

REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

June 4, 2021

Proposed Revision to Fiscal Year 2021 (“FY21”) New Jersey’s Clean Energy Program (“NJCEP”) Budget (Staff-Authorized)

[Docket No. QO20080539](#)

BACKGROUND AND PROCESS

By Order dated February 4, 2014 (“Order”), the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (“Board”) authorized Staff to make revisions to the NJCEP budgets so long as certain conditions are met. Specifically, Staff is authorized by the Order to revise the NJCEP budgets within any given funding category (such as Energy Efficiency (“EE”)), as necessary, provided that the revision would not reduce any of the other NJCEP program budget by more than 10% within any 60-day period of time.

The Order further requires Staff to provide written notice to each Commissioner at least seven (7) days prior to implementing any budget revision. Additionally, the Order requires that Staff provide notice to the public along with an opportunity for public comment prior to the implementation of any budget revision. Staff has provided timely written notice to each Commissioner of the proposed revisions and has satisfied the public notice and opportunity for comment requirement through the issuance of this request for comments.

PROPOSED BUDGET REVISIONS

In order to ensure adequate funding remains available across all EE programs and to allow for a smooth transition of the EE programs to the utilities, Staff proposes to increase the Existing Homes (Res. Retrofit) Program Budget by \$2,000,000.

Conversely, the Direct Install (“DI”) Program has experienced lower than originally expected participation and demand in Fiscal Year 2021 (“FY21”), and, therefore, is expected to finish FY21 with a budget surplus. Based on this, Staff proposes to decrease the DI Program Budget, which is also within the EE Funding Category, by \$2,000,000. This decrease would leave the DI Program with the necessary funds to adequately support the newly forecasted demand through the end of FY21.

The proposed increase and decrease would occur entirely within the Rebates, Grants, and Other Direct Incentives cost category.

The following tables show the current Board-approved budget, the proposed revisions to that budget, and the resultant budget.

Current Board Approved FY21 Budget by Cost Category							
Program/Budget Line	Total Budget	Administration	Sales, Marketing, Website	Training	Rebates, Grants and Other Direct Incentives	Rebate Processing and QA	Evaluation
Existing Homes	\$30,324,379	\$2,187,463	\$65,261	\$301,500	\$25,703,953	\$2,066,202	\$0
Direct Install	\$30,506,440	\$742,131	\$32,631	\$12,500	\$29,576,406	\$142,772	\$0
Proposed Revisions							
Program/Budget Line	Total Budget	Administration	Sales, Marketing, Website	Training	Rebates, Grants and Other Direct Incentives	Rebate Processing and QA	Evaluation
Existing Homes	\$2,000,000				\$2,000,000		
Direct Install	(\$2,000,000)				(\$2,000,000)		
Resultant Revised FY21 Budget by Cost Category							
Program/Budget Line	Total Budget	Administration	Sales, Marketing, Website	Training	Rebates, Grants and Other Direct Incentives	Rebate Processing and QA	Evaluation
Existing Homes	\$32,324,379	\$2,187,463	\$65,261	\$301,500	\$27,703,953	\$2,066,202	\$0
Direct Install	\$28,506,440	\$742,131	\$32,631	\$12,500	\$27,576,406	\$142,772	\$0

PROCESS AND SCHEDULE FOR SUBMITTING COMMENTS

The deadline for comments on this matter is 5:00 p.m. on June 11, 2021. Please submit comments directly to the specific docket listed above using the “Post Comments” button on the Board’s [Public Document Search](#) tool. Comments are considered “public documents” for purposes of the State’s Open Public Records Act and any confidential information should be submitted in accordance with the procedures set forth in N.J.A.C. 14:1-12.3.

Please submit any questions to publiccomments@njcleanenergy.com with the subject: Proposed Revision to FY21 NJCEP Budget (Staff-Authorized).

We look forward to receiving your comments.