

New Jersey Board of Public Utilities

PRESS RELEASE

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NEW JERSEY CONTINUES TO LEAD THE WAY IN ADOPTING CLEAN ENERGY POLICIES AND PROGRAMS

*New Jersey Board of Public Utilities Releases 2005 Annual Report
On New Jersey's Clean Energy Program*

(TRENTON, NJ) - For another year, New Jersey has sustained its position as a national leader in adopting forward-looking clean energy policies and programs.

New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (NJBPUB) President Jeanne M. Fox today released the 2005 Annual Report for New Jersey's Clean Energy Program, a statewide program designed to help customers save energy, save money and help protect the environment by installing clean, efficient energy technologies. In 2005, the program provided \$140 million in financial and other incentives to residential customers, businesses, schools and municipalities that install energy efficient and renewable energy technologies, including the use of solar electricity systems.

“New Jerseyans are more focused on energy than they have been in decades,” said Governor Jon S. Corzine. “Rising fuel prices, increasing demand for energy at home and abroad, and the impact of global warming on New Jersey's shoreline communities have dramatically raised the profile of energy and our dependence on fossil fuel. New Jersey's Clean Energy Program provides residents with the financial incentives and technical assistance necessary to reduce their energy use and save on energy costs.”

In 2005, New Jersey's Clean Energy Program expended \$124.6 million to provide homes and businesses with services and financial assistance that generated 382,845 MWh of annual electricity savings, 617,261 Dtherms of natural gas savings, and 29,136 MWh of electricity generated from clean, renewable sources of energy. The amount of electricity saved is enough to provide the annual requirements of approximately 50,000 homes in New Jersey and the programs also reduced demand on the electric system by 82.6 MW. Further, in 2005, \$210 million in commitments were made for projects to be completed in the next two years that will produce additional annual savings of 162,993 MWh, 935,822 Dtherms, and 142,953 MWh of renewable generation.

During 2005, the State's solar market grew significantly for the second consecutive year and achieved a major milestone with the installation of its 1,000th photovoltaic system in early 2006.

This milestone reflects the exponential growth of the State's solar market from 2001, when there were only six solar electric systems installed.

This past year also saw the installation of the State's first major wind generator on the site of the Atlantic County Utilities Authority and the launch of the Clean Power Choice Program, an initiative that provides electric utility customers the option of selecting "clean energy" through a sign-up option on their electric utility bills.

More notable accomplishments during 2005 include:

- 27,510 residential customers received rebates for the purchase of high efficiency heating and cooling equipment which will reduce their energy usage and costs;
- 8,009 new homes were built and certified to New Jersey ENERGY STAR Home standards, representing over 20 percent of all new homes built in New Jersey;
- Over 1.2 million high efficiency compact fluorescent bulbs and fixtures were distributed through New Jersey retailers;
- 6,403 low-income homes received energy efficiency improvements at no cost to the customer, thus ensuring continued savings and greater affordability;
- Rebates were paid for 2,387 commercial energy efficiency projects, helping businesses reduce their energy costs while improving profitability;
- 496 schools, businesses, and residents installed solar electric or other renewable energy systems that will generate clean, emission-free electricity and reduce energy costs for years to come;
- 4,850 trees were planted through the Cool Cities program managed by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection.
- For the second consecutive year, the New Jersey ENERGY STAR® Products Program received an ENERGY STAR Partner of the Year award from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and U.S. Department of Energy.

For a complete copy of the New Jersey's Clean Energy Program 2005 Annual Report, please visit www.njcleanenergy.com.

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About the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (NJBPU)

The New Jersey Board of Public Utilities is a state agency and regulatory authority mandated to ensure safe, adequate, and proper utility services at reasonable rates for New Jersey customers. Critical services regulated by the NJBPU include natural gas, electricity, water, wastewater, telecommunications and cable television. The Board has general oversight responsibility for monitoring utility service, responding to consumer complaints, and investigating utility accidents. To find out more about the NJBPU, visit our web site at www.bpu.state.nj.us.

About the New Jersey Clean Energy Program

New Jersey's Clean Energy Program, established on January 22, 2003 in accordance with the

Electric Discount and Energy Competition Act (EDECA), provides financial and other incentives to the State's residential customers, businesses and schools that install high-efficiency or renewable energy technologies, thereby reducing energy usage, lowering customers' energy bills and reducing environmental impacts. The program is authorized and overseen by the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (BPU), and its website is www.njcleanenergy.com.