



New Jersey Board of Public Utilities

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release:

April 8, 2008

Contact:

Doyal Siddell
973-468-8515

NJ Board of Public Utilities Approves PSE&G Solar Energy Pilot Program

Program will provide financing to PSE&G customers to fund solar installations
(NEWARK, NJ) – The New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (NJBPU) today unanimously approved a solar pilot program proposed by Public Service Electric & Gas (PSE&G) to provide upfront capital of \$100 million to install about 30 megawatts of solar capacity for its customers – enough to supply about electricity for 24,000 homes.

The stipulation that the Board approved today reflects an agreement between Board staff, the NJ Rate Counsel, PSE&G, and many other stakeholders. This collective work resulted in a program that considered how New Jersey can promote the greatest amount of renewable energy in the State, at the least financial impact to the ratepayer.

“I congratulate PSE&G and all of our stakeholders for coming to the Board with this initiative,” said NJBPU President Jeanne M. Fox. “This showcases what we can accomplish when stakeholders in this State work collectively to come up with true innovation.

“I know Governor Corzine shares our commitment to foster clean, renewable energy in the state of New Jersey. The goals in his coming draft Energy Master Plan certainly reflect that commitment. Under the Governor's goals, New Jersey will reduce its projected energy use by 20 percent, generate 20 percent of Class 1 Renewables – including a 2 percent solar set aside, and reduce the amount of greenhouse gas emissions back to 1990 levels by 2020. PSE&G's pilot will be a key component of meeting our immediate term Renewable Portfolio Standard goals.”

The approved pilot program authorizes PSE&G to offer \$100 million in loans to help finance the installation of solar systems on homes, businesses, and municipal buildings throughout its electric service area. Under the plan, PSE&G customers will repay this loan to PSE&G over 10 to 15 years by providing Solar Renewable Energy Credits (SRECs) to PSE&G. The program will be open to the full spectrum of PSE&G customers – including commercial and industrial, residential, multi-family/affordable housing, and municipal/non-profit. (*See attached Q&A's for further information.*)

-- More --

“We are fortunate in New Jersey to have utilities that come to the Board with groundbreaking ideas on how utilities can help lead the way in innovation in clean energy,” said President Fox. “I strongly encourage all of the electric utilities to examine this pilot program, and come to the Board with ideas on how they can build off of this idea by implementing the pilot in their territories, or come up with new innovative plans to meet New Jersey’s renewable energy goals. This is an exciting time for clean energy in New Jersey, and I am happy to see our utilities stepping to the front of the pack.”

###

About the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (NJBP)

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 NJBP 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 NJBP, visit our web site at www.nj.gov/bpu.