

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

NEW JERSEY BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

ENERGY MASTER PLAN STAKEHOLDER
OPEN FORUM; PROPOSED
CHANGES AND FUTURE OUTLOOK

SEPTEMBER 24, 2010 TRENTON, NEW JERSEY

B E F O R E: LEE A. SOLOMON, President

JEANNE FOX, Commissioner

NICHOLAS ASSELTA, Commissioner

J. H. BUEHRER & ASSOCIATES
2295 Big Enough Way
Toms River, New Jersey 08755
732)557-4755

1
2

I N D E X

SPEAKERS:

PAGE NO.

		9.24.10 Transcripts
3	LARRY FURMAN	6
4	BART WALMAN	15
5	LORI BRAUNSTEIN	20
6	PAULA GOTSCH	24
7	GEORGE SPAIS	32
8	ELLIOTT RUGA	35
9	BOB MARSHALL	39
10	GARFIELD GREEN	42
11	TERRENCE SOBOLEWSKI	42, 119
12	ERIC STEVENS	51
13	CONOR FENNESSEY	55
14	AMY HANSEN	57
15	FARLEY HUNTER	59
16	SHIHAB KURAN	64
17	BILL WALSKI	77
18	BEN PARVEY	84
19	JEFF TITTEL	96
20	SCOTT YAPPEN	102
21	MICHAEL JUNG	109
22	ANNA SELVAN JOHN	112
23	GREG OLSEN	113
24	PAUL GILLMAN	117
25	DAVID PRINGLE	123

1

2 PRESIDENT SOLOMON: If you want to speak
3 raise your hand. You can either come up here and
4 say it or speak from the audience, whatever you are
5 more comfortable with.

6 I want to make sure that the Court
7 Reporter can hear. Whenever you speak make sure

9.24.10 Transcripts

8 that you give us your name and whatever entity you
9 are representing or with, so that we can have a
10 record of that whenever you are speaking and on
11 whose behalf you are speaking, okay?

12 This is the third of three planned
13 stakeholder meetings regarding the Energy Master
14 Plan. There was a meeting that Frank Felder from
15 the Bloustein School chaired regarding data analysis
16 and assumptions a couple of days ago, September 22.
17 We discussed energy, environment and clean energy
18 incompetent development.

19 And I think if I am correct, most of you,
20 if not all of you, were there that day.

21 This is a more general discussion, an
22 opportunity to fill in any blanks, state any
23 positions that you think we haven't heard.

24 Let me also remind you that comments can
25 be submitted in writing to our E-mail address, which

4

1 is EMPPadmin@njcleanenergy.com.

2 So if at the end of this meeting or other
3 people who may not be here, as you make them aware,
4 you may make written comments that will be
5 considered and will be made part of the record.

6 I want to thank you all for being here and
7 participating. This is the last planned EMT
8 stakeholder meeting. I said previously we can have
9 others, based on the numbers I see here I don't
10 think that may be necessary, but there may be things
11 that you don't think we have heard, but again, we

9.24.10 Transcripts

12 would prefer the submission of written comments.

13 We have that option going down the road or
14 conducting another stakeholder meeting, if
15 necessary.

16 There will be at some point, I think I
17 used sometime in November yesterday, I was
18 encouraged to be a little more flexible on that for
19 Staff's sake, the Governor has asked for a report on
20 the Master Plan before the end of the year.

21 Sometime before that there will a draft
22 that will be made public, I hope it will be sometime
23 in November, by the end of the month, it may spill
24 over into December.

25 Then there will be after that a version is

5

1 put out there for the public consumption, an
2 opportunity for comments and hearing on that draft
3 version, the amendments to change the Master Plan.

4 So just because this is the last
5 stakeholder meeting doesn't mean it is the last
6 chance anyone will have to make comments as to what
7 the ultimate decision is.

8 Again, I'm hoping that it will be sometime
9 before the end of November, it may spill into
10 December. There is an awful lot of work to be done.
11 There is a lot of statistical information to be
12 assimilated and a lot of comments to be considered.

13 You can also of course visit the website
14 for any additional information that you require and
15 again, I want to thank you all for being here, and
16 if anybody would like to comment at this point in

9.24.10 Transcripts

17 time, raise your hand and come up front or raise
18 your hand and speak from your seat. Make sure that
19 you speak loudly so that the court reporter can hear
20 you. Take your time so we don't break his fingers,
21 make sure that you give us your name and title for
22 the entity that you are representing.

23 The floor is open.

24 Yes, sir?

25 I neglected to mention Commissioner Fox

6

1 and Commissioner Asselta. The other people up here
2 are senior Staff, in case you are wondering.

3 MR. FURMAN: My name is Larry Furman. I
4 represent myself, and thank you for extending this
5 opportunity to comment on the Energy Master Plan.
6 It is a privilege to live in a state where ideas and
7 opinions whether visionary or conventional are
8 sought by the agents of the government of the
9 people, "of the people, by the people and for the
10 people."

11 If Energy, Environment and Economic
12 Development is a prioritized list it is good to see
13 "Environment" placed before "Economic Development".

14 As Bill McKibben notes in "EARTH," the
15 world is a different place than the one on which we
16 were born, and the one on which we evolved.

17 Regarding the causes, I would point to the
18 fact that for most of the holocene period the
19 concentration of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse
20 gases was about 270 parts per million in the

9.24.10 Transcripts

21 atmosphere, equivalent to 2.53 trillion metric tons.
22 Today, at the beginning of the autumn of 2010, the
23 hottest year on record, the concentration is 390
24 parts per million, which is about equivalent to
25 about 3.669 metric tons.

7

1 That data is on the Deutsche Bank website.
2 Deutsche Bank is not run by green groups. To
3 reverse this trend we must first stop pushing carbon
4 dioxide into the atmosphere and then figure out how
5 to pull a lot of it out.

6 The Renewable Portfolio Standards in New
7 Jersey and 23 other states and Washington DC and the
8 non-binding goals in five others states are a good
9 start. Here in New Jersey the current Renewable
10 Portfolio Standard calls for twenty two and-a-half
11 percent generating capacity by 2021 which gives us
12 about eleven years to implement a renewable
13 generating capacity capable of generating 18,672 gwh
14 of electricity per year.

15 We need to define the Master Plan with
16 consideration of the true costs, I am having
17 technical difficulties --

18 PRESIDENT SOLOMON: Take your time. Make
19 sure when you speak, some of you may have written
20 comments that you are speaking from, speak slowly
21 and read slowly so that we don't kill our court
22 reporter.

23 MR. FURMAN: Thank you. So to develop the
24 Master Plan we have to consider the true costs, the
25 risks, the security concerns and the economic

1 externalities and reasonable long-term and
2 long-range projections.

3 We need to look a hundred years into the
4 future define the RPS for the next century. Will
5 our grandchildren and great-grandchildren buy oil
6 from the House of Saud or the Mullahs of Iran? Will
7 they blow up the last mountains of West Virginia?
8 Will they drill for oil in the Gulf of Mexico or off
9 the coasts of New Jersey? Will they build more
10 nuclear power plants? Or will they be living in a
11 human economy in harmony with the biosphere, in a
12 world with a Renewable Energy Portfolio of 100%?

13 Some citizens and the Commerce and
14 Industry Association of New Jersey have commented
15 that we should build more nuclear power. Some are
16 pushing for development of the Purgon plant, a five
17 million dollar experimental coal with carbon
18 sequestration plant to be sited in Rahway. Others
19 favor solar, wind, biofuels, and conservation. In
20 the interest of time I will limit my discussion to
21 the sustainable technologies. I also have
22 observations on coal and nuclear power which I have
23 submitted via E-mail.

24 The Brundtland Commission defines as
25 sustainable development which meets the needs of the

1 present without compromising the ability of future
2 generations to meet their own needs. John

9.24.10 Transcripts

3 Eherenfeld defines sustainability as flourishing
4 forever. Using what John McCain might consider
5 straight talk we would say, "Consuming resources
6 that can never be replenished and creating
7 tremendous quantities of toxic waste is not
8 sustainable. In addition to energy conservation the
9 only sustainable energy systems are built using
10 renewable systems, solar, wind, tidal and bio-fuel."
11 Clean Ocean Action is absolutely correct that we
12 must build solar energy systems and conserve. They
13 were, however, wrong in their 2008 conclusions
14 regarding wind power. Wind power at about six
15 billion dollars per ghw of nameplate capacity seems
16 to me to be about the same price as solar at about
17 six billion dollars per ghw of nameplate capacity.

18 To talk about sustainable energy a little
19 bit abstractly or technically, when we put a solar
20 module in the path of a stream of photons, or a wind
21 turbine in the path of stream of air, we use some
22 resources to make the device but we don't consume
23 any fuel in the ongoing process by which we
24 transform the kinetic energy in those moving
25 particles of light and air into electricity. We

10

1 don't create any waste.

2 No arsenic, no mercury, no
3 radio-nucleotides, no carbon dioxide. The U.S.
4 Department of Energy says, "Wind energy could
5 provide 20 to 30 percent of the eastern half of the
6 country's energy needs by 2024."

7 When people say wind turbines spoil the
Page 8

9.24.10 Transcripts

8 view, they don't consider the haze of smog on the
9 horizon spoiling the view. Perhaps worse, they
10 force the status quo of nuclear and coal over
11 offshore wind. This spoil the view nonsenses is a
12 trivial subjective complaint which is neither
13 provable nor disprovable. Wind turbines allegedly
14 kill birds so do cell phone towers, buildings like
15 the Borgata and domestic cats, and like most
16 Americans frankly I am not a vegetarian, I eat
17 chicken, duck goose, I cause birds to be killed and
18 I eat them.

19 I don't eat tuna, swordfish or lobster
20 because there is too much mercury mostly from coal
21 in them. But offshore wind turbines form artificial
22 reefs which nurture fish stocks, which feed birds.
23 Wind turbines produce power without producing
24 mercury and other toxic wastes and without consuming
25 resources that once used are gone forever. That is

11

1 what is important.

2 What the spoil the view environmentalists
3 must understand is that offshore wind farms and
4 solar energy systems, and even measures of
5 conservation have an environmental impact but so
6 does breathing, we exhale carbon dioxide. We need
7 to look at our economy as a subset of human ecology
8 and integrate the economy into the biosphere in a
9 sustainable manner. As Wendell Berry says, "The
10 defenders of nature and wilderness sometimes seem to
11 feel they must oppose any human encroachment

9.24.10 Transcripts

12 whatsoever, just as the industrialists oftenn
13 apparently feel that they must make the encroachment
14 absolute or, as they say complete the conquest of
15 nature. People cannot live apart from nature, yet,
16 people cannot live in nature without changing it.
17 But this is true of all creatures, they depend upon
18 nature, and they change it."

19 Sustainable energy is not natural energy.
20 Sunlight is natural. When it shines on a leaf, that
21 leaf photosynthesizes sugars out of carbon dioxide
22 and water. But when that leaf is on a farm, it may
23 be natural, but it is no longer wild.

24 PV solar modules are not made from leaves.
25 The best insulation today is cellulose treaced with

12

1 boric acid. That is not one hundred percent
2 natural. Like nuclear power plants and coal fired
3 turbines, like houses and tents, wind turbines,
4 photovoltaic solar modules, and insulation, are all
5 man-made. Nuclear and coal based power systems are
6 tremendously expensive and generate toxic
7 by-products that must be isolated from the
8 biosphere. Ground mounted PV solar systems shade
9 the ground. Offshore wind turbines create artificial
10 reefs. These will influence local flora and fauna.
11 but shade and artificial reefs are not toxic. Wind
12 and solar are sustainable. They support the
13 biosphere. An economist could say, "The economic
14 externalities of unsustainable technologies are
15 liabilities. The economic externalities of
16 sustainable technologies are assets which produce

9.24.10 Transcripts

17 income or dividends. "

18 We know this. That's why we have the RPS
19 of twenty two and-a-half percent by 2021. Maybe we
20 should be acting faster and we should not be
21 throwing roadblocks in the path of sustainable
22 development, but we are acting. Rush Holt who
23 represents New Jersey's 12th district in Congress
24 understands this and Rush Holt has discussed the
25 DOE's Eastern Wind Integration Study with his

13

1 constituents.

2 Looking beyond the short term, the
3 ultimate goal of the Energy Master Plan must be an
4 energy portfolio in harmony with the biosphere, one
5 that is one hundred percent renewable and meets the
6 Brundtland or Eherenfeld definitions of
7 sustainability.

8 The real problem with wind power is
9 similar to the real problem with solar power. These
10 are intermittent sources of energy. The sun shines
11 twenty four-hours a day in space but does not shine
12 twenty-four hours a day over New Jersey. We need to
13 integrate solar power, wind power, hydro and biofuel
14 in such a way as to provide supply in accordance
15 with demand.

16 Professor Jurgen Schmid and his
17 colleagues at the University of Kassel in Germany
18 have done just that. Schmid and his colleagues have
19 developed the Kombi kraftwerk or Combined Cycle Power
20 Plant, and proven that they can use wind, solar,

21 biomass and hydro to meet all Germany's electricity
22 needs around the clock regardless of weather
23 conditions.

24 Smid says, "If renewables continue to grow
25 as they have done in the past, they will provide

14

1 about forty percent of Germany's electricity needs
2 by 2020. We could therefore achieve a hundred
3 percent by the middle of the century."

4 So what if we deploy solar on homes,
5 commercial buildings and parking lots, like at the
6 Atlantic City Utilities Authority, and on museums
7 like at the Liberty Science Center and schools, like
8 Rutgers and Toms River? And malls, schools,
9 factories, like in Spain and Germany?

10 What if we put land based wind turbines on
11 high school football fields, parking lots?

12 And wind turbines off the shore from Cape
13 May to Sandy Hook and using the German
14 Kombikraftwerk model, we integrate solar, wind and
15 biofuel with insulation and a computerized grid for
16 an RPS of one hundred percent by 2050?

17 That, Mr. President, would be a Master
18 Plan.

19 PRESIDENT SOLOMON: You obviously have a
20 science background.

21 MR. FURMAN: I have a Bachelor's Degree of
22 Biology and I am studying for an MBA in Managing
23 Sustainability.

24 PRESIDENT SOLOMON: Is there any
25 information provided or do you have access to any

1 information regarding any environmental impact as to
2 the production process of wind or solar or any other
3 renewables?

4 MR. FURMAN: The production?

5 PRESIDENT SOLOMON: Yes.

6 MR. FURMAN: Yes, clearly they are
7 manufactured, there has got to be some -- I don't
8 know. I'd be happy to look into that.

9 PRESIDENT SOLOMON: I throw it out there.
10 If anyone has the information. We don't manufacture
11 a whole lot here but obviously there is some
12 interest in attracting that manufacturing.

13 MR. FURMAN: World, Water and Wind used to
14 be headquartered in New Jersey. They were a
15 acquired by a Texas company and I don't think they
16 exist anymore.

17 PRESIDENT SOLOMON: Thank you.

18 The gentleman in the back.

19 MR. WALMAN: Thank you, Mr. President,
20 Commissioners.

21 My name is Bart Walman, I am with a
22 company called Amelio Solar.

23 With your comments on manufacturing, I
24 thought I would raise my hand.

25 Amelio Solar is the home of a technology

1 team that going back beginning about forty-five
2 years ago was first in the world to commercialize

9.24.10 Transcripts

3 what they call thin film solar panels which are
4 almost universally expected to overtake the
5 traditional solar panels as the dominant solar power
6 generation platform because of their lower cost.

7 There is some discussion about the
8 difference in efficiency but efficiency and
9 isolation of cost is not a very useful metric when
10 you get to utility scale power solutions.

11 One of the things that I wanted to bring
12 to your attention is exactly the topic of how an RPS
13 policy or solar or renewable energy policy can
14 actually do more to support manufacturing in New
15 Jersey.

16 One of the issues that we have found is
17 that really if you look at the majority of the
18 economic value that goes into the solar
19 installations, with all due respect to the different
20 installers here and everything else, most of that is
21 actually going to China. We know that because we
22 have been supplying solar panel factories to China
23 for almost thirty-five years, and so when you look
24 at programs such as the much celebrated forty
25 megawatt program that went up on the light pole, the

17

1 public description of that project is a two hundred
2 million dollar project so that would mean a five
3 dollar a watt installed capacity cost, I'm not sure
4 whether that includes the expense that PSE&G may
5 have incurred in addition to that to install them on
6 the light poles. At five dollars a watt that is an
7 uneconomic type of project where most of that value

9.24.10 Transcripts

8 probably went to the Chinese solar panel
9 manufacturers who supplied it.

10 In comparison, a company like ours, a New
11 Jersey based, really the last unfortunately, of New
12 Jersey based thin film solar panel manufacturers,
13 and to my knowledge the only solar panel
14 manufacturing company in New Jersey at all at this
15 point, we could have put up the same project for
16 about three dollars a watt.

17 So at a certain point the policy should
18 not just subsidize sort of run off short-term
19 installation projects but should look in a more
20 holistic fashion.

21 I know there is some additional benefit if
22 somebody uses made in New Jersey panels, but I think
23 that is a little bit disconnected from the SRECs.
24 As you start to review your policies going forward,
25 of course I am very biased because I'm coming from

18

1 the manufacturing side, but I think we need to look
2 at this as one component of the program.

3 I will give you an example. One of our
4 Chinese customers just came to us two years ago and
5 said they have one billion dollars that they are
6 ready to invest in projects in New Jersey. Of
7 course, the catch is that the majority of the
8 content has to come from China. It is a shame that
9 you have a technology which really is a world
10 changing technology from the photovoltaic respect
11 and that is the thin film technology invented in New

12 Jersey, and most of it is being exploited in
13 overseas markets.

14 The only caveat I will say to that is, I
15 don't want to digress, first solar is the most
16 well-known of those and there is a lot of issues
17 with respect to cadmium about the leaching of
18 cadmium, a very toxic substance, into ground water
19 from damaged panels.

20 What Amelio Solar is doing, we are focused
21 on thin film amorphous silicone which is a proven
22 legacy technology which has been in the field for
23 decades, a very high quality, very durable
24 technology. It generates more electricity per
25 megawatt capacity than any of the other technologies

19

1 because of its temperature tolerance and then we
2 have a newer technology, CIGS, copper, indium,
3 gallium, selenium, which is a non-cadmium based and
4 containing technology.

5 What we are hoping to achieve in New
6 Jersey is a more holistic program that really tries
7 to spur manufacturing growth here.

8 Last week I had a team in from Brisbane,
9 Australia, proposing exactly this. We had a team in
10 a couple of weeks ago from Mumbai, India, trying to
11 do the same thing, a vertically integrated program
12 with manufacturing feeding solar panels and then
13 feeding power projects with government SRECs or
14 government PPAs, yesterday we had a group in from
15 China doing the same on a large scale.

16 I don't want to take any more time, but I

9.24.10 Transcripts

17 would like to offer any input or any more details on
18 some of these vertically integrated concepts. If we
19 are going to put ratepayer dollars into solar it
20 would be great if more of that went to driving
21 manufacturing jobs in New Jersey, especially for
22 technology invented in New Jersey, rather than
23 mostly enriching Chinese companies and other foreign
24 companies, with all due respect to our customers in
25 Chi na.

20

1 PRESIDENT SOLOMON: If you do have some
2 ideas or comments, if you would submit them?

3 MR. WALMAN: I would be pleased do to do
4 that.

5 How shall I do that?

6 PRESIDENT SOLOMON: Our E-mail address is
7 EMPadmi n@nj cleanenergy. com.

8 Thank you very much. I appreciate it.

9 Yes, ma'am?

10 MS. BRAUNSTEIN: I'm Lori Braunstein. I
11 am Executive Director of Sustainable Cherry Hill
12 which is an all volunteer community sustainability
13 group trying to engage regular people in this
14 conversation.

15 And I am really here representing my
16 children, I guess I should say, so there are a lot
17 of people talking about a lot of details and numbers
18 and data which is really important.

19 But what I would like to talk about is
20 keeping it personal and keeping it local.

9.24.10 Transcripts

21 The idea is that as the Energy Master Plan
22 currently stands that by 2020 the goal is to reduce
23 the greenhouse gas emissions by twenty percent. If
24 we continue to aggressively work on our energy
25 efficiency and renewable energy as it stands right

21

1 now we will probably have a pretty good chance of
2 meeting that, but our goal for eighty percent
3 reduction by 2050 we really don't have a way of
4 meeting that given our current technologies and our
5 current program.

6 So I am looking at essentially thirty
7 years from now when my kids are about my age, and
8 you know, they are going to be shaking their heads at
9 us and saying, what are you guys thinking, and you
10 need to really do something more to, you know, to
11 have helped us.

12 Essentially, looking at the economy as
13 being something that is outside of the boundaries of
14 our natural world, it just doesn't make any sense.
15 I mean in order to have a sustainable economy we
16 have to not be undermining the natural systems that
17 we depend upon, so it is really just common sense to
18 me.

19 And so what I would like to really talk
20 about is the use of our communities to help achieve
21 this and really the energy efficiency idea is to
22 help to make this happen. A lot of people are going
23 to be talking about renewable energy and they are
24 really leaving out that practical thing of just the
25 energy that you don't use is better than the energy

1 that you have to use, no matter how clean it is.

2 I would like to basically just say that
3 about seventy percent of our greenhouse gas
4 emissions and our energies comes from our
5 residential, commercial and our industrial
6 buildings.

7 So we really need to put a lot of emphasis
8 on helping the buildings to become more energy
9 efficient. It really makes sense because it is
10 known to be the best return on investment, it
11 creates jobs and stimulates the economy and it
12 encourages personal action and responsibility.

13 I am going to quote a report that I found
14 from the Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnership
15 that was actually commissioned by the BPU in 2009,
16 that basically said the potential of community based
17 strategies have barely begun to be realized. To
18 achieve this potential the communities need more
19 resources and support to move forward and to have
20 more impact.

21 Our existing community initiatives need to
22 be expanded and/or moved toward implementation and
23 other bold new initiatives need to be considered
24 that could lead to major energy savings.

25 I would like to point out that so much is

1 happening at the community level, our Federal
2 government, obviously there is not much happening

3 rightd now.

4 At the state level, New Jersey really has
5 been a leader in this area and I hope that we will
6 continue to be so, but really it is in the
7 communities that a lot of this is taking place. We
8 have Sustainable Jersey certification program, over
9 three hundred towns are registered. The EPA gave a
10 climate showcase community grant to three towns in
11 New Jersey, including Cherry Hill, to really look at
12 how energy efficiency in communities can help to
13 have a significant impact on greenhouse gases, and
14 just in general, our local government are adopting
15 climate goals.

16 So I really want to encourage you guys to
17 not give up on residential programs especially and
18 to really beef up our business efficiency programs.
19 I know that the clean energy program has not been
20 addressed really in an efficient manner, and I
21 really hope that we won't throw the baby out with
22 the bath water and instead really look to see how
23 these programs can be improved and made more
24 practical and efficient because really this is about
25 the people, and we need to really be able to have

24

1 the support, we need to make the changes in our
2 homes and in our communities, and of course in our
3 businesses.

4 So I just would like to encourage really
5 long-term smart thinking and some visionary
6 leadership because it is the short-term thinking,
7 the latest politics and elections and things like

9.24.10 Transcripts

8 that that get us in trouble.

9 I think we all really owe it to our future
10 generations to think beyond that.

11 Thank you.

12 PRESIDENT SOLOMON: Thank you.

13 At the risk of embarrassing someone in the
14 audience, I see that former Governor Florio is
15 sitting here in the second row. I appreciate your
16 participation in the process.

17 MS. GOTSCH: Paula Gotsch.

18 PRESIDENT SOLOMON: Speak up, please.

19 MS. GOTSCH: My name is Paula Gotsch. You
20 want to know the group I'm with?

21 PRESIDENT SOLOMON: Who do you represent?

22 MS. GOTSCH: I will be wearing two hats
23 today. I will speak for Grandmothers and Mothers
24 and More for Energy Safety, and also I am energy
25 chief of the League of Women Voters in Mercer

25

1 County.

2 I want to submit this from us. In the
3 previous testimony to the Energy Master Plan in
4 2006, we forwarded documents that projected that
5 energy efficiency and renewable energy development
6 would be the safest and most economic future for New
7 Jersey.

8 As an update I am offering three reports
9 that just happened to come in this week that speak
10 about how the nuclear industry is in a free fall,
11 numerous things that have happened lately, and also

12 because it is being pushed so heavily by so many
13 people in government I think there is a chance that
14 if we buy into the failing nuclear industry that we
15 will in effect crowd out our renewable energy
16 program and our energy efficiency program.

17 Some of the reports address that. The
18 three reports are a press advisory from the Hastings
19 Group, look at nuclear manufacturing in this issue
20 of Industry Week and other sobering nuclear
21 realities from the Huffington Post.

22 One of the interesting things that the
23 Hastings Group said was that Martin Fertell
24 (phonetic) who is head of the Nuclear Energy
25 Institute which is the biggest fan of nuclear, it is

26

1 the lobbying group for nuclear energy, just said in
2 a speech to the World Nuclear Association recently
3 that plans for nuclear building in USA have been
4 delayed due to the lack of demand for electricity.

5 I know that a lot of the data that we are
6 talking about is supposed to be for publicly
7 available data and so some of that data sounds
8 suspiciously outdated to me. When the head of the
9 Nuclear Energy Institute says that the demand for
10 electricity is way down, I don't know whether our
11 projections at this point are even taking into
12 account that manufacturing is down worldwide because
13 of the economy.

14 Even taking that into account this still
15 is a thought that we may not be needing as much as
16 we are projecting.

9.24.10 Transcripts

17 And then also, well, I will let that ride
18 for a while, and now I will wear my League of Women
19 Voter hat.

20 I will hand these out, too. But Exelon
21 has just applied and received permission from Lacey
22 Township, I will be very local here, I am from Ocean
23 County, to extend their cask storage that they want,
24 another twenty years for cask storage, and they did
25 receive that permission.

27

1 In a meeting down there at the Zoning
2 Board I heard one of the engineers say being
3 questioned by the Zoning Board, about these casks,
4 how long are these supposed to last, and he said
5 they are licensed for ten years but they will
6 probably last for sixty.

7 So then on top of that the Nuclear
8 Regulatory Commission just said that they have
9 passed their waste confidence ruling. The waste
10 confidence ruling is their version of saying, go
11 ahead and build these plants because we are okay
12 with the waste.

13 That ruling says that all of the waste
14 will stay on the site for sixty years and then
15 nothing about what happens after.

16 Now, the Mayor of Lacey did ask Exelon
17 engineers, what do you do at the end of sixty years?

18 Well, they didn't know.

19 At the same time those of us who have been
20 following through with the Commission on nuclear

9.24.10 Transcripts

21 waste and there has been testimony, and attending
22 some of their meetings, and all that, and we are not
23 seeing anything that is really in terms of what is
24 going to happen to this waste at the end sixty
25 years, in fact nada that we can see.

28

1 Reprocessing is very dangerous and we end
2 up with separated plutonium which is the worst
3 nuclear proliferation fear going and you develop
4 waste streams of toxic radiation that complicate the
5 whole problem of nuclear waste.

6 I just want to say that because of the
7 concerns we have locally about our highly dangerous
8 radioactive nuclear waste, by the way, the NRC is
9 comfortable with the waste being put there for sixty
10 years, in other words, we are all going to become
11 Yucca Mountain, we are all going to be stuck with
12 this nuclear waste, but though they are comfortable
13 with it a lot of people aren't, a lot of scientists
14 aren't.

15 For instance, Frank Bartis (phonetic)
16 from Princeton who serves on an international panel,
17 the foremost group of national experts, nuclear
18 physicists that look at reprocessing and the safety
19 of storage, and all of that stuff, they are not
20 thrilled with the idea of this stuff being in the
21 casks for so long and the risks involved with this
22 stuff being up in these elevator fuel holds which
23 are overstuffed now.

24 I called the DEP. They tell me there is
25 about three hundred fifty tons of highly radioactive

1 nuclear fuel in the casks at Oyster Creek and seven
2 hundred fifty still in the fuel pool.

3 So this fuel pool is not designed for this
4 amount of nuclear waste. They have had them
5 reconfigured, they are a lot closer, which risks a
6 fire, and a lot of people, scientists worldwide,
7 would like to see those pools thinned out for
8 safety.

9 To get to the point, the League of Women
10 Voters is having a forum tomorrow. Ocean County's
11 tons of nuclear waste, are we stuck with it? What
12 will become of the tons of nuclear waste currently
13 stored on the site, and what will become of the
14 additional waste?

15 These are questions that no one seems to
16 have answers to right now.

17 To bring this to closure, I just want to
18 say that I know that it is still in the mix, I
19 guess, to think that there might be two more nuclear
20 plants in New Jersey. I think in light of the fact
21 that we supposedly have a window of opportunity to
22 get this climate change stuff going and nuclear is
23 so far behind schedule as it is, and the fact that
24 we still don't have any place to put this stuff, by
25 the way, the casks that are going in there by us are

1 made by Ari ba (phonetic) from France is having all
2 kinds of quality control programs with their plants

3 they are building in France and in Finland.

4 The EPR, which is their darling new third
5 generation reactor has been criticized for real
6 serious safety problems, some of which have not been
7 resolved which is why the NRC will not relicense
8 them here.

9 To bring this to a close, GRAMMY is urging
10 as the woman from, I forgot the name of her County,
11 saying, we would have so much room for community
12 energy efficiency, for education on that, there is
13 much that can be done with energy efficiency, there
14 is so much more that can be done with solar and wind
15 and therefore, our feeling on this is , we would be
16 more comfortable with relying on energy that doesn't
17 leave our grandchildren, I am looking around this
18 room, sixty years those casks are going to be good
19 for, we will all be dead by then, who is going to
20 deal with that? Our kids and grandchildren.

21 That's a nice birthday present to leave
22 them all.

23 But any way, thank you very much. You
24 have been very hospitable.

25 PRESIDENT SOLOMON: So as the President of

31

1 the League of Women Voters from Ocean County are you
2 advocating to shut down the nuclear complex in New
3 Jersey?

4 MS. GOTSCH: No. We are just holding this
5 forum, we are worried, we are going to have an
6 international expert on nuclear waste come to talk
7 to us, what are your options, guys, what can we

9.24.10 Transcripts

8 really do, because if you shut down every nuclear
9 plant in the country right now, we have tons and
10 tons of military waste, we have tons and tons that
11 is nuclear waste, over here, we have tons and tons
12 of low level, which is really intermediate level
13 nuclear waste, we are lucky, lucky for us that
14 Barnwell (phonetic) will still take our low level
15 waste.

16 PRESIDENT SOLOMON: As I understand, is
17 your testimony relative to the Energy Master Plan,
18 what are you advocating?

19 MS. GOTSCH: For Grandmothers.

20 PRESIDENT SOLOMON: And the League of
21 Women Voters?

22 MS. GOTSCH: From GRANNIES' standpoint we
23 are advocating against any new nuclear in New
24 Jersey, we have advocated against it all along, that
25 Oyster Creek should have been shut down.

32

1 We are now saying that this nuclear waste,
2 GRANNIES is saying this nuclear waste that we have
3 and have to do something with should be enhanced
4 on-site storage, which is internationally recognized
5 as the only only way to at least make the nuclear
6 waste less dangerous.

7 Thank you very much.

8 PRESIDENT SOLOMON: Thank you.

9 MR. SPAIS: Good morning, Mr. President and
10 fellow Board members of the Board of Public
11 Utilities.

9.24.10 Transcripts

12 My name is George Spais, I represent the
13 New Jersey Builders Association.

14 I have seen state policy fluctuating from
15 encouraging housing to discouraging housing
16 depending on the economic times. Regardless of the
17 view of the housing industry, it is an incredible
18 condition right now where people, where part of
19 the environment, we all need a place to live. It is
20 how we interact with that environment that will make
21 a difference for the future of all New Jersey
22 residents. I want to focus on four key points that
23 I would like to see in the Energy Master Plan.

24 The first point being any type of
25 increased energy costs which new housing should

33

1 provide the initial homebuyer with a seven year
2 payback.

3 A new homebuyer typically resides in their
4 dwelling for about seven years. So to get that
5 payback within seven years will not have a negative
6 effect on the housing industry or the cost of the
7 new housing. You start going beyond that seven year
8 payback period it tends to discourage the new
9 homebuyer from purchasing that house.

10 The second item I would like to focus on
11 is encouraging the removal of restrictive zoning.

12 Restrictive zoning in situations where you
13 have a large zoning requirement, requiring two acres
14 or three acres with the ability to put only one
15 single-family unit on that lot. If we can see more
16 zoning that encourages multi-family housing, attached

9.24.10 Transcripts

17 units, we will see a better energy efficiency
18 increase because multi-family housing is generally
19 about fifteen, twenty percent more efficient than
20 single-family housing because you have common walls
21 between some of the units, you have less heat loss,
22 and the national new building standard and the
23 National Code Council standard encourages
24 multi-family attached housing.

25 The third item I would like to discuss is

34

1 encouraging the utilities to have smart meters for
2 existing and new housing which shows real-time
3 energy consumption in a little digital LCD or LVD
4 display on the meter. A lot of electric meters out
5 there are still the old analog type, they have that
6 dial that rotates. You can't really tell what the
7 energy consumption is.

8 If you build a Energy Star home that
9 meets, say, the green gold standard, the electricity
10 consumption on that home is dependent on the
11 consumers' habits. We can do everything in the
12 world to provide the technology to energy efficiency
13 but it comes down to consumer habits. A consumer
14 can buy an energy efficient house but they may have
15 habits that don't sustain it, but by encouraging
16 smart meters we will have consumers going outside
17 looking at the meter seeing what their energy
18 consumption is from having their TV on, their
19 computer on, you will find the consumers in existing
20 and new housing modify their habits based upon what

21 that meter is saying to them. How many kilowatts
22 were consumed by the hour?

23 What I would like to stress is, encourage
24 more incentives to make existing homes more energy
25 efficient. New homes are highly energy efficient

35

1 now with the International Conservation Code, it is
2 much more restrictive, these houses are much more
3 tighter.

4 Existing homes provide the consumer with a
5 lot less energy efficiency. We keep putting more
6 restrictions on new housing but we are actually
7 trying to get blood from a stone at this point, they
8 are already very energy efficient, we should focus
9 more on the existing homes to have higher energy
10 standards by providing incentives and encouraging
11 rebates.

12 Those are the four main points I would
13 like to stress.

14 I will submit written comments to you to
15 review.

16 Thank you much for the opportunity to be
17 here.

18 PRESIDENT SOLOMON: Yes, sir?

19 MR. RUGA: Good morning. I am Elliott
20 Ruga with the New Jersey Highlandss Coalition.

21 The goal of the New Jersey Energy Master
22 Plan, as stated in the 2008 plan is to guide us
23 toward a responsible energy future with adequate,
24 reliable energies supplies that are both
25 environmentally responsible and competitively

1 priced.

2 The overview statement of the September 22
3 stakeholder meeting at Bordentown this week was
4 different in tone. That was "The building blocks of
5 a diverse and secure energy future must balance
6 three critical elements, reliability, safety and
7 affordability."

8 This is a true statement.

9 However, the omission of any reference to
10 environmental responsibility causes us to wonder if
11 priorities have indeed shifted and if so, we are
12 greatly concerned.

13 The critical element of safety might
14 tangentially allude to vague environmental
15 considerations, but this more so suggests to us that
16 the sources of energy and its delivery of something
17 that is not going to electrocute us or vaporize us.

18 Where is the assurance that environmental
19 responsibility is as much a building block as
20 reliability, safety and affordability in the shaping
21 of energy policy?

22 The innovators who first brought to market
23 such concepts as renewable energy, green building,
24 demand-response, et cetera, created those concepts
25 within the context of sustainability and

1 environmental responsibility.

2 States, including New Jersey, in adopting

9.24.10 Transcripts

3 a renewable portfolio standard and issuing solar and
4 other renewable energy certificates have through
5 policy exerted control over the marketplace, that it
6 grow in order to achieve goals toward a more
7 sustainable future.

8 Please, keep it up and build upon it
9 because it is in the long term environmentally and
10 economically good policy.

11 But RECs, SRECs, WRECs and other green
12 certificates cannot be merely market commodities.

13 Clean water, clean air, quality of life,
14 public health and well being must be considered as
15 intrinsically important as any economic factor. You
16 may not be able to issue certificates for such
17 environmental considerations, but they must be
18 certifiable nonetheless.

19 Let me give you an example. PSE&G's
20 proposed Susquehanna to Roseland transmission line
21 upgrade project in many areas conflicts with the
22 stated goal of the 2008 Energy Master Plan. You can
23 easily develop a Master Plan that would accommodate
24 such a project, but you would first have to discard
25 any concern for the air pollution that rains upon us

38

1 in New Jersey from the coal fired plants in
2 Pennsylvania, West Virginia and the elsewhere that
3 feeds into this transmission line.

4 You would also be allowing avoidable
5 impacts to upland forests, fresh water wetlands,
6 threatened and endangered species and significant
7 recreational and cultural resources. You would also

9.24.10 Transcripts

8 slow any market driven incentives toward
9 incorporating smart grid technology and demand side
10 management.

11 It would be so easy to develop a plan that
12 put the environment in the back seat, well, anyone
13 could accomplish that. We expect you to work harder.

14 Is the cost of energy forcing business to
15 flee to neighboring states such as Pennsylvania?

16 Well, New Jersey does rank 8th in the
17 country in the cost of electricity. Pennsylvania
18 ranks 45th. But we don't want dirty coal-fired
19 plants that provides cheap electricity in
20 Pennsylvania. If you recall, two weeks ago DEP
21 commissioner Martin petitioned the federal
22 government to enforce the Clean Air Act against a
23 coal-fired plant in Pennsylvania that pollutes our
24 air.

25 Some other statistics that should mitigate

39

1 any energy concern about energy costs in New Jersey
2 as an indicator of our business climate as a place
3 to live, we rank 2nd in median household income, we
4 are first in percentage of households that are
5 millionaires. we are 30th in the rate of personal
6 bankruptcy, no offense to Pennsylvania, but by the
7 way, they are ahead of us as 23rd. We rank 8th in
8 gross state product, all of the states ahead of us
9 are hugely larger in size and population.

10 We are 7th in the number of Fortune 500
11 companies headquartered in a state. We rank 6th in

12 the percentage of college graduates. New Jersey
13 remains a choice place to live, to work, and
14 therefore, a place to do business.

15 New Jersey is a great place. Please do
16 your part in keeping it that way for all of us.

17 Thank you.

18 MR. MARSHALL: Bob Marshall, on behalf of
19 the New Jersey Energy Coalition.

20 Just to give you some background on the
21 New Jersey Energy Coalition we support a broad
22 portfolio of energy options and technologies that
23 reduce carbon and provide affordable, reliable
24 energy for New Jersey.

25 New Jersey Energy Coalition members

40

1 currently include utilities, energy companies,
2 renewable developers, educational institutions and
3 energy efficiency companies.

4 As we begin to examine and assess the
5 dynamic goals and targets of the New Jersey Energy
6 Master Plan we clearly cannot ignore the cleanest,
7 most reliable source of base load energy, nuclear
8 energy. Electricity from nuclear produces no
9 greenhouse gas emissions, it is the cleanest, most
10 reliable form of electricity we have.

11 Nuclear power is also a reliable producer
12 of clean energy. In 2009 New Jersey's nuclear
13 plants ran ninety-two percent of the time. This
14 compares with projected availability of wind and
15 solar at much lower levels of production.

16 In terms of economic development, nuclear

9.24.10 Transcripts

17 plants like Oyster Creek, Salem and Hope Creek
18 employ thousands of workers in good paying jobs and
19 provide millions of dollars in tax revenues for the
20 communities in which they are located.

21 We already get more than half of our
22 energy in New Jersey from nuclear. We need to keep
23 those plants operating as they have for many years.

24 We should also be mindful that requiring
25 expensive cooling water retrofits and mandating

41

1 costly cooling towers would not only be uneconomic
2 but would reduce the capacity of the plants,
3 capacity to replace this lost output would likely be
4 accomplished by costly methods using fossil fuels.

5 The New Jersey Energy Coalition supports
6 the building of additional nuclear plants. A new
7 nuclear plant would employ fourteen hundred to
8 eighteen hundred workers in the construction phase,
9 both in skilled crafts and professionals in a
10 variety of positions. A commencement of commercial
11 operation the power plant would continue to be a
12 huge economic engine employing thousands of New
13 Jersey citizens on daily basis as well as thousands
14 more during maintenance periods.

15 On average the average nuclear plant
16 generates four hundred thirty million dollars for
17 local communities.

18 In closing, achieving energy goals of New
19 Jersey will require a diversity of options and
20 nuclear is a proven reliable, clean source that will

21 enable New Jersey to maintain jobs and create new
22 ones while providing stability for our future energy
23 picture.

24 Thank you.

25 PRESIDENT SOLOMON: Thank you.

42

1 Yes, sir?

2 MR. GREEN (phonetic): Good morning,
3 Garfield Green of Paradigm Realty, I'm here from
4 Salem County. I will simply advocate for the
5 creation of Green Opportunity Zones, simply overlay
6 the existing Urban Enterprise Zone and Urban
7 Enterprise Zone in impacted areas with the Green
8 Opportunity Zone whereby small businesses can show
9 up at the local planning board which is currently
10 our biggest barrier to economic development, and
11 have the New Jersey share the greenhouse gas
12 initiative funds, the Planning Board fees of these
13 small businesses who promise to renovate existing
14 vacant buildings in these areas, to third-party
15 certified green building standards, reduce
16 greenhouse gases, increase energy efficiency.

17 Thank you.

18 COMMISSIONER FOX: Can you submit that in
19 writing?

20 MR. GREEN: Yes.

21 MR. SOBOLEWSKI: Good morning.

22 My name is Terry Sobolewski, I am with
23 SunPower Corporation and I represent also the Solar
24 Alliance in New Jersey.

25 Just a background, Solar Alliance is a

1 group of approximately thirty of the largest
2 photovoltaic solar development and manufacturing
3 installers and finance companies for solar energy in
4 the United States.

5 I would like to just make a handful of
6 comments. First I would like to address the goals
7 of the Energy Master Plan, the importance of a
8 balanced energy portfolio, specifically I would like
9 to address the cost and benefits of solar as we have
10 seen them to date in New Jersey, and then I will
11 project them going forward and I would like to offer
12 or share a few policy recommendations to consider to
13 look at. The solar requirements in the Energy
14 Master Plan in our opinion as currently stated are
15 quite modest.

16 The Solar Advancement Act is a reasonable
17 response to the opportunity and needs for economic
18 development and clean electricity for New Jersey.
19 In fact, solar and renewables can contribute much
20 more than the current EMP assumes, and the State
21 plays a critical role in getting there.

22 As demonstrated in previous comments by
23 the Solar Alliance, solar alone can supply up to
24 fourteen gW of capacity based on our natural
25 resources here in the State and provide a

1 substantial percentage of the gap in new generation
2 that a number of analyses have predicted.

9.24.10 Transcripts

3 New Jersey has already put into place key
4 building blocks to realize its solar potential .
5 The Solar Energy Achievement and Fair Competition
6 Act has set the stage for nearly 5 gW of solar
7 energy by 2026 and with further market enhancements
8 solar will continue to deliver competitively priced
9 electricity.

10 Moreover, the benefits of solar as an
11 economic development tool should not be overlooked,
12 with an installed base of over 5,000 systems in New
13 Jersey, representing two hundred mW of total
14 capacity this means more than 5,000 businesses and
15 residents are now receiving the benefits of lower
16 energy costs and a return on their local investment
17 in infrastructure. Like CHP EE and other
18 distributed technologies, the systems and
19 improvements are owned or operated on behalf of these
20 host customers, and these ratepayers will derive the
21 benefits of predictably priced electricity and
22 incentives directly. Solar power acts as a powerful
23 hedge against volatile and generally rising energy
24 costs, allowing these New Jersey based businesses
25 and residents to retain jobs and invest the savings

45

1 in their own operations or in their own homes.

2 Second, the levelized costs of solar
3 electricity should be considered within the context
4 of a portfolio approach for the electricity mix in
5 the State. The very purpose of the EMP is to take a
6 long-term view and enable policy makers to create a
7 portfolio that balances short-term costs versus

9.24.10 Transcripts

8 long-term rate stability.

9 Third, in considering costs, we must also
10 consider countervailing benefits. In the case of
11 solar energy these benefits are both significant and
12 varied.

13 I would like to address a few specific
14 data points. First, for costs. For ratepayers the
15 current cost of solar in the average New Jersey
16 residential utility rate is about .0017 or less
17 than two tenths of a penny, that's from the CEEEP
18 analysis done just recently as part of the Energy
19 Master Plan discussion.

20 Relative to other technologies the
21 levelized cost of energy for solar is currently
22 between thirteen cents and thirty cents per kilowatt
23 hour depending on scale, technology and the
24 application of the installation. For power plants,
25 solar is competitive and in some cases cheaper than

46

1 gas peaking and even nuclear and can deliver energy
2 at discount to peak prices in four of the top ten
3 metropolitan areas, including New York,
4 Philadelphia, Houston and Boston. That's a study
5 that was released about six months ago.

6 And unlike most other technologies where
7 costs are increasing costs of solar is declining
8 about three percent per year on a long-term basis,
9 more dramatically of course in the last two years,
10 which means the economics will continue to improve
11 as well, and again I will provide in my written

9.24.10 Transcripts

12 comments the sources of that data.

13 On the other side of the ledger are the
14 benefits of course, and to date the New Jersey solar
15 institution now includes more than two hundred
16 megawatts installed capacity. That capacity has
17 been put into place by what is now accumulated to
18 about two hundred or three hundred companies that do
19 solar energy installations in the State, or provide
20 financing for solar installations in the State, and
21 those companies now employ more than three thousand
22 people. It is one of the few segments in the New
23 Jersey State economy that is growing and drawing
24 increasing amounts of private investment. Those two
25 hundred megaWatts of solar energy installed

47

1 represent about seven hundred million dollars of
2 private investment, that's net of any Federal tax
3 incentives.

4 In fact, the run rate for solar energy
5 installations has doubled from 2008 to 2009 and
6 doubled again from 2009 to 2010, so this is an
7 extraordinary growth segment in the New Jersey
8 economy as it stands today.

9 Lastly I would say that it is important to
10 recognize that solar energy reduces our in-state
11 wholesale electricity prices. So of course it
12 extends great benefits to those that install those
13 solar energy systems but it also help suppress
14 wholesale energy prices for all ratepayers.
15 Estimates suggest 5,000 mW of solar energy could
16 reduce LMP by more than \$50/MWh which would generate

9.24.10 Transcripts

17 \$460 million annual benefit across all ratepayers.
18 Moreover, as energy prices increase, these benefits
19 increase proportionally.

20 Some may argue that other technologies
21 generate the same benefits, and that may be true,
22 but the magnitude of the benefit varies depending
23 upon the nature of the technology. For example,
24 solar has been proven to create more jobs per Mw of
25 installed capacity than other technologies,

48

1 specifically six times more than nuclear and eight
2 times more than natural gas and coal generation, I
3 will provide the reference for that study, that's of
4 course driven in large part by its distributed
5 nature. It is also true that all technologies enjoy
6 some form of subsidy whether it be Federal loan
7 guarantees, tax credits or direct R&D funding by DOE
8 and in light of this any accurate comparison of
9 technologies must certainly take into consideration
10 all the accumulated costs and all of the economic
11 benefits.

12 Looking ahead we have a great opportunity
13 to further leverage solar as a key component of our
14 generation mix, an opportunity that will deliver
15 vast economic and environmental advantages in a time
16 where we desperately need both. To build on our
17 progress to date and to continue to capture this
18 great opportunity, we offer these broad policy
19 recommendations.

20 First and foremost, we think we need to

9.24.10 Transcripts

21 drive scale and efficiency. New Jersey will benefit
22 from continued efforts to develop a diverse solar
23 market that includes everything from small
24 distributed residential systems to larger commercial
25 and grid connected projects. In light of this, we

49

1 should expand SREC eligibility to larger scale
2 projects and address existing interconnection
3 barriers that do exist. Specifically we support
4 some of the language being proposed to Assembly Bill
5 2529, namely the inclusion of systems for
6 eligibility interconnected at 69 kW or less.

7 Secondly, we should promote a stable
8 investment environment. The policy mechanisms from
9 the State enabling lower priced SRECs to match the
10 levelized costs of energy are evolving but need
11 enhancements, particularly through improvements to
12 the existing SREC finance programs and the addition
13 of long-term SREC procurement in the BGS process.

14 We should support improvements to existing
15 SREC financing programs and we should explore
16 additional securitization options, specifically as I
17 mentioned including an increase in the system size
18 capital of the JCP&L, ACE and RICO programs to two
19 megawatts which will encourage full enrollment or
20 full participation in that wonderful program.

21 We should continue to encourage LSE
22 long-term contracting and of course to do so, we
23 must set an appropriate 15 year SACP schedule that
24 establishes clear parameters and incentives.

25 And in conclusion I would like to thank

1 the Board, staff, and all those who participated in
2 the Energy Master Plan discussions and of course
3 indicate that we will continue to work with all
4 parties to ensure that the goals of the State are
5 achieved in the most cost effective means possible.

6 Thank you very much.

7 PRESIDENT SOLOMON: Levelized cost of
8 energy, I generally know what that means, but in
9 this case would you please explain what that
10 includes?

11 MR. SOBOLEWSKI: Levelized cost of energy
12 includes capital cost, the system cost itself, the
13 equipment, the cost of financing that equipment,
14 maintenance cost, insurance costs and any fuels, in
15 the case nuclear there is no fuel cost, of course.

16 PRESIDENT SOLOMON: Is that after
17 deducting subsidies?

18 MR. SOBOLEWSKI: It includes the thirty
19 percent investment tax credit from the Federal
20 government, it does not include any other
21 subsidies.

22 We typically believe that that is an
23 appropriate comparison point, the Federal tax credit
24 is not something that New Jersey neither the State
25 or ratepayers pay for directly.

1 MR. STEVENS: Thank you, President Solomon
2 and other members of the panel.

9.24.10 Transcripts

3 My name is Eric Stevens, Vice-President of
4 the Offshore MW, by way of a quick introduction we
5 are developing a 280 Megawatt offshore wind project
6 in Germany, and we would welcome the opportunity to
7 do a similar project here in New Jersey.

8 Given previous comments in some of the
9 earlier meetings some of the issues we understand
10 being thought about in revising the EMP include the
11 following, reducing the ratepayer subsidies that
12 don't yield direct benefits to the ratepayer.
13 Second, using the marketplace not government to pick
14 so-called winners and losers, and most importantly,
15 using energy policy to advance economic development
16 and job creation.

17 We support all these concepts and in fact
18 urge a strong concentration on those areas that
19 would yield the most in achieving these ends,
20 particularly economic development.

21 Offshore wind is recognized by New Jersey
22 as being a great way of moving forward. Offshore
23 wind is able to help New Jersey meet its RPS goals,
24 to be able to achieve economic development, and job
25 creation, to being affordable and scalable, that is

52

1 to get to a sufficient size to really make a
2 difference for the State, for the economy and the
3 environment.

4 Since the last EMP the State has realized
5 two important developments with regard to offshore
6 wind. First, it completed a baseline study that
7 found that we can develop offshore wind without

9.24.10 Transcripts

8 hurting the State's coastal ecology or economy and
9 second, of course, is a passage of the OffShore Wind
10 Development Act.

11 New Jersey should build on these two
12 important successes, and we would like to suggest
13 some changes to the EMP to do that.

14 First, we urge you to retain an aggressive
15 and realistic goal for the amount of offshore wind
16 installed in the State. This is absolutely
17 essential to attract industry as it sends a signal
18 that New Jersey is serious about offshore wind and
19 literally means business when it comes to offshore
20 wind.

21 So what is a reasonable, yet aggressive
22 goal? If you look at Europe, where they are ahead
23 of us by far in developing offshore wind, we think
24 three hundred megawatts a year would be a good goal
25 in New Jersey so if you consider the first project

53

1 might not start until 2016, three hundred megawatts
2 a year, a reasonable but aggressive goal might be
3 fifteen hundred megawatts by '21 and three thousand
4 megawatts by 2026.

5 We would also like to urge that the EMP be
6 revised to include some specific action that is to
7 further the offshore wind industry in New Jersey,
8 and I will suggest four here and provide more
9 details and suggestions in our written comments.

10 First, would be to implement the offshore
11 wind development and regulations as quickly and

9.24.10 Transcripts

12 efficiently as possible and by efficiently I mean it
13 should include some sort of mechanism to allow input
14 from all stakeholders prior to issuing regulations.
15 This will increase the chance that the regulation is
16 actually working for the marketplace and also
17 address concerns that other stakeholders may have
18 regarding the regulations, and ideally hopefully
19 reduce the chances of being challenged on some
20 grounds after being issued.

21 Second action would be to work closely
22 with Federal Agencies to start the ocean leasing
23 process as soon as possible recognizing that this
24 process is already years delayed.

25 Third would be the continued studies of

54

1 the ecology offshore in New Jersey so that we have
2 the best data available to facilitate efficient and
3 good permitting of this offshore project.

4 And four, that we establish an initiative
5 for the State and private industry to work together
6 to attract manufacturing of offshore wind components
7 to New Jersey. The projects themselves to be built
8 three hundred megawatts a year in New Jersey, the
9 projects themselves, the actual construction might
10 create a few hundred jobs a year, maybe five hundred
11 jobs a year, but where you see the really large
12 amount of job creation is the manufacturing. We
13 think that the developers in the State and private
14 industry should work together to attract
15 manufacturing to New Jersey.

16 New Jersey is on the verge of being the
Page 46

9.24.10 Transcripts

17 center of the new industry here on the East Coast
18 offshore wind. We envision that the Energy Master
19 Plan provides the means to firmly grab this
20 opportunity and make this new industry a reality for
21 New Jersey.

22 PRESIDENT SOLOMON: Thank you very much.

23 Yes, sir?

24 MR. FENNESSY: Good morning, President
25 Solomon, Commissioner Fox, Commissioner Asselta.

55

1 My name is Conor Fennessey and I am with
2 the New Jersey Apartment Association. We represent
3 the larger professional property management firms in
4 the State. On the rental housing side, landlords
5 typically with more than fifty units, up to ten,
6 twelve, thirteen thousand units here in New
7 Jersey.

8 The issue has come up of energy
9 efficiency and it is an issue that you are going to
10 be tackling in the next couple of weeks at the
11 Commissioners and Staff levels.

12 As we look at energy efficiency,
13 especially on the multi-family side, when it comes
14 to Board history as a rate-setting entity
15 multi-family unfortunately is neither fish nor foul
16 because if the building is directly metered, each
17 unit by the utility, it's considered to be a
18 residential building.

19 If the building is master metered,
20 meaning that there is one meter for the whole

9.24.10 Transcripts

21 property, it's considered a commercial building.

22 So even within our members own
23 portfolios they can have buildings that are
24 sometimes residential and sometimes commercial, and
25 of course, in multi-family there are elements of

56

1 both.

2 So as we move forward certainly on a
3 policy issue if you could keep in mind that there
4 are buildings that kind of straddle both classes

5 The second issue on the energy efficiency
6 side is new construction versus current buildings.
7 You know, a '58 Thunderbird that rolls off the
8 assembly-line in Mahwah, no matter how efficient you
9 want to make it, it's not going to be as efficient
10 so as to be designated as a Smart Car, you just
11 can't do it.

12 As you look at the older buildings, please
13 keep in mind that not every one is the same, whether
14 it's in Cherry Hill, whether it's up in Ridgewood or
15 Phillipsburg, they are all a little bit different.

16 When you are planning from the ground up
17 for new construction, you can plan for it in the
18 beginning, you can design it in, beautiful.

19 When you are looking at upgrades it is
20 important to keep in mind that not every building is
21 the same, we can't always do the same thing with
22 different buildings, especially on the multi-family
23 side.

24 We look forward to the next steps in the
25 process. Certainly any assistance that we can

1 provide to the Board and Staff we would be happy to,
2 especially as to energy efficiency upgrades, because
3 I think that's something you are going to tackle,
4 the old Energy Master Plan, and we look forward to
5 the next steps in the process..

6 MS. HANSEN: Good morning, Commissioners.

7 I am Amy Hansen with the New Jersey
8 Conservation Foundation and I appreciate the
9 opportunity to speak to here today.

10 We urge the Governor and the BPU adhere
11 closely to or crease the goals of the Energy Master
12 Plan, to reduce greenhouse gas emission by twenty
13 percent by 2020 and fifty percent by 2050.

14 There are reports in the media which point
15 to New Jersey reducing the Societal Benefits Charge
16 in our electric bills, reducing our Energy Master
17 Plan goals, and legislation was introduced that
18 would weaken the Global Warming Response Act which
19 New Jersey implemented recently because of our
20 agreement to participate in the Regional Greenhouse
21 Gas Initiative, RGGI.

22 We are dismayed that funds that all of
23 us in New Jersey as electricity consumers paid into
24 our electric bills have been taken to balance the
25 State budget and funds from the RGGI carbon options

1 originally for energy efficiency and other programs
2 have also been taken for budget balancing.

3 With the first half of 2010 being the
4 hottest on record, increased incidents of
5 destructive storms world-wide and overwhelming
6 evidence in support of climate change, now is not
7 the time to cut back on our goals that will reduce
8 carbon emissions, all in the name of balancing the
9 budget.

10 Like Ms. Braunstein and the speaker from
11 the League of Women Voters before me, we make a
12 plea for our children and for future generations,
13 and I know you have all heard that term before but
14 it is really real; we actually as a human race I
15 think are threatened by climate change and we need
16 to act now.

17 We have already diminished the diversity
18 of the natural world for our children's future. We
19 can curtail our energy use and through that let's
20 create a vibrant economy in New Jersey based on
21 renewable energy, energy efficiency, preserving
22 forests with funds from the RGGI carbon option.

23 And I urge you all to renew our commitment
24 to a strong Energy Master Plan and to RGGI.

25 Thank you.

59

1 PRESIDENT SOLOMON: What is your position
2 or your group's position regarding nuclear power?

3 MS. HANSEN: We don't have a position.
4 That's not our expertise.

5 PRESIDENT SOLOMON: Thank you.

6 MR. HUNTER: My name is
7 Farley Hunter. I am the Chairperson of the New

9.24.10 Transcripts

8 Jersey Large Energy Users Coalition.

9 I apologize in advance, I don't have my
10 remarks formally written.

11 PRESIDENT SOLOMON: You are forgiven.

12 MR. HUNTER: There are only two areas I
13 would like to discuss with you this morning, the
14 first one is SRECs.

15 I have had personal experience with solar
16 arrays, and I will tell you that based on our
17 working with the State that I was able to have that
18 solar array pay for itself in a simple payback model
19 in four years.

20 I have also been looking actively at
21 additional solar arrays and I will say that I have
22 had paybacks, simple paybacks, in the range of
23 five, and if you add some additional administrative
24 costs, internal costs, it could be in the six to
25 eight year range.

60

1 I would say that those are reasonable
2 numbers that I have gotten from contractors and
3 integrators.

4 So when I look at those numbers and I look
5 at the fact that I as a solar operator can sell
6 SRECs for a fifteen year period, and when I look at
7 the increased demand for installing more solar in
8 New Jersey, I suspect that the alternative
9 compliance payments will continue to drive the
10 current SREC value for some time to come, and in
11 fact I would believe that with the power purchase

9.24.10 Transcripts

12 agreements that are going on the companies would
13 expect that to continue, they would not expect a
14 dramatic decline in SREC value and be investing at
15 the level that they are now.

16 I get a lot of calls now about power
17 purchase agreements and I believe that's driven by
18 SREC values going out for at least fifteen years.

19 Given those pieces of information, I have
20 to wonder now why the State would allow the
21 ratepayers who are paying into the Societal Benefits
22 Charge to continue to pay for a system well past
23 when it has been paid off.

24 Even if you exclude the value of the
25 electricity that they are getting in the offset of

61

1 not having purchased that only from the utilities,
2 even if you exclude that, you have a relatively
3 short payback period.

4 For the system that I am most familiar
5 with I am going to enjoy eleven years of SREC value
6 past when it has paid for itself, plus I get the
7 electric generation for that at a very modest
8 maintenance cost.

9 I have very little, solar is great in that
10 regard, I have very little problems with
11 maintenance.

12 PRESIDENT SOLOMON: Your payback, is
13 that based on trading the SRECs on the spot market
14 over four years, or is it based on the fifteen
15 years?

16 MR. HUNTER: It's just based on four years.

9.24.10 Transcripts

17 PRESIDENT SOLOMON: Spot trading?

18 MR. HUNTER: Spot trading, yes. I trade
19 year-by-year.

20 Now, I installed my system before the
21 Federal tax credit was in place or I installed it in
22 2006 but I got the 2005 New Jersey rebate and then
23 in 2006 I got the Federal tax credit, and that's why
24 it paid for itself in four years.

25 Even the Star-Ledger has written articles

62

1 about how good solar is in terms of economics at the
2 current SREC value.

3 So my point is that I installed a system
4 that its cost was a million dollars and in the next
5 eleven years I will get at least that in SREC value
6 at the current SREC market price.

7 To me, that is money that I should not be
8 getting, I will ask for it as long as it's allowed
9 me, but I should not be getting that additional
10 cost.

11 Now, you might ask, how can we monitor
12 this? Well, I have to register my SRECs through PJM
13 every year or monthly, some people choose to do it
14 monthly, but it has to be registered and verified,
15 so we have a very clear track record of how much
16 SRECs are sold and their value. That is all
17 recorded, as I understand it, on the website, so the
18 State has a ready mechanism to understand how much
19 money has been charged.

20 And by asking basically how much it costs,

9.24.10 Transcripts

21 which we used to have to do when we got the rebates,
22 you have to say how much the system costs, then you
23 would have an easy mechanism to understand whether
24 or not the six to eight year paybacks were actually
25 occurring and whether or not we should be adjusting

63

1 the privilege, if you will, the right that the State
2 has allowed us to go out fifteen years.

3 I don't think that it is appropriate for
4 the ratepayers of the State of New Jersey, to be
5 paying out money after a system has already paid for
6 itself. That's what the intent was, I believe, in
7 having set up the SREC model.

8 The other aspect is energy efficiency.
9 That's all I do, is energy efficiency projects for
10 my particular company, and the other members of the
11 New Jersey Large Energy Users Coalition are busy
12 saving energy and dollars for their companies as
13 well, and we don't have to have as great rebates and
14 so forth in incentives because there is plenty of
15 good energy efficiency projects out 85.

16 However, I do appreciate and would
17 encourage you to continue the Clean Energy Program.
18 It is always helpful to go to your management and
19 say that the State is willing to support in part the
20 installation of energy efficiency equipment and
21 systems, and I am a user and submit as many
22 applications to the New Jersey Clean Energy Program
23 this year and find it to be a very good way to drive
24 energy conservation in my company.

25 That's what I have to say.

1 Thank you very much.

2 PRESIDENT SOLOMON: Thank you.

3 Is 85 anyone else that hasn't spoken?

4 MR. KURAN: My name is Shihab Kuran and I
5 am the President and CEO of Petra Solar.

6 Petra Solar, Inc., is the New Jersey based
7 world-wide pioneer and market leader in Smart Solar.

8 Petra Solar was founded in 2006 and
9 headquartered in South Plainfield, and Petra
10 Solar has grown from fifteen employees in early 2009
11 to about one hundred and fifty today.

12 This growth is as a result of the Garden
13 State's progressive clean energy laws and its
14 national leadership in the use of solar renewable
15 energy.

16 We have submitted a longer statement that
17 details several points about solar energy that I
18 will touch upon now, including the economic and
19 environmental benefits of solar power, the
20 uniqueness of Petra Solar to New Jersey, and the
21 importance of maintaining New Jersey's progressive
22 solar energy environment in the updated Energy
23 Master Plan and how solar power is key to making New
24 Jersey an economic leader in the country.

25 Solar power is good for New Jersey's

1 economy. In the current economic climate efforts to
2 reduce energy costs and create jobs are more

3 important than ever.

4 Investment in solar energy does both. Solar
5 power is becoming more cost effective with each
6 passing year.

7 Continued investment is of the utmost
8 importance in allowing the technology to continue
9 advance.

10 Solar power is cost effective; solar power
11 is cost effective when compared to other types of
12 energy.

13 Statements to the contrary fail to take
14 into account a number of important considerations,
15 including the negative externalities imposed by the
16 construction, distribution and use of fossil fuels,
17 the fact that renewables have lower operating costs
18 and the fact that solar in many cases is cheaper
19 during mid-day peak demand hours.

20 The Commissioners in California have done
21 that in a landmark ruling when they ruled for solar,
22 and they did that based on the levelized cost of
23 energy: that is based on pure economics.

24 Solar power is a renewable non-polluting
25 safe and clean source of energy. Solar panels

66

1 generate zero carbon dioxide emissions, thus making
2 no contribution to global climate change or air
3 pollution and they pose no risk of spill, melt-down
4 or other catastrophic event.

5 Solar power is an important hedge against
6 future fuel prices. Energy costs are volatile due
7 to their dependency upon fuel prices that are

9.24.10 Transcripts

8 subject to substantial fluctuations.

9 Carbon neutral generation sources,
10 including solar, are immune to those fluctuations.

11 Renewable subsidies are far less than
12 those for traditional fossil fuels. It is a myth
13 that renewables are the only form of energy that is
14 subsidized. Studies, and we have the references
15 for those, have shown that subsidies for fossil
16 fuels total approximately seventy two billion
17 dollars.

18 In contrast to renewable subsidies which
19 amounted to twenty nine billion dollars over the
20 same period.

21 PRESIDENT SOLOMON: Is that a national
22 number?

23 MR. KURAN: That's a national number.

24 Solar power would be even more valuable
25 when dynamic pricing is implemented, and I know

67

1 that that's a subject that is close to hearts of the
2 new administration and the BPU and something we
3 fully support.

4 Dynamic pricing will drive users to align
5 their consumption with grid constraints and solar
6 power will be more of a precious resource. That is
7 an important tool in reducing energy consumption.
8 Solar is definitely suited for that type of
9 environment.

10 Solar leverages innovation. Solar has
11 been, solar has proven that it can benefit from

9.24.10 Transcripts

12 significant advances in technology and will continue
13 to do so for a considerable time.

14 At Petra Solar we are pioneering a truly
15 innovative approach, it is what we call our Sunwave
16 system, and it is designed to be installed right on
17 existing utility poles and connected directly to the
18 grid secondly.

19 This innovative system has resulted in the
20 largest portable project and construction in the
21 U.S. today. This real-world forty megawatt program
22 demonstrates a proven low-risk solution to deploying
23 renewables that has proven to be one of the most
24 cost effective solutions for ratepayers.

25 Our system has received significant

68

1 interest from other regions of the United States and
2 the world.

3 I can share with you that the City of San
4 Francisco held a hearing last week looking at
5 replicating this model. Why is this model very
6 interesting?

7 New Jersey, as some of the other people
8 mentioned, has the first or second highest income
9 per capita in the country, we are the most densely
10 populated State in the country so land is expensive
11 and labor expensive.

12 As we look at renewable solutions we need
13 to be cognizant that land is not cheap, it's not for
14 free, we don't have vast deserts that are
15 underutilized, so as we deploy renewable we need to
16 think about assets that would accommodate renewables

9.24.10 Transcripts

17 that would not be expensive and ratepayers have
18 paid for that.

19 In addition, through our innovation what
20 to the untrained eye might look like solar panel on
21 a pole, it's much, much more than that. These have
22 built in Smart Grid radios, they are building Smart
23 Grid communication infrastructure which would
24 benefit dynamic pricing deployment because it is
25 also a critical component in grid reliability

69

1 because now you can tell what the voltage is, what
2 the frequency is, you can tell if there is an
3 outage, you can optimize the voltage and reduce
4 losses.

5 We are looking at multiple systems for the
6 price of one. It is important to explain that the
7 way we got there is to understand the constraints of
8 the State of New Jersey through innovation, through
9 a company that invested millions of dollars in New
10 Jersey, thinking about New Jersey, inventing for New
11 Jersey and manufacturing in New Jersey.

12 There was a comment earlier about solar
13 panel manufacturing. We have been working very
14 closely with a team out of the New Jersey DBA
15 working tirelessly on this subject, we have been
16 working together on attracting full supply chains to
17 New Jersey, we would love to be able to buy solar
18 modules in New Jersey and we are committed to it,
19 and we would look forward to working with you and
20 look forward to seeing the Energy Master Plan

9.24.10 Transcripts

21 reflective of enhancing and empowering the whole
22 supply chain with focus on the balance of the
23 system, not the panels or the modules, but the
24 electronics, the semiconductors, the software, and
25 that amounts to more than fifty percent of the cost,

70

1 which is, solar panel is less than fifty percent of
2 the cost.

3 Petra Solar is poised to help New
4 Jersey's economy grow and the environment improve.
5 Solar brings both money and jobs to New Jersey.

6 We have raised fifty-four million dollars
7 from out-of-state sources and millions more from the
8 U.S. DOE and the New Jersey EPA.

9 Much of this money is cycled into New
10 Jersey's economy by providing green jobs to State
11 residents.

12 Research has shown that there is over a 6-
13 X multiplier to an in-state's economy on the
14 purchase of local energy technology. These numbers
15 reflect the investment that we raise but does not
16 reflect the revenue we have from commercial sales
17 that is also plowed back into the local economy.

18 Petra Solar is helping to raise New
19 Jersey's profile as a leader in energy innovation,
20 it's more than just a solar company, Petra Solar is
21 a solar and Smart Grid company.

22 Smart Grid is a term that refers to
23 upgrades to the electric power grid that uses
24 advanced communication techniques, grid sensors,
25 information processing systems and actuators to

1 produce an intelligent system that enables more
2 efficient and reliable grid operation.

3 In combination, solar and Smart Grid
4 provide a benefit greater than the sum of the
5 parts; distributed energy generation closely coupled
6 with management and control capability provides for
7 robust infrastructure and unique fiscal approaches.

8 To give you an idea, because I know there
9 was mention of the unreliable grid in South Jersey,
10 Here we are, deploying forty megawatts to the single
11 largest project in the country today, without a
12 single penny to upgrade the transmission line or
13 distribution line. That's innovation.

14 I am sure that many of you are aware of
15 the fact that many utilities say that, "I can't
16 connect new solar because the grid can't take it."

17 New Jersey innovation allows the large
18 utilities deployment without a single investment in
19 the infrastructure, in the distribution and
20 transmission.

21 Earlier this month Sandia (phonetic)
22 National Labs awarded Petra Solar its prestigious
23 Solar Energy Grid Integration System, SEGIS.

24 This contract is part of the U.S.
25 Department of Energy's solar technologies program.

1 We received this contract because of the advances we
2 have already pioneered. Petra solar's innovative

9.24.10 Transcripts

3 technologies and approach have successfully
4 addressed long-standing issues connected with adding
5 solar electricity to the energy sources utilities
6 use to generate, transmit and distribute electricity
7 to the public.

8 As the U.S. Energy Secretary explained
9 when announcing the award, "A project like this
10 helps to insure that efforts to advance renewable
11 energy and support the modernization of the
12 electrical grid are coordinated and integrated,
13 helping to provide reliable, clean energy at lower
14 costs."

15 By the way, the DOE also awarded us the
16 Innovative Energy Award of the Year.

17 I should also mention that we have another
18 sister company that Dr. Greg Olson has helped
19 launch, and he is on the board of Princeton Power
20 who also won prestigious awards, we have two
21 companies out of four in the country that are in New
22 Jersey that are innovative for the future of the
23 grid, micro-grids and reliable grids.

24 The need to encourage greater innovation
25 through renewable energy R&D investment could not be

73

1 clearer, not just to develop alternative sources of
2 energy but also to create jobs. Innovation puts
3 people to work.

4 Using my own company as an example, we
5 have grown from fifteen employees at the beginning
6 of 2001 to about one hundred fifty today, a ten-fold
7 increase.

9.24.10 Transcripts

8 By the way, these jobs do not include
9 installation jobs, do not include significant supply
10 chain jobs, these are just the jobs at Petra Solar
11 for the innovation and manufacturing.

12 By the end of the year we expect to grow
13 to at least one hundred and sixty-five employees,
14 and that investment has a multiplier effect.

15 I would like to note that earlier this
16 year we were proud to host Governor Christie and
17 Lieutenant Governor Guadagno at our South Plainfield
18 headquarters, we were told, I believe, that they
19 made it a point to make us the first company that
20 they visited, that's something that we are very
21 proud of.

22 During the visit the Governor
23 congratulated Petra Solar's employees for their hard
24 work and for being part of what he called an
25 extraordinary new Jersey success story. The

74

1 Governor called solar energy the next frontier,
2 saying it will help spur economic growth.

3 He identified Petra Solar as an example
4 of his goal to jolt life into the State's economy by
5 attracting and retaining successful businesses in
6 New Jersey.

7 We are very proud to call New Jersey home
8 and thank the Board of Public Utilities for its
9 commitment to renewable energy.

10 I have a couple of comments that I would
11 like to address, these are comments made earlier or

9.24.10 Transcripts

12 comments made in the media.

13 In terms of revisiting the Energy Master
14 Plan, we believe that in order to accomplish energy
15 efficiency goals and renewable energy goals, 85 has
16 been a consensus by experts throughout the world
17 that indicate that the unit cost of energy, say
18 dollar per kilowatt hour, has to go up while we aim
19 to lower the total cost on a monthly or yearly
20 basis, which means we will pay more for the kilowatt
21 hour but consume less.

22 How do we consume less? Through energy
23 efficiency, through conservation, with renewable
24 energy generation.

25 But if the unit energy cost is dirt cheap,

75

1 it becomes a very tough economic formula. If the
2 unit energy cost is increased, people will be self-
3 incentivised to weatherize their homes and install
4 renewable energy.

5 The other thing we would like to highlight
6 is, we are very much for local manufacturing and
7 local sourcing and coupling consumption with local
8 manufacturing.

9 The reference to the 6-X multiplier can go
10 up to 11-X, by the way, in some scenarios, 6-X is
11 kind of the median, but if we think about the
12 following: whatever percentage, if 1 percent or 5
13 percent of the total cost of energy is allocated
14 towards renewable credits, SRECs or other forms,
15 think about channeling that money to be invested in
16 the local economy, if the number is, say, fifteen

9.24.10 Transcripts

17 billion over ten or fifteen years, if we manage to
18 invest that locally then you are getting ninety
19 billion dollars of economic value.

20 I think that is an area we should revisit
21 in the Energy Master Plan, how to create jobs. We
22 know politically this was--in the last year or two
23 because of the recession jobs were key to any
24 elected officials or appointed officials, so the
25 people spoke on jobs.

76

1 We have the means to channel the positive
2 energy we have for renewable and create more jobs by
3 focusing on local manufacturing

4 One last comment about the four year
5 payback. 85 was a question asked earlier, why
6 should anyone pay for a system that pays for itself
7 in four years?

8 I would say that's an invalid argument
9 that you have an investment that pays it back in
10 four years. The market will regulate itself, you
11 will have other investors who come in.

12 And then let's take the SREC component,
13 which is market driven in price. If that's paid back
14 we will get a lot more investments in solar and the
15 SREC value will go down and the market will balance
16 itself.

17 So I can possibly double my money from the
18 stock market over a year or two, that doesn't mean
19 that the valuation of that company will continue to
20 go up forever, so economically it would not be a

21 valid argument.

22 Thank you.

23 PRESIDENT SOLOMON: Thank you.

24 We are going to take a five minute break

25 and we will be back.

77

1 (Short recess.)

2 PRESIDENT SOLOMON: Let's get started
3 again.

4 Yes, sir.

5 MR. WALSKI : President Solomon,
6 Commissioners and Staff, my name is Bill Walski.

7 We will be submitting formal comments for
8 your consideration so I will very quickly summarize
9 some of the key elements that we think should be
10 under consideration for the Energy Master Plan
11 discussion.

12 Four main pillars: The first three, energy
13 efficiency, renewables, clean central station
14 power, form the basis of PSE&G's response to
15 climate. The crux of those three pieces we have been
16 talking about for close to four years now as the
17 method and the strategy that we believe make most
18 sense to address the climate change issues that are
19 before are.

20 The fourth piece is retaining reliability
21 and supply adequacy at a fair price for New Jersey.
22 That includes the BGS construct, taking advantage of
23 PJM.

24 And with respect to energy efficiency,
25 three million buildings by 2020, close to three

1 hundred thousand a year, we have seen and with the
2 Board's efforts in some of the filings that we have
3 had that we are putting close to a thousand people
4 to work in energy efficiency through two main
5 programs, our EEE filing as well as our carbon
6 abatement fund.

7 And despite all of the best efforts of
8 everyone involved we still see folks are somewhat
9 reluctant in doing energy efficiency. It has a
10 wonderful payback, if you are a residential customer
11 you are going to get four dollars back for every
12 dollar you put into the project, and eleven dollars
13 for every dollar that you put into the project if
14 you are a commercial industrial customer.

15 What is holding it up, why are we having
16 such difficulty?

17 Part of it is with the capital, clearly
18 with the economy over the last couple of years,
19 sometimes we need to change the investors, and I
20 think some of the programs that have been approved
21 by the Board have put the utilities in the role to
22 act as the investors.

23 With the thousand jobs in the programs
24 that we have, six of the eight programs that were
25 approved in our EEE filing were in fact aimed at

1 commercial-industrial, we have three wildly
2 successful programs, the hospital program which is

3 oversubscribed by a factor of two.

4 We also have, I have heard something
5 earlier about the multi-family program we have which
6 is also very successful.

7 The third piece is the government
8 non-profit.

9 They are the three most successful
10 programs that we have had thus far to date.

11 We would like to see those kinds of
12 efforts continue. We think that represents the
13 least cost method for controlling consumption and
14 low-range demand..

15 With respect to renewables, the forty
16 megawatt project that was talked about by the CEO
17 of Petra Solar is the solar for all programs, that
18 segment of PSE&G is the solar for all programs that
19 the Board has approved, it is the largest in the
20 nation, and I would like to think that the
21 partnership between Petra Solar and New Jersey and
22 PSE&G have helped that company branch out and look
23 for other opportunities across the country.

24 Keep their headquarters here, you have
25 heard the numbers about the way they have been able

80

1 to grow this company, we would like to see that
2 across not just the renewable supply chain but the
3 nuclear chain because that's the third leg we have
4 as to what's the the most important clean central
5 station power.

6 When you peel back the onion of the data
7 received by Rutgers with respect to the assumptions

9.24.10 Transcripts

8 that they're going to be looking at for the Energy
9 Master Plan, when you peel back the baseload
10 assumptions there is considerable growth, has been
11 considerable growth in baseload needs.

12 What is the most efficient and effective
13 technology to take care of baseload needs for the
14 State of New Jersey?

15 We believe that is nuclear. We are
16 looking at that very hard. We have not made a final
17 decision. We are exploring those options with the
18 NRC.

19 When we are talking about the ability to
20 produce carbon free power over ninety percent of the
21 time and the jobs impact, depending on the
22 technology that you choose you are looking at
23 somewhere between five to seven hundred permanent
24 high-paying jobs in the State of New Jersey, and the
25 construction job component is on the order of

81

1 twenty-five hundred on average and close to four
2 thousand peak construction jobs.

3 So we clearly believe that nuclear would
4 have to be a component of what is in the discussion
5 and the debate over the next round of the Energy
6 Master Plan.

7 A couple of other things that I would
8 caution you to keep in mind when we are discussing
9 the Plan going forward.

10 Earlier I heard things about pull by wires
11 and there was some reference to the

12 Susquehanna-Roseland project, which is a
13 reliability project mandated by PJM.

14 The pull by wire analysis is the case of
15 me saying since the tail end of the connection of
16 Susquehanna-Roseland is at the Susquehanna nuclear
17 station switching yard, I could say it is all
18 nuclear, but neither of those statements are
19 accurate.

20 The fact of the matter is that whatever
21 is in the system is going to get on the wire. I
22 would urge you to look at the queue, the PJM queue
23 going forward. While a lot of what's in there
24 doesn't get built but that's the way the system
25 works, you've got close to fifty percent renewables,

82

1 so renewables is such a high percentage of what's in
2 the queue, so you need to keep that in mind.

3 PRESIDENT SOLOMON: Would you agree that
4 to the extent that we are importing energy into New
5 Jersey from other places, Pennsylvania, Virginia,
6 wherever, that we are to some extent, I would
7 estimate a substantial extent, but I could be wrong
8 on that, importing energy that is produced in a way
9 that is not necessarily clean energy, it is coal, it
10 is other sources that are not necessarily in keeping
11 with what our goals are; would you agree with that,
12 or disagree?

13 MR. WALSKI: You are getting the market-
14 basket of the units available for PJM to dispatch.

15 If you look at the carbon dioxide
16 signature on average in PJM, it is something like

9.24.10 Transcripts

17 twelve hundred pounds per megawatt hour.

18 If you look at New Jersey, it is seven
19 hundred fifty, eight hundred pounds per megawatt
20 hour, largely because more than half the energy in
21 the State is being generated from nuclear sources.

22 PRESIDENT SOLOMON: I guess the answer
23 is that you would agree?

24 MR. WALSKI: Yes, to a point I would agree.

25 As we evaluate technology, whether

83

1 traditional or renewables, as we go forward, let's
2 keep in mind when we do these analyses that a
3 baseload plant like nuclear is going to run ninety
4 plus percent of the time, wind or solar runs
5 significantly less than that by three or four or
6 five or seven, depending on how you want to view
7 those, so we need to really in having this
8 discussion put all that in context so that we have
9 an apples to apples comparison going forward.

10 One other piece, we talked about supply
11 chain issues.

12 With respect to nuclear you will find
13 fifty companies in New Jersey that are somewhere
14 operating in the nuclear supply chain. Wouldn't
15 that be a wonderful thing if we could do that for
16 renewables, if we could do that for energy efficiency?

17 Some of the things that
18 I've heard in the discussion yesterday and over the
19 past couple of weeks is let's find a way to chase
20 that supply chain and bring them over here, and I

21 think that that would be not only in the best
22 interests of New Jersey ratepayers but our entire
23 State.

24 Thank you very much and any questions I
25 will be happy to respond in the continuing debate,

84

1 PRESIDENT SOLOMON: Thank you.

2 The gentleman in the back, all of the way
3 in the back?

4 MR. PARVEY: Good morning, President
5 Solomon, Commissioner, Chief Executive Officer and
6 Chief Counsel of the Governor's office, Staff, my
7 name is Ben Parvey, I am CEO of Blue Sky Power.

8 I want to tell you about a small New
9 Jersey company that was founded two years ago as the
10 world's economic markets were crumbling and it
11 wasn't exactly the best time to start a business.

12 On October 20, 2008, we formed our company
13 as a New Jersey LLC, we walked away from a
14 Philadelphia law firm after graduating five years
15 prior from Rutgers Law School in Camden and made the
16 decision to start a clean energy project,
17 development company, approximately three years
18 prior, we worked on our business plan.

19 My partner, also a Rutgers grad, an
20 attorney, worked on our business plan for about a
21 year, followed the New Jersey policies, looked at
22 other states, and made the decision to locate in New
23 Jersey, obviously taking jobs out of Pennsylvania and
24 into New Jersey for a small New Jersey company.

25 So in October of 2008 we formed the

1 company.

2 In November, a month later, my first son
3 was born, and my partner, already having a two year
4 old, walked away from his firm as well.

5 Within that first month of operation we
6 had our first contract, worked on a 1.2 megawatt
7 solar project at the Masonic home in Burlington
8 Township, followed closely 85after by other projects
9 including a four hundred kilowatt project at
10 Georgian Court University.

11 We have done project development advisory
12 services, drafted RFPs for Cherry Hill Township's
13 hundred kilowatt project under State and Federal
14 grants.

15 We are currently advising Gloucester
16 Township under our new Master Plan, our new Energy
17 Master Plan under a USD0E grant, and we have
18 multiple other projects that we are doing, we have
19 been hired by Aqua New Jersey to look at doing solar
20 at their site, we were just hired very recently by
21 Trump Resorts, we are looking to do a project at
22 Trump Taj Mahal.

23 Other municipalities and school districts
24 that we are doing projects for are a 1.5 megawatt
25 project for the Central Regional School District in

1 Ocean County in Bayville.

2 And we are also moving across the river,

9.24.10 Transcripts

3 we are doing a 1.3 megawatt project at the Tioga
4 Marine Terminal in Philadelphia and that's with a
5 1.2 million dollar grant from the Commonwealth of
6 Pennsylvania, Lower Providence Township project in
7 Pennsylvania, similar to Cherry Hill and Gloucester
8 Township, under DOE grants for developing projects
9 at the town facility as well as the schools.

10 The point in all this is that we are doing
11 everything that we are supposed to be doing. We
12 opened in the Rutgers Business Incubator in Camden,
13 wanting to support economic development and economic
14 growth not only within the State of New Jersey but
15 specifically in the City of Camden because as
16 Rutgers Camden grads we wanted to develop the City
17 and cooperate with the goals of having private money
18 as opposed to having State money pouring into the
19 City.

20 We drive in the City every day, I love
21 being there at the EDA Waterfront Technology Center
22 and we are now moving in two weeks out of the
23 Rutgers Incubator up to the fourth floor to be
24 direct tenants.

25 We are moving up there with an

87

1 architectural and engineering firm that we have been
2 collaborating with on some of these projects, they
3 do some of the renderings and designs for the
4 projects that we are doing. Those are solar
5 projects.

6 During that period of time, we are talking
7 about two years, next month we will celebrate our

9.24.10 Transcripts

8 two year anniversary, since then we now have another
9 baby who is now four months old, Henry, and my
10 partner also now has a seven month old.

11 Brad, who is our EVP, is here in the back,
12 during that period of time also has had two twins
13 and has a five year old, another one of our partners
14 has two children in the Cherry Hill School and a
15 third, an eight year old boy.

16 We are New Jersey families working in this
17 industry and walked away from other other businesses
18 to start a renewable energy development company
19 based upon the goals of the Energy Master Plan.

20 In talking about revising that Plan, the
21 arguments are being made about trying to bring down
22 those values in order to have less impact on the
23 rate base and also the argument is being made that
24 we are losing jobs in New Jersey because of the
25 rate base for the Societal Benefits Charge, and if

88

1 we bring REC prices down that will then have
2 lessened the impact on ratepayers.

3 I get that argument, it makes some amount
4 of sense to make the argument, but it is not valid
5 because at the same time you would also be losing
6 some of the jobs that are being created specifically
7 based on that structure that's already in place.

8 We exist and are developing these projects
9 based on negotiating long-term contracts and showing
10 net cash flows for our clients, and we are not doing
11 just PPAs but operating leases, bond issuances for

9.24.10 Transcripts

12 governmental entities based on the current REC
13 market.

14 You asked earlier, some are spot, some are
15 under long-term agreements.

16 If you bring REC values down it's
17 actually okay provided that the securitization
18 programs that worked so well, the REC0 program is
19 actually wonderful, we just got two other projects,
20 a private school in Short Hills submitted under the
21 last solicitation, and we also submitted an
22 affordable housing facility in Brick that hired us
23 to develop their project, they use affordable
24 housing tax credits.

25 We are also helping them use renewable

89

1 energy tax credits. We are combining some of those
2 new market tax credits in different places in the
3 State that qualify for new market tax credits.

4 We're bringing innovative finance
5 structures to deploy capital in New Jersey.

6 I am flying out to San Francisco next week
7 to meet with three different PPA providers that are
8 doing three of our projects that are actively under
9 development or currently under construction because
10 those California companies are putting capital into
11 New Jersey. I am going to meet with each of the
12 CEOs of those companies to discuss those projects,
13 moving them forward more quickly and to get an
14 update on current construction of those projects.

15 I am in New York or D.C. once a week or
16 every other week, I was in D.C. earlier this week

9.24.10 Transcripts

17 discussing different investment routes for capital
18 into New Jersey. There is a significant influx that
19 we're negotiating every day of capital into this
20 State.

21 Some of the arguments that we are losing
22 jobs based on having higher rates that we want to
23 bring down somewhat by decreasing SREC prices is not
24 a valid argument.

25 Under the current structure you are

90

1 creating jobs in New Jersey, you are bringing in
2 money from out of state and even from out of the
3 country.

4 One of those projects, the PPA requires,
5 they don't deploy the capital directly, it is
6 financed by West LB which is a big German bank.
7 That German bank is deploying capital in New Jersey
8 projects.

9 I get the argument; however, I think we
10 are already creating jobs under the current market.
11 If you want to decrease SREC prices a little bit,
12 it's fine, but make sure that the ten year, seven,
13 fifteen year securitization programs are bolstered,
14 that they go forward and are authorized for a long
15 period of time so we have predictability.

16 Having this discussion right now scares me
17 a little bit because we are going into closings on a
18 few different projects because some of those are
19 load serving entities that are entering into seven
20 year contracts and they may start getting cold feet

21 if they start thinking that they don't really have
22 to supply and execute these agreements, but they are
23 at lower prices for the contracts so that makes
24 sense.

25 One other point about, I think it was made

91

1 on Wednesday about different types of RECs that
2 encourage other types of renewables. The solar
3 carve-out, the solar renewable energy certificate I
4 think was a great experiment that bolstered New
5 Jersey's program and put it at the forefront of
6 clean energy in the nation.

7 Doing those programs for combined heat
8 and power we think is absolutely wonderful. If you
9 start having REC programs for combined heat and
10 power and other Tier I renewables and biomass and
11 combined heat and power, it is going to bolster
12 those markets as well.

13 So I fully support that approach of coming
14 up with REC markets for different types of
15 renewables because I think that's a positive step as
16 well, assuming that's at a level that helps get
17 those projects to get financing and built.

18 In conclusion, the current market in New
19 Jersey is supporting New Jersey families and has
20 brought money in from out-of-state, out of the
21 country, into New Jersey, and helped people walk
22 away from other careers to support clean energy in
23 New Jersey.

24 Thank you for supporting New Jersey
25 families and hopefully you will keep these programs

1 in tack.

2 COMMISSIONER FOX: Thanks for the comments.

3 I have two questions. Lower SRECs, can you give us
4 a sense of how that is working, because my feel of
5 this is that you would not have all these projects
6 except for the SRECs being out there in the market.

7 MR. PARVEY: I think that program is
8 absolutely wonderful and that program is helping
9 projects based on it.

10 I say that based on those projects that we
11 submit for that, I guess we have four projects that
12 have been submitted, the first one, Georgian Court
13 University, locked prices at about four hundred
14 dollars under a ten year contract, the California
15 equity fund that's financing that project, that
16 project would never get done without having a
17 securitized revenue stream, a securitized revenue
18 stream is obviously the flow of funds out of a Power
19 Purchase Agreement, but also the ten year contract
20 under the SREC with a utility company.

21 So you have underlying credit of a
22 long-standing university as well as a utility.

23 Another project, the Central Regional
24 School District, again, the contract is for four
25 hundred for a ten year period, that project is

1 getting financed very similarly. Those projects
2 would not get done without the ten year contract in

9.24.10 Transcripts

3 place.

4 For small businesses that want to invest
5 in these projects and don't necessarily need a
6 securitized revenue to get the projects financed,
7 they may want to go spot market.

8 For almost all of our projects we deal
9 with the institutional scale, primarily five hundred
10 kilowatts up to multi megawatts, and those
11 projects, you know, generally have a Power Purchase
12 Agreement and require a contract to get done, so we
13 just submitted for two for the upcoming round
14 including affordable housing facilities, Chambers
15 for its Residences in Brick, which is an
16 outstanding affordable housing facility that does
17 very well in Brick, and they are going to own and
18 operate it, they have positive cash flow and have a
19 surplus, they are going to finance it themselves,
20 but they want to be in that program because when
21 going and closing on financing they would rather
22 show a ten year cash flow with securitizing.

23 It's really effective. I don't know why
24 there would be any problem getting projects in it,
25 but we will put all of the projects that we can into

94

1 it.

2 COMMISSIONER FOX: Do you have anything to
3 say about the SREC prices now, why they are there,
4 do think they are going to come down over the
5 next five years; what are your thoughts?

6 MR. PARVEY: Well, SREC prices are where
7 they are now based on the SACP, so it is legislative

9.24.10 Transcripts

8 and regulatory, the reason those prices are where
9 they are.

10 They seem to be fluctuating, I mean
11 obviously we are going to be closing on financing
12 for some of these projects, and as folks are
13 conducting due diligence from afar, you know, a bank
14 in New York or an equity fund in California, and
15 they are asking for my analysis on the REC market
16 and at any given time based upon different
17 requirements of people who have to comply with SACP,
18 you know. sometimes they are higher, sometimes
19 they are five hundred and sometimes they are nearly
20 six hundred.

21 They may be high but, again, for most of
22 the projects to get done there is--we run thirty
23 year pro formas on our projects, we generally tell
24 people how they can finance the project, whether it
25 be through tax exempt bonds for governmental, clean

95

1 renewable energy bonds, operating leases, power
2 purchase agreements.

3 In those cash flows we show them a
4 conservative approach of what REC prices are
5 generally discounting them significantly, but there
6 is a place at which projects work based on the
7 current pricing of the systems and labor. That
8 price is approximately in the mid to really high
9 three hundreds to the mid-four hundreds, that's why
10 I say a ten year project, they allow projects to get
11 financing and still allow investors to get their

12 yield or allow adequate debt coverage for people who
13 are self-financing.

14 So there is a very specific range in
15 which SREC prices can be to allow projects to get
16 financing, it's not in the six hundreds, so, yes,
17 they can come down, I hate to say that because
18 people in the industry may get annoyed with me, but
19 to be truthful, there is a range at which SREC
20 prices could come down to get institutional scale
21 projects done and that really is in the high to mid-
22 three hundreds to mid-four hundreds.

23 Thank you.

24 PRESIDENT SOLOMON: Thank you.

25 Yes, sir?

96

1 MR. TITTEL: Thank you, Mr. President.

2 I am Jeff Tittel, Director of the New
3 Jersey Sierra Club.

4 I just want to start out and say that we
5 are glad to be here to testify and we will be
6 submitting written comments.

7 I think what comes out of this process
8 will have a lot to do in shaping the future of New
9 Jersey. Energy policy is something that can also
10 grow our economy, create very good jobs, while
11 protecting the environment, and it has collateral
12 benefits, not only do you help lower our carbon
13 footprint through a strong Energy Master Plan that
14 promotes energy efficiency but you also deal with a
15 lot of collateral pollutants like mercury and nitric
16 oxide and many others.

9.24.10 Transcripts

17 But the important part of it is that this
18 should be our future, that the jobs that we can
19 create by having strong goals for renewable energy
20 as well as using energy efficiency are really the
21 key to our economic growth in the future.

22 It does two things besides providing for
23 technological innovation, what we are seeing
24 happening is that all over New Jersey there are a
25 lot of companies coming in and doing that, New

97

1 Jersey is one of the top states in the country in
2 attracting venture capital for solar energy.

3 But we do have deficiencies, we have not
4 created enough manufacturing jobs, and I think
5 that's something that we really need to work on.

6 As people know, one of my biggest
7 frustrations has been that if you look out of the
8 window here you can see the Gamasa (phonetic) plant
9 in Pennsylvania that should be on this side of the
10 river.

11 I think as we go forward we must maintain
12 goals for renewable energy and add the new
13 technologies as they become more available such as
14 geothermal, micro-hydro and others.

15 We also must work for a more robust Class
16 II because those technologies will help encourage
17 baseload until renewables can meet enough baseload.

18 We believe that off-shore wind is the most
19 cost effective available form of renewable energy.
20 The further out we go the more sustainable the winds

21 and, therefore, the more off-shore winds become
22 baseload. We do not have energy storage systems yet
23 and some of the other things that we need, so it's
24 critical then to make sure that the Class II's are
25 robust and combined heat and power, of course, is a

98

1 part of that.

2 Last week I got to testify, not testify,
3 but speak in front of the Chemical Council, the
4 point that I went there to talk to them about was
5 energy and the high cost that they pay.

6 And one of the things that a lot of those
7 facilities already have is the ability to combine
8 heat and power, the ability to add to their ware-
9 houses and other facilities solar and develop wind
10 because many of them are in coastal areas. So one
11 of the keys for economic growth in this State is
12 through renewable energy. It's also a way of
13 helping our major industries to get off the grid and
14 become self-sufficient. In fact many of them
15 could produce extra electricity into the grid which
16 will not only lower their energy costs but give them
17 an extra source of revenue.

18 And that's why it is so critical that we
19 maintain strong goals in renewable technology.

20 We also believe that energy efficiency is
21 critical. It has not been as robust as we had
22 hoped. Hopefully as the budget situation improves
23 that the funds that were originally allocated to go
24 into those areas can then go back into those areas
25 to help create new jobs because, again, It not only

1 creates jobs but it also encourages a lot of private
2 investment.

3 When someone buys a high energy efficient
4 furnace they put most of their own money into it and
5 then they get a rebate, and when people put energy
6 efficiency into their homes they get small grants
7 and they add a lot of their own money, and that
8 also increases the value of their homes.

9 We have great potential in this State and
10 the Energy Master Plan is really the guiding
11 renewable light in that direction.

12 We also have some concerns. One is that
13 we believe that nuclear power, given its extremely
14 high cost and its extremely long timeframe to build,
15 should not be an option. We have existing
16 facilities and they should be here for as long as
17 they can be licensed and be safe, and I think for
18 many of them that's a long time, but we should make
19 sure when we look at nuclear power as an option that
20 we understand the cost and how long-term it will be
21 to build a facility.

22 The facility being built on the eastern
23 shore of Maryland is fifteen hundred megawatts, and
24 it's gone from ten billion to fifteen to seventeen
25 and now it's close to twenty billion dollars to

100

1 build, and it's behind schedule.

2 We also know that because of the demand

3 world-wide, in China where they are building nuclear
4 power plants there is a long-term backlog to get
5 that type of steel. The only steel mills that
6 actually build that type of steel are in Korea and
7 Japan and they have a five to ten year backlog,
8 depending on the type of steel you are looking for,
9 plus the time it takes to build.

10 So you may go down that path but you will
11 find out that it takes fifteen to twenty years
12 to get a plant like that on-line, and with cost
13 overruns it wouldn't be cost effective, and that
14 doesn't include some of the nuclear waste issues and
15 some of the other issues that are also of concern
16 and the fact that they want to fill in hundreds of
17 acres in that process.

18 We also believe that as part of moving
19 energy forward in this State we need to overcome a
20 lot of regulatory hurdles, we have to be very
21 critical of the DEP's new coastal rules which make
22 it easier to put a casino on a pier than a windmill
23 and block many important parts of the State from
24 renewable energy.

25 We have tremendous assets in New Jersey

101

1 when it comes to wind and solar and we need to make
2 sure that we can really get these things done.

3 Again, I think we need to look at where we
4 are economically and realize that this is the way
5 that we can grow our future.

6 When it comes to generation we have a lot
7 of potential with renewable and combined heat and

9.24.10 Transcripts

8 power. One of the concerns I do share with the
9 President is that many of these lines that are
10 coming in from the West that are being proposed will
11 be bringing in dirtier power. There was a FERC
12 meeting in West Virginia in two 2005 where they
13 actually said that we need to bring more lines in
14 the East so that we can sell coal power from here
15 over there, and on the back of the western end of
16 the Susquehanna-Roseland line there are actually
17 proposals for two coal plants which the Sierra Club
18 is fighting there, I think we're going to stop them,
19 but that is a real concern.

20 Also many of these lines are going to
21 become pass-throughs, that is they are not really
22 going to help to insure New Jersey's energy future
23 but York and Long Island.

24 We also need to take an overall look at
25 natural gas. Currently, and the Sierra Club is a

102

1 big supporter of gas, we think it is a gap fuel
2 until the renewables may be in full place twenty or
3 thirty years down the road, but it will be around
4 for a long time.

5 Currently there are proposals for numerous
6 gas lines, LNG, and the question that we have is
7 that we really need to figure out what facilities
8 are necessary to meet New Jersey's and the region's
9 needs and not to have a lot of speculative lines
10 coming forward or proposals coming forward that will
11 undermine our energy goals and actually end up

9.24.10 Transcripts

12 hurting our long-term energy needs, because if there
13 are five or six gas lines coming in, and we don't
14 need that much gas, the region does, what happens?
15 Three LNG proposals, do we need any of them if we
16 have so much domestic gas?

17 I think that's what we have to look at as
18 part of this plan, to try to target and understand
19 what do we need and how do we get there?

20 In conclusion I think that hopefully as
21 you do a reexamination of the Energy Master Plan
22 you look to strengthen it, add new technologies,
23 come up with recommendations to actually help make
24 renewable energy more viable, help encourage
25 combined heat and power so that we can grow our

103

1 economy and long-term lower our energy costs
2 because, again, with renewables long-term they
3 will be cheaper because we are not buying fuel
4 everywhere, and make sure that we have a sustainable
5 economy to protect our environment.

6 Thank you.

7 PRESIDENT SOLOMON: Thank you.

8 Let me just ask, there have been a lot of
9 advocacy comments this morning, and what we really
10 need for the Energy Master Plan is information. I
11 know that there are a lot of people that are
12 representing advocacy groups, and we understand the
13 advocacy positions, we get the advocacy and get the
14 positions and what they advocate for, but what we
15 need is the information that will lead us to the
16 conclusion that we want to reach; advocacy is useful

9.24.10 Transcripts

17 but it's not what we need to develop the Energy
18 Master Plan. I throw that out as a caution.

19 If you have some information that you can
20 give us, please come up.

21 MR. YAPPEN: My name is Scott Yappen. I
22 don't belong to an advocacy group, I can hardly
23 say that, and I hope that I can provide some
24 information.

25 I represent no particular group, but

104

1 certainly I'm with those who are pro combined heat
2 and power, for those programs that stimulate CHP.

3 My professional experience is that I work
4 for Veolia Energy North America based out of
5 Trenton, Veolia is the world's largest district
6 energy cogeneration owner and operator, and we
7 provide thermal energy in downtown Trenton, for
8 example, with also district energy plants in Philly,
9 Boston, Baltimore and hundreds more around the
10 globe.

11 Previously I worked for the Caterpillar
12 dealer in Piscataway, Foley Caterpillar, they are in
13 the business of providing advanced reciprocating
14 internal combustion engines and gas turbines.

15 They I worked on several one to ten
16 megawatt combined heating and power projects
17 designed and installed during my six years in New
18 Jersey, for example, major pharmaceutical
19 manufacturers in New Jersey, hospitals, Landfill Gas
20 to Energy, and one of my favorite, Davis Energy,

21 I also facilitate a link-pin.com group
22 called New Jersey On-Site Power and Distributive
23 Generation which many in this room are members of
24 and who voice their opinions there. I strongly
25 recommend that to anyone who is interested in

105

1 I learning more about this.

2 We need to return to programs no longer
3 available such as the BPU Retail Margin Fund which
4 saw the removal of sixty million dollars for CHP.

5 There is an eighteen million dollar ARA
6 backed program that just came into New Jersey
7 through the EBA, which is great. Unfortunately,
8 that's about it.

9 So we don't have REC type programs, but we
10 should.

11 And I want to give some information just
12 based on CHP that might be of use to you just from
13 my background.

14 CHP when compared with business as usual
15 offers incredible supply side energy efficiency,
16 carbon footprint and greenhouse gas reduction and it
17 stimulates job retention in New Jersey.

18 CHP is also known as cogeneration,
19 combined heating, cooling and power, for example,
20 combustion turbines and reciprocating engines,
21 fuels, biomass, biofuels and other fuels are used
22 for these projects.

23 CHP is an energy supply side alternative
24 for New Jersey facilities to augment the consumption
25 of utility electric power and on-site heating and

1 cooling, which is typically only about forty to
2 fifty percent energy efficient combined and has a
3 large carbon footprint, for example, for those power
4 utilities that are providing coal produced power.

5 CHP and other distributive generation
6 supply side technologies like solar and wind, which
7 I applaud as well, I think it is great, I think
8 there should be a mixed bag; I think maybe you
9 noticed that already.

10 We reduced the need for low energy
11 efficient and high air polluting power plants with
12 CHP. CHP emissions are well within the New Jersey
13 DEP requirements for carbon monoxide, air
14 pollutants, et cetera. There are well defined rules
15 that we have to meet on each one of these projects.

16 I believe the air pollution issue is
17 important, but it is limited based on the emissions
18 reduction technology that we are able to use at
19 these facilities.

20 CHP offers very low installed cost when
21 compared with other technologies that have been
22 spoken about today, low cost when compared with
23 alternative renewable sources like solar and wind.
24 For example, CHP can be designed, engineered and
25 installed, et cetera, for less than two dollars a

1 watt or two thousand dollars a kW.

2 I think someone earlier today mentioned

3 projects for five dollars a watt for solar, just as
4 an example, but I'm not an expert on what other
5 technologies cost, but I do know that CHP is low on
6 that.

7 Energy savings from CHP plants, they have
8 traditionally an R.O. line five year period or
9 less, and extremely less if we're able to return
10 some of the incentive based grants, loans that have
11 been available in the past.

12 CHP nurtures private side investment.
13 I'm not sure of the exact amount, but I have seen
14 many different estimates that for every one dollar
15 of public investment in CHP there is over five
16 dollars of private side investment. I think that's
17 an important differentiator for CHP versus other
18 technologies.

19 CHP offers direct job creation, set
20 securitization, retention, whatever word you want
21 to use, with temporary jobs in construction, pipe-
22 fitters, electricians, engineers and other
23 contractors, but more importantly, permanent jobs
24 like plant operators, like we have here in Trenton,
25 maintenance and other support personnel.

108

1 Indirectly, jobs are created, CHP
2 generates energy savings for those facilities that
3 operate them and they are able to retain those jobs
4 here in New Jersey and offset the high cost of
5 energy that causes them to make decisions to move
6 away from New Jersey.

7 Also equipment used to produce power in
Page 92

9.24.10 Transcripts

8 thermal generation plants are often times products
9 made in this country. For example, Caterpillar
10 makes everything in this country as do many other
11 companies. I heard the mention of Chinese
12 manufacturing earlier; I'm getting very tired of
13 reading about almost everything I buy, "Made in
14 China."

15 I applaud New Jersey for its emphasis on
16 alternatives, I think CHP is a great option
17 alternatively for business as usual to bridge our
18 energy future going forward, especially in the next
19 ten years when we have a lot of problems with cost
20 per kW alternative technology.

21 I think we have given it a good run here
22 in the last few years with incentives for other
23 renewable technology. I think now is the time for
24 combining heating and power.

25 It makes sense to continue the EDA, BPU

109

1 and other programs as to CHP and I encourage you to
2 be a champion for CHP going forward.

3 COMMISSIONER FOX: Can you give us some
4 values as to combined heat and power, If you have
5 any documents would you please submit them?

6 MR. YAPPEN: Sure.

7 MR. JUNG: Good morning, President Solomon,
8 Commissioner Fox, senior Staff of the BPU for the
9 Energy Master Plan.

10 My name is Michael Jung, and I'm the
11 Director of Public Policy for a company called

12 Silver Spring Networks.

13 We provide Smart Grid technology and
14 services for utilities that serve one in five U.S.
15 households today.

16 We have heard a lot over the past few
17 workshops about all of the things that people want,
18 we want to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to
19 address climate change, we want to keep our
20 renewable program active and maintain leadership in
21 solar and off-shore wind, we want to increase our
22 energy efficiency, and we want to do it in a way
23 that addresses both demand-response, to reduce the
24 peak capacity requirements, and we want to do it in
25 a way that engages consumers.

110

1 Engaging consumers, I would encourage, is
2 an underestimated resource. There are only so many
3 things that you as government officials can do.
4 Engaging consumers to pick up the rest of the slack,
5 to become active participants in the energy system I
6 believe is a valuable option that you ought to
7 consider.

8 One of the things that you haven't heard
9 about is that electric vehicles are on the way, and
10 that the electric system today is poorly equipped to
11 address that.

12 PRESIDENT SOLOMON: We have heard that.

13 MR. JUNG: You have heard that.

14 We know that New Jersey needs to remain a
15 competitive state economically, and reliability is a
16 key factor in that equation; maintaining an electric

9.24.10 Transcripts

17 system that is there when you need it and is as
18 reliable as it needs to be is first and foremost.

19 At the end of the day, as you are well
20 aware, jobs is what is at stake, creating an
21 environment, an infrastructure that is reliable and
22 affordable is what's at stake.

23 What I would encourage you as a common
24 thread to acknowledge between all of these different
25 ends is that there is a common thread, a common

111

1 platform and foundation between all of these, and
2 that is the Smart Grid.

3 The Smart Grid as a technology platform
4 enables all those things to be done and be done
5 together as opposed to separately.

6 Sure, you can do meters and you can have
7 Smart Meters and you can have an LCD display and
8 someone can walk outside and read it, but what good
9 is an LCD display if you still have to walk outside
10 in the cold?

11 With a communication network that enables
12 that information to be communicated back to the
13 utility, and perhaps even more importantly, made
14 accessible to the consumer so they can see it on an
15 in-home display or through some sort of consumer web
16 portal, turns that data into useful information.

17 And that same communication platform if it
18 is built on open and inter-operable and above all
19 secure standards sets us up with a foundation to
20 which we can connect distributed generation,

21 electric vehicles, energy storage, automated
22 switches and to improve our reliability and all
23 manner of other technologies that today are largely
24 manually operated analog and electro-mechanically.

25 I would advocate that the Energy Master

112

1 Plan consider the Smart Grid as a part of New
2 Jersey's energy future, to do it built on open,
3 inter-operable and secure technology to make sure
4 everything can be connected and to do it in such a
5 wait that engages consumers to become active rather
6 than passive participants in our energy future.

7 PRESIDENT SOLOMON: Thank you.

8 MR. JOHN: Good morning. My name is Anna
9 Selvan John.

10 My entire life I have been doing solar.
11 I have two Masters, one PhD. I have spent a lot of
12 my time in New Jersey working on solar so I have a
13 lot of experience in various aspects of solar, but
14 there is something very significant in New Jersey
15 that needs to be considered.

16 Last week there was a research report
17 which has come out which showed that in 2050 five
18 thousand gigawatts of energy is going be used from
19 solar, which is ninety percent of the whole
20 production-- excuse me, sixty percent, so it's
21 getting stronger and stronger with solar, as to all
22 of the clean energies solar is incomparable, it is
23 really clean power, but I think most of us know
24 that.

25 There are two major technologies being used

1 for solar, and both of them are in New Jersey, but
2 none of the companies that produce panels are in New
3 Jersey, that's a sad fact. The third generation of
4 solar panels are manufactured in Switzerland.

5 In 2005 we started a company here
6 called NanoPV with the hope of making, manufacturing
7 right here. The reality is the difference in the
8 cost is so big so we have to depend on manufacturing
9 in other countries other than in New Jersey.

10 It is that.

11 It is vital that the manufacturing be done
12 in the U.S. but we don't know how to do it. If
13 you take any solar system, more than sixty percent
14 of the cost involved in the solar system is the
15 solar panel itself, but that's not done here.

16 So the real people who are working on
17 solar are not here, you make policies on SRECs, but
18 they are not going to be here.

19 So we started in 2005 because it is very
20 convenient here and today we still have to depend
21 upon our Asian manufacturers.

22 So what should be the solution for that?
23 I know that there was some incentives in the SRECs,
24 but it is easily -- I mean the cost of manufacturing
25 in Asia is more than sixty cents per watt less than

1 what we are making in New Jersey.

2 But as we observe in other countries what

3 is happening, in Canada in Ontario they ask for
4 forty percent local contracts if you have a solar
5 system, in Thailand, Taiwan, the Asian countries,
6 it's one hundred percent in their own countries.

7 I just spent the past few months in
8 India. India has around twenty gigawatts of solar
9 power program, but all the panels should be made in
10 India, so they have no connection with the rest of
11 the world.

12 It is not only India, it's happening in
13 many other countries, so it is too big to ignore,
14 the manufacturing should be happening here, and
15 there is no compromise about that. It doesn't have
16 to be expensive. In fact, the cost of solar system
17 today, what we have in the United States is double
18 the cost of what we have in other countries so it is
19 artificial.

20 If we do the manufacturing here the cost
21 will come down dramatically, so it's something to
22 consider.

23 I have not come here, this is my first
24 time, but when you make the policy it has to be good
25 for people who can do that kind of thing.

115

1 So the major portion of the cost of
2 solar panels is the manufacturing, and New Jersey
3 deserves that kind of manufacturing here.

4 PRESIDENT SOLOMON: Thank you.

5 Yes, sir?

6 MR. OLSEN: Thank you.

7 My name is Greg Olsen, I do venture

9.24.10 Transcripts

8 capital investing in Princeton, New Jersey and I
9 would like to give you just a brief informational
10 download of three of my companies that have
11 benefitted from solar energy.

12 Princeton Power makes converters for solar
13 wind and Smart Grid applications, they spun out of
14 Princeton University.

15 Power Survey Corporation up in Kearny spun
16 out of Sarnoff, they do contacted stray voltage
17 detection to keep cities' streets safe.

18 And finally United Silicon Carbide spun
19 out of Rutgers to make the next generation of power
20 transistors that will enable Smart Grid.

21 These three companies are all New Jersey
22 companies and they work very closely together.

23 Sadly, I am not an investor in Petra Solar
24 but I am a board member of the company.

25 These four companies have something in

116

1 common, they are highly successful New Jersey
2 companies. They have done really well in the solar
3 realm. They have brought in over ten million
4 dollars of Federal funding together and that number
5 probably will increase.

6 My companies alone added about one hundred
7 jobs this year, and I expect next year that number
8 to go to two hundred or even more in terms of
9 growth.

10 So, you know, I would just like to put
11 that out as information, that by being in the solar

12 arena the companies are doing really well.

13 I would also like to ask the BPU to
14 continue your investment in infrastructure.

15 Power Survey Corporation dramatically
16 reduced the number of hospital reported shocks, New
17 York City is using that service and it has greatly
18 increased the safety in the City of New York and we
19 would sure like to see that here.

20 Thank you very much.

21 PRESIDENT SOLOMON: Thank you.

22 Anybody else?

23 Yes, sir.

24 MR. GILLMAN: Thank you for the
25 opportunity.

117

1 My name is Paul Gillman, Chief
2 Sustainability Officer for Command Energy in
3 Fairfield, New Jersey.

4 I don't envy you your jobs, you are
5 looking for power production technology that's low
6 carbon or no carbon or in a perfect world reduces
7 power.

8 You are looking for technology that has a
9 smaller footprint in wind or coal or nuclear, you
10 are looking for one that doesn't just produce tens
11 of jobs but maybe thousands during a construction
12 and operation period.

13 You would like it to be renewable and you
14 would like it to be baseload, you would like it to
15 be probably among the least subsidized power sources
16 there is.

9.24.10 Transcripts

17 In fact New Jersey is the home to a
18 technology that does all those things and was an
19 early-on leader in that technology, although it
20 has fallen away, electricity from municipal solid
21 waste.

22 You would like to think that that
23 technology is being promoted elsewhere. In fact it
24 is in the E.U. and Asia, that's where my company is
25 doing most of its growth.

118

1 We would like to think, too, that it's a
2 technology that's clean; researchers at the US EPA
3 will tell you that it is cleaner than coal, cleaner
4 than oil, competitive in its cleanliness with
5 natural gas.

6 So all those things are attributes that I
7 was very encouraged when I came to New Jersey two
8 years ago from a think-tank at Oak Ridge National
9 Labs that New Jersey was well aware of in fact the
10 strategic plan in its draft form that recognized
11 that this is a technology that could produce
12 electric and reduce greenhouse gas.

13 Unfortunately in its final version it
14 downplayed this technology.

15 I urge you to look once again at this
16 technology, consider the greenhouse gas benefits,
17 the environmental benefits and the jobs benefits
18 that go with its promotion.

19 COMMISSIONER FOX: Would you provide us
20 with information and comments very specifically as

21 to the strategic plan for this technology?

22 MR. GILLMAN: Sure, I will send you the
23 references.

24 MR. SOBOLEWSKI: I would like to offer some
25 additional points, some additional testimony with

119

1 respect to SRECs.

2 First of all, I have some data on where
3 the SREC market is currently trading. We know from
4 exchanges out there that are publicly available from
5 the exchanges as to SREC trading that the spot
6 market for SRECs is currently in the neighborhood of
7 six hundred forty dollars to six hundred and eighty
8 dollars.

9 We also know from BPU reporting that those
10 trades make up about two-thirds of the market today.
11 The other third is made up predominantly of
12 long-term contracting and, again, the BPU reporting
13 shows that the average SREC price on other than spot
14 trade is about three hundred and seventy-three
15 dollars, consistent with the four hundred dollar
16 long-term SREC contracts we see in the JCP&L, ACE
17 and RECO programs.

18 I think what this shows is that there is
19 a very clear dichotomy in the market between what
20 happens with long-term trades and short-term or spot
21 trades.

22 With regard to supply and demand in the
23 SREC market, a few important data points: As I
24 mentioned earlier in my testimony, there are about
25 two hundred megawatts currently installed, one

1 hundred and ninety-seven is the exact number that I
2 saw in the last report.

3 We have been averaging over the last few
4 months about eight to ten megawatts of additional
5 installed monthly capacity.

6 The 2011 obligation in the RPS is the
7 equivalent of about two hundred and eighty-five
8 megawatts of capacity.

9 Simple math will show you that even on the
10 low end of our installed monthly range, eight
11 megawatts a month, that's about another hundred
12 megawatts, and we would be in the neighborhood of
13 three hundred, which would be in close proximity
14 to the obligation for 2011.

15 There is some other math and timing
16 behind that, of course, but the broad point is that
17 we do expect the market to be generally balanced
18 in the very near-term, and I think that a generally
19 balanced market will not support spot trades in the
20 neighborhood of what we have seen historically.

21 It is our opinion and our position that
22 it's the market that will set SREC prices, not the
23 ACP. The ACP is not a cost-containment mechanism, it
24 is in fact an incentive to encourage long-term
25 contracting, and the lower the ACP the less there is

1 that incentive, the less LSEs are encouraged to
2 enter into those affordable long-term contracts.

3 As I share those points with you, I
4 appreciate the opportunity to appear here.

5 Thank you.

6 PRESIDENT SOLOMON: Anybody else?

7 MR. PRINGLE: Thank you, President
8 Solomon.

9 My name is David Pringle, I'm the Campaign
10 Director for the New Jersey Environmental
11 Federation.

12 I want to thank the Board and to just
13 make clear that there will be a public draft of the
14 revised Plan and there will be a public process as
15 to that. Thank you.

16 I hope that it does have, I don't expect
17 it to have every little nitty-gritty detail, that
18 that it won't just be conclusions but some of the
19 bases for the conclusions.

20 And I understand today you want data and
21 not conclusions, and we will be following you up
22 with a lot more, but most of the data you need isn't
23 from advocates out here, it is within governmental
24 agencies that already exist; for example, the EPA
25 already has the formulas that can tell you,

122

1 obviously they are projections, they don't know for
2 sure, but, roughly, if you do this with the coal
3 plant versus that with the coal plant that means
4 this would have an impact on premature deaths and
5 illnesses, lost work days and sick days that you
6 have to stay home taking care of the kids because
7 they're sick or whatever.

9.24.10 Transcripts

8 In fact the Clean Air Task Force just
9 looking at one pollutant's particulates came up
10 just two weeks ago with coal plant by coal plant
11 data for every coal plant in the country, what the
12 impacts were if they put in modern controls and
13 equipment, and I'll get you that website, it
14 contains credible information.

15 They even have that on a Google map so
16 that you can go to a particular coal plant and see
17 what the impacts are, there are very specific
18 numbers on if you do this it means thirteen less
19 people die from this coal plant, if you don't do
20 this it is going to cost four more million dollars
21 in health care.

22 Our main thing here is that there is an
23 uneven playing field, that you are comparing apples
24 and apples to oranges and oranges as best you can.
25 There are many things that are subsidized, some of

123

1 which are more transparent than others.

2 Coal is subsidized because of the
3 indirect cost on health care which isn't reflected,
4 the nuclear industry is subsidized because of the
5 Price-Anderson Act, everybody in here is the
6 insurer of the nuclear industry. That is a massive
7 subsidy that should be factored in when we are
8 comparing nuclear to coal, to gas, to renewables and
9 incineration.

10 We are extremely confident that when a
11 true, fair cost benefit analysis is done,

9.24.10 Transcripts

12 renewables, combined heat and power, efficiency,
13 wind, garbage incineration, nuclear and coal lose.

14 When you look at the whole life-cycle,
15 sure, if you are only looking at, "Hey, I've got
16 this garbage, what am I going to do with it?" that's
17 not the whole life-cycle. What else could you do
18 with that?

19 It's cheaper to recycle than it is to
20 mine bauxite ore. People are now mining old
21 landfills for aluminum because that's cheaper than
22 mining bauxite ore.

23 If you look at the amount of water and
24 energy and raw materials used when you burn, because
25 when you burn it's gone, you have to now use more

124

1 raw materials, it is much cheaper on all those
2 fronts to recycle, reduce and reuse.

3 And also when you do that, what is left
4 isn't burnable anyway, so you have to re-engineer
5 things and put it in the landfill, what have you.

6 So we will get you more information. The
7 EPA and the EEC has great modeling on a lot of this
8 stuff and we will get you more information and look
9 forward to seeing you again.

10 PRESIDENT SOLOMON: Thank you.

11 Anyone else?

12 (No response.)

13 PRESIDENT SOLOMON: I think that's
14 it, I don't see any other hands up.

15 I will adjourn this meeting and
16 transcripts of the last two meetings should be

9.24.10 Transcripts

17 available on our Web site in the next few weeks.

18 Thank you all for coming, thank you for
19 your comments and thank you for getting this done in
20 a reasonable hour.

21 (Adjourned.)

22

23

24

25

125

1 C E R T I F I C A T E

2

3 I, William Sokol, Certified Shorthand
4 Reporter of the State of New Jersey, License No.
5 30X100030700, and Notary Public of the State of New
6 Jersey, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a
7 verbatim record of the testimony provided under oath
8 before any Court, Referee, Commission or other body
9 created by statute of the State of New Jersey.

10 I am not related to any parties involved in
11 this action; I have no financial interest nor am I
12 related to an agent of or employed by anyone with a
13 financial interest in the outcome in which this
14 transcript was taken; and furthermore, that I am not
15 a relative or employee of any attorney or counsel
16 employed by the parties hereto or financially
17 interested in the action.

18

19

20

21 9.24.10 Transcripts
22 WILLIAM SOKOL
23 Certified Shorthand Reporter
24 and Notary Public
25