million rebate program for the development and construction of the meteorological towers to support the development of at least 1,000 MegaWatts of offshore wind by 2012. Approval for the program itself will not be decided until December 16th as part of 2009's clean energy program budget. See the approved [order and rebate application](#) on the NJCEP website for more information.

Federal Tax Credit Update

The federal government recently passed an [investment tax credit](#) which will have a significant impact on solar project development and financing. All solar installations in 2009 will be eligible for a tax incentive of 30% of the installed cost. In addition, taxpayers subject to the Alternative Minimum Tax (AMT) will be able to benefit from this incentive. The \$2,000 cap on residential installations has also been removed, which means residential customers could potentially receive thousands of dollars more in federal tax credits.

Funding for Solar Projects

The BPU recently approved the allocation of additional funds for solar projects in New Jersey. An additional \$50 million will be available for applicants already in the queue. For more information visit the [CORE Program](#) page.

Program News

Announcing the Local Government Energy Audit

The BPU has announced the launch of a new program aimed at assisting local governments in identifying opportunities for energy efficiency. The program is open to public buildings owned by local government agencies, municipal and county governments, local and regional authorities, boards of education, and county colleges. The program will subsidize 75% of the cost of the energy audit and the remaining 25% of the audit cost may also be available for refund.

Commercial/Industrial | Local Government Energy Audit

Change the World, Start with ENERGY STAR

October 1 kicked off the Environmental Protection Agency's 2008 fall campaign. Communities throughout New Jersey are asking residents to take small steps that make a big difference in the fight against global warming. Pledge to make your home and workplace more energy efficient. New Jersey Clean Energy Program's goal is to save over 40 million pounds of greenhouse gas emissions. Pledge today!

Residential | Change the World Pledge

Purchase ENERGY STAR Lighting through our Online Store

New Jersey's Clean Energy Program is now offering ENERGY STAR qualified compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs) and lighting fixtures at a discounted rate to all New Jersey residents. Visit our online store to check out the great selection. You can also find out how to properly dispose your CFLs.

Residential | Energy Star Lighting Offer

Featured Success Story

Gene Zimmerman, a resident of Washington, NJ took advantage of New Jersey's Clean Energy program incentives for [Home Performance with ENERGY STAR](#). He is now reaping the benefits and has a comfortable and affordable home. [Read more](#) about his experience. (PDF)

[Success Stories](#)



CleanPower Choice Program Continues Growth

The New Jersey CleanPower Choice Program allows New Jersey electric utility customers to choose a renewable energy option and help reduce green house gas emissions by paying a small additional charge on their monthly utility bill. Participation in the program continues to increase with 16,400 New Jersey residents now involved statewide.

[Renewable Energy](#) | [CleanPower Choice Program](#)

SREC-Only Pilot Continues Solar Growth in NJ

New Jersey's SREC-Only Pilot has introduced a new phase in New Jersey's solar program, that moves away from rebates toward market-based incentives based on system performance. This approach allows for the sale or trade of Solar Renewable Energy Certificates, known as SRECs. The SREC-Only Pilot Program saw the completion of 15 projects in August and September, representing 1.149 MW of new solar capacity. The completed systems were diverse and included several 3-4 kW residential systems, a 100 kW commercial system at Champion Container in Avenel, and three 260-290 kW systems on Kohl's stores in Manahawkin, Mantua, and Cherry Hill.

[Renewable Energy](#) | [SREC-Only Pilot Program](#)

New CEP programs to be launched in early 2009

The **Pay for Performance Program** is directed at large existing facilities that directly links incentives to energy savings in a whole-building approach. The program will rely on a network of partners who will provide technical services under direct contract to building owners.

The **Direct Install Program** will address the needs of owners of small commercial buildings, and is expected to include direct installation, financial incentives, education, and strategies to encourage the early replacement of existing equipment with high efficiency alternatives, as well as the installation of new equipment.

Teaching Energy Awareness with Children's Help (TEACH) will offer information for teachers and administrators of approximately 100 K-12 schools in New Jersey. TEACH provides a wide range of services to educate students, faculty and staff about energy efficiency and renewable technologies. Please check the NJCEP website periodically for more information.

[Commercial/Industrial](#) | [2009 CEP Programs](#)

Also in the News

Take a Virtual Tour of a New Jersey ENERGY STAR Home

Interested in buying a new home but are concerned about energy costs? Learn about [New Jersey ENERGY STAR Homes](#) and how you can save between 15-35% on your energy bills.

Community Solar Stakeholder Process Initiated

A Community Solar stakeholder process has been initiated to consider how residents and small businesses may "buy" into a centrally located solar project, as opposed to individual home installations as a means of reducing costs while still allowing small customers to participate in the solar marketplace. For more information, visit the [Policy Updates & Request for Comments](#) page.

Net Metering Working Group

The [Net Metering Working Group](#) has been established to review recent amendments to the net metering provisions of the Electric Discount and Energy

Competition Act (EDECA) and Senate Bill 2936. Changes are required to allow New Jersey net metering and interconnection rules to: Expand the class of customers that can net meter; Allow a customer-generator to contract directly with the EDC and; Allow time of use billing. Related issues including the Anniversary Date will also be addressed. For details, please visit the [Net Metering Working Group](#).

We Are Here to Help!

If you have questions about New Jersey's Clean Energy Program, rebates on energy efficiency appliances or technologies, call our **Customer Care Center** at **866-NJSMART** or submit your question to info@njcleanenergy.com.

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