

## **New Jersey Board of**

## **Public Utilities**

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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## N.J. Board of Public Utilities Highlights Proposed Galloway Township Microgrid

**GALLOWAY, N.J.** – Today, New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (Board) President Richard S. Mroz and Galloway Township Mayor Don Purdy highlighted the Board's approval of Galloway Township's application for a microgrid feasibility study. The proposed microgrid would connect critical facilities to a Town Center Distributed Energy Resource where the most commercially-viable technologies including fuel cells, solar, battery energy storage systems, combined heat and power, thermal loops, and water exchanges will be considered to improve resiliency in emergencies.

"As we learned from Superstorm Sandy, keeping diverse critical facilities such as medical centers, police and fire departments, shelters and schools powered and operational is critical during a natural disaster." said President Mroz. "I'm excited to get the feasibility studies started for this Galloway town center microgrid and the other 12 proposed microgrids as the final reports will provide great detail on options concerning designs, connections, financing options, and the types of buildings to be included in a town center microgrid."

In the aftermath of Superstorm Sandy, the Christie Administration made it a priority to improve energy resiliency and the emergency preparedness and response of the utility companies. Therefore, the <a href="2015">2015</a> Energy Master Plan Update contained a new section on hardening and improving utility infrastructure resiliency, which supports the establishment of Distributed Energy Resources (DER) such as microgrids to improve the grid's resiliency and reliability in the event of a major emergency. The EMP Update also directed the Board to continue its work with the utility companies, local, state and federal governments, and other strategic partners to identify, design and implement Town Center DER microgrids to power critical facilities and services across the state.

The proposed Town Center DER microgrid would connect:

- Galloway Town Hall,
- Galloway Police Station,
- AtlantiCare Regional Medical Center,
- Sunrise of Galloway and Seashore Assisted Living Facilities,
- Stockton University,
- Reeds and Roland Elementary Schools,
- Galloway Middle School,

- Absegami High School,
- ShopRite



Lt. Gary Jones, Galloway Police Dept., Tony DiPietro, Galloway Twp. Councilman, Galloway Twp. Mayor Don Purdy, Deane M. Evans, NJIT, NJBPU President Richard S. Mroz, Deputy Mayor Tony Coppola, Sgt. First Class Mark DeEsposito, Galloway Twp. Police Dept., Galloway Twp. Councilman Rich Clute

"We have all been very humbled by the size and strength of coastal storms. As we've seen and experienced, they have the potential to cause severe destruction. Having some redundancy to our electrical systems will greatly improve our ability to provide critical services to our community. We are very thankful to the NJBPU for this grant," said Don Purdy, Mayor Galloway Township.

The estimated timeframe to complete the feasibility study is 12 months. The total project cost estimate will be \$175,000.

The Board established a Town Center Distributed Energy Resource Microgrid Feasibility Study program with a budget of \$1 million. However, on June 30, 2017, after receiving and evaluating 13 applications for proposed microgrids and the potential benefits offered, the Board approved a budget modification to fund all 13 applications at a total cost of \$2,052,480. The program was developed to provide incentives for local and state government agencies to study the feasibility of Town Center DER microgrids. The Board approved funding for applications submitted by: Atlantic City, Camden County, Cape May County MUA, Galloway Township, Highland Park, Hoboken, Hudson County, Middletown Township, Montclair Township, Neptune Township, Paterson, Woodbridge Township, and the State of New Jersey Department of Treasury with the partners Mercer County, Mercer County Improvement Authority and Trenton.

Information regarding the board's approval of the 13 applications for feasibility studies is below: <a href="https://www.state.nj.us/bpu/newsroom/announcements/pdf/20170630\_MicrogridFeasibilityStudies.pdf">www.state.nj.us/bpu/newsroom/announcements/pdf/20170630\_MicrogridFeasibilityStudies.pdf</a>

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