

**DECEMBER 2019** 

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Join the thousands of New Jersey homeowners, businesses, and municipalities that have taken advantage of incentives offered by *New Jersey's Clean Energy Program™*. The program provides opportunities for you to save energy, money and help protect our climate and shorelines.

With 2020 right around the corner, all of us here at *New Jersey's Clean Energy Program™* hope your December was filled with holiday cheer!

As we close out the year, we're reflecting on several big projects that give us even more reason to celebrate.

\$\$\$ Check Out the Latest List of Rebates and Promotions \$\$\$\$

## BPU ANNOUNCES FIRST COMMUNITY SOLAR PROJECTS

Wrapping up an incredibly productive year in New Jersey's clean energy landscape, the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (NJBPU) recently announced the award of the first Community Solar Projects.

NJBPU approved 45 applications to participate in the first year of its Community Solar Energy Pilot Program. While NJBPU reserved 40 percent of the pilot program's capacity for projects in which at least 51 percent of the capacity serves low- to moderate-income (LMI) communities, 100 percent of the approved renewable energy projects will serve LMI households in the state. The Board Order, including the list of approved applicants, is available here.

A community solar project is a solar array whose output is divided among multiple

participants, known as subscribers. A subscriber can be a home or business that wants to use renewable energy but does not have an array on-site.

The approved projects will all be located on landfills, brownfields, rooftops, or parking canopies. Some of the approved applicants include community groups, government entities, and private developers. The projects represent 77.61 MW of solar energy capacity, enough to power an estimated 15,500 homes.

NJBPU anticipates awarding at least an additional 75 MW during both the second and third years of the program, which will provide electricity to an estimated 45,000 homes over the three-year period. In early 2020 the NJBPU will ask for stakeholder feedback in response to program year one; the second year of the program will be opened in 2020. The pilot program will generate crucial market information and implementation data, and will inform the development of a permanent community solar program once the three-year pilot is completed.

## BPU ANNOUNCES NEW INCENTIVES TO EXPAND LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTRIC VEHICLE FLEETS

To jump-start the electrification of local government vehicle fleets, the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (NJBPU) has created the "Clean Fleet Electric Vehicle Incentive" program, which offers local governments \$4,000 per battery electric vehicle and \$1,500 for one dual-port Level 2 EV charging station. The application window opened on December 1, 2019, and the program will award grants on a rolling basis until April 15, 2020 or until the funding is fully committed.



To make it easier for local governments to add electric vehicles to their fleets, EVs were recently adding to the State Purchasing Contract.

More information can be found here and the application can be accessed here. If you have questions about the incentive program, please send an email to EV.Programs@bpu.nj.gov.

## NJBPU PROVIDES THOUSANDS OF BULBS TO FOODBANKS

Earlier this month, NJBPU President Joseph L. Fiordaliso kicked off a campaign focused on bringing energy efficiency measures to low- to moderate-income (LMI) residents by distributing LED lightbulbs at Fisherman's Mark, a Lambertville-based food pantry and social

services agency. The program expands upon the LED lighting program administered through New Jersey's Clean Energy Program™ (NJCEP), by providing efficient light bulbs to clients of New Jersey food banks and other selected agencies at no cost to the organizations or their patrons. Seventy-five cases of LED bulbs, or 3,600 total bulbs, were delivered to Fisherman's Mark as part of the first phase of the program, which will continue into the spring of 2020. NJCEP will distribute more than 750,000 bulbs to LMI individuals in the first year of the program. In addition to Fisherman's Mark, NJCEP is delivering LED bulbs to several other nonprofit organizations across the state this week:



- MEND Hunger Relief Network in Newark
- Fulfill NJ (formerly FoodBank of Monmouth & Ocean Counties) in Neptune City
- Star of Hope Ministries, Inc. in Paterson
- Bridge of Peace Community Church in Camden

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