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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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BPU Announces Appliance Recycling Program Expansion in Honor of Earth Day

Program Saves Energy and Helps the Environment

The New Jersey Board of Public Utilities announced today that its *Clean Energy Program*[™] has expanded the list of eligible appliances under the Appliance Recycling Program. In addition to providing incentives for recycling refrigerators and freezers, New Jersey residents may now recycle room air conditioners and dehumidifiers.

Under the program, customers had been permitted to recycle their refrigerator and/or freezer for free in exchange for a \$50.00 rebate. Now, consumers will receive an additional \$25.00 rebate on each room air conditioner and dehumidifier recycled during the same appointment.

Customers are allowed to recycle up to two refrigerators and/or freezers, two room air conditioners and two dehumidifiers per calendar year. To date New Jersey residents have recycled over 65,000 units, which saved approximately 65,000 megawatt hours of electricity. This is enough to power 4,550 homes for an entire year.

Since the program expanded to include air conditioners and dehumidifiers nearly 20% of customers recycling refrigerators or freezers are also recycling a second appliance. The program has achieved an additional 70,000 kilowatt hours in energy savings through the addition of the smaller appliances.

“The BPU’s appliance recycling incentive program aligns with Governor Murphy’s aggressive agenda to expand clean, renewable energy programs,” said NJBPU President Joseph L.

Fiordaliso. “I’m so pleased to announce the expansion of this pro-environment program as we head into earth day weekend.”

The energy savings that can be achieved through recycling older appliances and purchasing new ones is significant. Refrigerators 15 years or older use twice as much energy as a new ENERGY STAR® refrigerator.

Nearly 95% of the appliance materials turned in are recycled including materials such as plastic, metal, glass, and refrigerants. Ensuring that the appliances are recycled properly keeps these materials out of the waste stream.

Consumers who are interested in recycling their appliances must adhere to certain rules:

- Refrigerators and freezers must be between 10 and 30 cubic feet in size. Room air conditioners must be removed from windows, and dehumidifiers should be drained of water.
- All appliances must be owned by the customer and operational at time of pick up.
- Customer must provide clear and safe access to appliance(s) for the removal team.
- An adult, 18 years of age or older, must be present to sign the release form.

Customers interested in making an appointment for a free pickup can schedule an appointment [online](http://NJCleanEnergy.com/RECYCLING) at NJCleanEnergy.com/RECYCLING or by calling (877) 341-2192. Pickups can be scheduled Monday through Saturday.

The BPU’s Clean Energy Program also offers additional rebates. Information is available at NJCleanEnergy.com/REBATES.

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 and 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 www.nj.gov/bpu.

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 www.NJCleanEnergy.com.

