



Thank you for choosing to subscribe to New Jersey's Clean Energy Program™ (NJCEP) Newsletter. We designed it to provide you with the "Power to Save" - information you need to connect to programs that provide financial and environmental savings for New Jersey residents and businesses. This issue also contains news about some recent NJCEP program additions, our accomplishments, and web site updates.

We hope you find the NJCEP Newsletter to be useful and that you visit the links below to learn more about the programs and online tools that can help you save energy, reduce costs, and protect the environment. We welcome all feedback, especially story ideas. Just send us an email at info@njcep.com.

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REGIONAL POLICY HIGHLIGHTS

Pact Reduces Global Warming

New Jersey, represented by New Jersey Board of Public Utilities President Jeanne M. Fox, recently joined six other Northeastern states to reduce carbon dioxide emissions from power plants. The Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative calls for the states to cap emissions at current levels from 2009 to 2015, then reduce them by 2.5 percent a year until 2019. For more information, please visit www.bpu.state.nj.us

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New Jersey Proposes Increase to Renewable Energy Goals: 20 Percent by 2020

The NJBPU received public comment on its proposal to increase its Renewable Portfolio Standards (RPS). Specifically, the state proposed increasing the RPS percentage of Class 1 (solar, wind, sustainable biomass) to 20 percent by 2020 from the current requirement of 4 percent by 2008. The initiative further requires that 2 percent or an estimated 1600 MW of this amount comes from solar electric systems. The new standards are part of the re-adoption of Chapter 4 (Energy) of the NJBPU's regulations. [Click here](#) for additional information.

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RESIDENTIAL SAVINGS

Helping Consumers Conserve Energy

As oil and gas prices continued to rise this winter, the NJBPU issued a series of practical tips to consumers to help them conserve energy and lower costs. These five easy tips could help consumers save up to 30 percent on their heating bill.

The tips, which are available online, included:

- Lower your thermostat
- Reduce your hot water usage
- Weatherize
- Keep warm air inside
- Take a free Home Energy Analysis

What's more, now you can get up to \$750 back on a new boiler and \$600 on a new furnace through New Jersey's Clean Energy Program. But hurry, these rebates are only available on energy-efficient gas heating equipment installed now through April 30, 2006. For more information, please visit the [Residential section](#) at www.njcleanenergy.com.

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Natural Gas Cost Cutter Kit

The cost of heating your home is higher this year, and to help save money on gas costs, the Board of Public Utilities is making available a Natural Gas Cost Cutter Kit for only \$5. The kit contains a variety of items that will help lower your energy consumption, provide tips on how to use less energy, and help save on your gas bill. Save up to \$170 this year.* For more information, call 866-522-3806 or look in your February natural gas bill.

**Based on an average of 106 therm savings at \$1.60 per therm.*

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Changes in Rebates for Residential HVAC Systems - Up to \$750!

Rebates for high-efficiency gas furnaces and boilers through the [WARMAvantage Program](#) have been increased -- up to \$750 -- to help customers combat the cost of heating during this winter season, and for years to come. The offer is good for equipment installed between November 1, 2005 and April 30, 2006.

Rebates for central air conditioners and air source heat pumps installed after January 1, 2006 have also changed. The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has established a new national standard for central air conditioners. As a result of this change, NJCEP's [COOLAdvantage Program](#) will no longer pay a rebate for equipment with a SEER between 13 and 13.99 installed after December 31, 2005. Existing rebates and eligibility requirements for central air conditioners with a SEER of 14 or more and an EER of 12 or more, and -- in the case of air source heat pumps -- a HSPF of 8.5 or more remain in effect.

18 MW of Combined Heat and Power to receive funding from NJCEP

The New Jersey Clean Energy Program (NJ CEP) recently announced its selection of 10 new CHP projects that will receive funding under the 2005 CHP incentive program. These newly funded projects are expected to contribute 18 MW of capacity to New Jersey's clean Distributed Generation (DG) portfolio and to spur the growth of CHP markets and technologies throughout the state. For more information go to the [Commercial Homepage](#) and click on [Combined Heat and Power](#).

New Jersey to Launch Home Performance for ENERGY STAR

The New Jersey Clean Energy Program (NJ CEP) recently announced plans to launch New Jersey Home Performance with ENERGY STAR, a national home improvement program developed by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Department of Energy (DOE). The Program will train and certify contractors that offer comprehensive energy improvement packages based on sound building science principles and predictable savings. Contractors certified to participate in the program will offer homeowners a customized energy efficiency package for their home that addresses everything from heating and cooling systems to lighting retrofits. Look for more information in the coming months on the [Residential Homepage](#).

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RENEWABLE ENERGY HIGHLIGHTS

1,000 Solar Installation Milestone

More than 1,000 New Jersey homes, businesses, and schools are now powered by solar energy with the financial help of the New Jersey Clean Energy Program. This remarkable turnaround from just a few years ago - when there were only six solar projects in the entire state under the CORE rebate program - can be attributed to solar friendly regulations, attractive rebates, and market incentives provided by the state's Clean Energy Program. In total, 1,087 solar photovoltaic systems are currently installed across New Jersey, which is equivalent to removing 1,100 SUVs from the road or planting 2,433 acres of trees. Go to [NEW CORE Activity through December 2005](#) for current statistics on New Jersey's CORE rebate program and solar installations.

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CORE Rebate Changes

The Office of Clean Energy has announced changes to the Customer Onsite Renewable Energy (CORE) rebate levels and CORE Application requirements effective March 15, 2006. The CORE Program has expanded significantly over the last two years due to a number of policies and initiatives that improve project financials. These changes will help ensure the Program remains responsive to consumer demand. For more information, please see the latest [CORE Program Update](#), February 2006 posted in the [Renewables section](#).

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New Jersey Launches First Coastal Wind Farm

The NJBPU, along with the Atlantic County Utilities Authority (ACUA) and Community Energy, Inc., recently dedicated the Garden State's first wind farm. The \$12 million Jersey-Atlantic Wind Farm, which also is the first coastal wind farm in the U.S., is expected to produce approximately 20 million kilowatt-hours of emission-free electricity per year. The electricity produced will be used by the ACUA Wastewater Treatment Plant and delivered to the regional electric grid as part of the New Jersey CleanPower Choice Program. For more information on this and other current NJCEP news, please visit the [Press & Media section](#) in the Library.

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Statewide Rollout for CleanPower Choice Program

The New Jersey CleanPower Choice Program, which officially launched in October 2005 in PSE&G and JCP&L territories, will expand to Atlantic City Electric and Rockland Electric Company in April 2006. The program is the first statewide program of its kind where electricity customers who wish to pay a slight premium to encourage the development and expansion of renewable energy sources – like wind and solar – can select from multiple clean power

products and marketers, without having to switch from their electric utility. For more information, please visit the [CleanPower Choice Program](#) at www.njcleanenergy.com.

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AWARDS

NJBPU President Named One of Three "Solar Energy Champions of the Year"

NJBPU President Jeanne M. Fox was recently named a “Solar Energy Champion of the Year” by the Solar Energy Industries Association (SEIA), along with U.S. Senator Lamar Alexander (R-TN) and Arizona Corporation Commissioner Kris Mayes. President Fox was recognized “for providing state leadership in support of solar energy development and for making New Jersey a model for other states to follow.” She accepted the award at Solar Power 2005, an annual event hosted jointly by SEIA and the Solar Electric Power Association (SEPA). For more information, please visit the [Press and Media](#) section of the Library at www.njcleanenergy.com.

CLEAN ENERGY EVENTS: SAVE THE DATE

New Jersey Clean Energy Conference & Leadership Awards

Monday, September 18

The [2006 New Jersey Clean Energy Conference & Leadership Awards](#) will give you information and real world examples about energy, the energy market, renewable energy, and energy efficiency. We'll show you what businesses and communities throughout the state have already accomplished and what steps you can take to duplicate their success. You'll see that clean energy really is smart business. Visit the [Clean Energy Conference Section](#) for future updates on the 2006 Conference & Awards Program.

CN8 TV Interviews BPU President Jeanne M. Fox

The following segments begin airing Wednesdays and run through the following Tuesday. Check CN8's website for listings.

Wednesday, February 22
BPU Segment of Energy Efficiency

Wednesday, March 8
BPU Segment on NJ's One Call Program



NJBPU – 2006 Agenda Dates

Wednesday, February 22
Wednesday, March 15
Wednesday, March 29
Thursday, April 13
Wednesday, April 26

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New Jersey's Clean Energy Program is a statewide program administered by the NJ 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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