



New Jersey Board of Public Utilities

PRESS RELEASE

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General Services Administration Goes Solar in New Jersey

Partners with BPU and New Jersey's Clean Energy Program™ to Make Clarkson S. Fisher U.S. Courthouse First Solar Installation in GSA Region 3

(NEWARK, NJ) – New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (NJBPU) Commissioner Joseph Fiordaliso, along with representatives from the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA), today attended a dedication ceremony for the first solar electric array installation in GSA Region 3, which consists of Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland, New Jersey (southern), and Pennsylvania.

The 40-kilowatt solar electric system is mounted on the roof of the seven-story Clarkson S. Fisher U.S. Courthouse Annex in Trenton and produces 40,768 kW hours of electricity annually. The system is anticipated to save thousands of dollars a year in energy costs and reduce carbon dioxide emissions by an estimated 292 tons over its operating life.

New Jersey is currently the fastest growing solar market in the U.S. and is one of the largest in terms of installations, second only to California, which has four times the population and energy usage. When established in 2001, the *New Jersey Clean Energy Program™* had only six solar installations. Today, more than 2,400 solar installations are located throughout the Garden State, representing more than 40 MW of installed solar capacity.

“Today’s ceremony represents how the state can work with federal partners like the GSA to expand the market for solar power in New Jersey and across the country,” NJBPU Commissioner Fiordaliso said. “The GSA’s commitment to clean energy benefits our environment by reducing greenhouse gas emissions and lowers the operational costs of government facilities, which saves taxpayers money.”

New Jersey has set a goal of 20 percent renewable energy by 2020 to include 2 percent solar -- or an estimated 1,500 MW of installed solar capacity. To reach this goal and sustain the unprecedented level of growth in New Jersey’s solar market, the NJBPU’s Office of Clean Energy is transitioning towards a new financing model to encourage private investment and market-based financing of solar generation.

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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.state.nj.us/bpu.

*About the New Jersey **Clean Energy Program**TM*

*New Jersey's **Clean Energy Program**TM, 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 (NJBPU), and its website is www.njcleanenergy.com.*