



New Jersey Board of Public Utilities

PRESS RELEASE

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New Jersey's Clean Energy Program™ Launches Solar Domestic Hot Water Pilot Program

New Jersey homeowners may receive \$1,200 incentive for purchasing and installing qualified solar domestic hot water heaters

(NEWARK, NJ) – Sponsored by the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (BPU), *New Jersey's Clean Energy Program* recently launched a program targeting single family homeowners with electric hot water heating systems. For those who purchase and install a solar domestic hot water heater the *Solar Domestic Hot Water Pilot Program* is currently offering a \$1,200 incentive. The new solar hot water heating system, if qualified, may either replace or supplement the existing electric hot water heating system.

A solar hot water heating system is a reliable and efficient alternative for heating hot water. It can provide a significant portion of a home's water-heating needs. Typically a solar hot water system is designed to meet 100% of summer hot water demand and 30% of winter hot water demand for an average single family home. Standard electric heating is used as a back up to solar hot water heating systems. By installing a solar hot water heater, New Jersey homeowners can potentially cut their water heating bills in half. Additionally, installing a qualified solar domestic hot water heater can reduce the load of an electric water heater by almost 2,500 kWh per year, preventing 3,958 pounds of carbon dioxide from entering the atmosphere annually. This is the equivalent of not driving a car for four months every year.

“Participating in New Jersey's *Solar Domestic Hot Water Pilot Program* is another one of the many ways New Jersey residents can help meet Governor Corzine's comprehensive Energy Master Plan goal of reducing energy consumption by 20 percent by the year 2020,” said Jeanne M. Fox, President of the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities. It provides the homeowner with immediate savings on their utility bill and all of us save by reducing the need for future utility infrastructure.”

Customers interested in applying for this new incentive must meet the following requirements:

- Install and operate a qualified Solar Domestic Hot Water System in an existing New Jersey single family home.

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- Residence must currently be serviced by one of the following electric utilities: Atlantic City Electric (ACE), Jersey Central Power & Light (JCP&L), Public Service Electric & Gas (PSE&G), or Rockland Electric Company (RECO).
- Incentives are available for systems purchased on or after September 9, 2009, through December 31, 2009.
- List of qualifying systems may be found at NJCleanEnergy.com/sdhw.
- The solar domestic hot water heater must be installed by a contractor with a NJ Home Improvement Contractor's (HIC) License that is participating in the *Solar Domestic Hot Water Pilot Program*.
- Application must be postmarked within 120 days from the date of purchase.

Replacing or supplementing an electric hot water heater with a solar hot water system will help New Jersey residents save money, energy and help protect the environment.

More information about the *Solar Domestic Hot Water Pilot Program* can be found at NJCleanEnergy.com/sdhw or by calling 866-NJSMART (866-657-6278).

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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.nj.gov/bpu.

About the New Jersey Clean Energy Program (NJCEP)

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 (NJBPU), and its website is www.njcleanenergy.com.