



NEWS RELEASE

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NJBPU Continues with Christie Administration Energy Master Plan's Policies Supporting Advancement of Alternative Fuel Vehicles

-BPU initiates stakeholder process to examine potential impact widespread adoption of electric vehicles might have upon the state's electric distribution system-

TRENTON, N.J. – Today, the [New Jersey Board of Public Utilities](http://www.njboardofpublicutilities.com) (Board) accepted the Regulatory Assistance Project Report (RAP Report) entitled "Getting from Here to There: Regulatory Considerations of Transportation Electrification". RAP is a non-profit organization that assists state utility commissions in the development and implementation of policies or regulations in new emerging areas impacting utility systems. (see <http://www.raponline.org/>). The RAP Report was prepared at the request of the Board in keeping with the Christie Administration's [Energy Master Plan](#) (EMP) policy to advance the Electric Vehicle (EV) market.

"The electric grid is evolving and with technology advances and new customer expectations we at the NJBPU realize that regulations may need to change. EVs are quickly emerging while utility distribution systems are becoming more adaptive and flexible. The future of EVs and how the electric system integrates them deserves our attention," said Board [President Richard S. Mroz](#).

The RAP Report addresses the potential increase in the availability of [Plug-In Electric Vehicles](#) on the road and associated opportunities/challenges facing regulators and electric utility companies. The RAP Report points out the following:

- Regulatory policy towards EVs and EV infrastructure, like overall energy policy is evolving
- States have taken different paths to promoting EVs and EV infrastructure
- Managed EV charging can provide economic benefits for the electric grid and all ratepayers
- Many stakeholders, including government, electric utilities, non-governmental organizations and the private market have roles in driving EV/infrastructure adoption

A key recommendation in the RAP Report is that setting EV infrastructure policies is best addressed through a broad stakeholder proceeding. In this regard the Board directed staff to establish the *New Jersey Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Stakeholder Group*. This informal proceeding is established to

solicit comments and input from stakeholders to assist the Board in the development of their EV infrastructure policies.

The focus of the proceedings is not necessarily to support EV adoption but if the New Jersey EV market increases what upgrades, if any, would be needed in the electric distribution system infrastructure. The Board directed staff to prepare a draft report addressing stakeholder inputs and to provide recommendations to the Board on potential EV infrastructure policies and development within 180 days. The draft report should specifically provide recommendations on any EDC tariff revisions or updates that may be needed to address EV charging infrastructure.

Next Steps

A preliminary list of stakeholder meeting topics is shown below. Dates, times and locations will be announced in a future statement.

1. State of the Market and Goal Setting

- What is the present status of EVs and EV infrastructure in New Jersey?
- What EV/EV infrastructure developments can be expected in the short/medium term under a Business as Usual scenario?
- What goals should be established?

2. Stakeholder Roles & Open Forum

- What role should the Board, other government agencies; electric utilities, non-governmental organizations and the private market have roles in driving EV/infrastructure adoption?
- What remaining issues have yet to be addressed?

3. Presentation of Draft Report and Stakeholder Comments

- BPU will present a preliminary draft report and accept stakeholder comments

The RAP Report is available on the BPU's website: <http://nj.gov/bpu/pdf/reports/RAP-NJ-BPU-electricvehicles-policymemo-may2017.pdf>

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