

## **New Jersey Board of Public Utilities**

## **NEWS RELEASE**

**For Immediate Release:** April 17, 2015

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New Jersey Reaches \$100 Million Milestone for Clean Energy Program's Latest Direct Install Incentives

Direct Install Program Surpasses \$100 Million in Total Incentives with Energy Efficiency
Project at Mercerville Firehouse in Hamilton Township in Mercer County –

**Trenton, N.J.** - The New Jersey Board of Public Utilities today awarded nearly \$90,000 in energy efficiency incentives to Hamilton Township through *New Jersey's Clean Energy Program* <sup>TM</sup> (NJCEP). With this latest project, incentives awarded from the NJCEP Direct Install program now total more than \$100 million.

"The Direct Install program has helped thousands of businesses and local governments throughout New Jersey reduce their energy usage and save money," said Richard S. Mroz, President of the N.J. Board of Public Utilities. "As we reach this \$100 million milestone, I encourage businesses and municipalities to take advantage of these programs as we continue to work to reduce the cost of energy for all ratepayers."

President Mroz was joined by State Senator Linda Greenstein, Assemblyman Wayne DeAngelo, County Executive Brian Hughes, Hamilton Fire Chief Thomas Gribbin, and other community leaders to award Hamilton Township in Mercer County a check for \$87,965 to implement energy efficiency improvements at the Mercerville Firehouse. The project includes installation of energy-efficient light fixtures in the garage and common areas, six new air-conditioning units and a new gas-fired boiler, as well as occupancy sensors to reduce electricity needs when rooms are not in use. The firehouse serves Hamilton's second fire district.

Hamilton Township officials anticipate the equipment's efficiency improvements will result in \$12,961 in savings for the Mercerville Firehouse per year. NJCEP incentives reduced the project costs from \$125,664 down to \$37,699. The energy savings will enable the project to pay for itself in less than three years.

"The Direct Install Program gave us the financial support we needed to replace our outdated equipment and create a more energy-efficient, environmentally friendly firehouse," said Hamilton Fire Chief Thomas Gribbin. "The new equipment will make the firehouse more cost effective and improve its functionality."

New equipment at the Mercerville Firehouse is the latest example of Hamilton officials making smart investments in energy efficiency through the NJCEP Direct Install Program. Hamilton Township's municipal building, health department and fire districts have received over \$140,000 thus far in Direct Install incentives since 2010, an amount that will increase with projects that are pending. The projects have saved Hamilton taxpayers more than \$18,000 in electricity and gas costs per year thus far. The Board of Education has also participated in Direct Install and other NJCEP programs, receiving \$166,706 in total incentives.

"We are using the Direct Install Program to update four firehouses in Hamilton — Stations 12, 13, 14 and plans for Station 17 — with an estimated project cost of more than \$440,000. This program is the only way that we could accomplish this scope of work without heavily affecting property taxes," Gribbin said.

"This Administration has worked to encourage the implementation of energy efficiency technologies to improve the reliability of service and reduce the cost of energy for all ratepayers," said Richard Mroz. "Hamilton Township is certainly leading by example having started or completed projects at Station 19, the Board of Education, the Health Department, and a municipal building in addition to these four fire stations."

The NJCEP Direct Install Program provides small and mid-sized businesses and local governments with incentives that cover up to 70 percent of costs for energy efficiency upgrades to buildings and facilities that use 200 kW of peak electricity demand or less.

More than 5,600 New Jersey businesses and local governments have benefited from the NJCEP Direct Install Program since its inception. The program surpassed \$100 million in total incentives with today's incentive for Hamilton Township.

NJCEP offers energy efficiency incentives for both new construction as well as existing buildings. For more information on how your business can take advantage of the available programs, visit the NJCEP website at <a href="http://www.njcleanenergy.com/CI">http://www.njcleanenergy.com/CI</a> or contact an NJCEP representative at 866-NJSMART.

## **About the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (NJBPU)**

The NJBPU 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 <a href="https://www.bpu.state.nj.us/">www.nj.gov/bpu</a>. <a href="https://www.bpu.state.nj.us/">http://www.bpu.state.nj.us/</a>

## **About the New Jersey Clean Energy Program (NJCEP):**

NJCEP, 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 <a href="https://www.NJCleanEnergy.com">www.NJCleanEnergy.com</a>. <a href="https://www.NJCleanEnergy.com">http://www.NJCleanEnergy.com</a>

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