NJBPU President Recognizes Renewable Electricity Storage System

Battery Storage System First of its Kind to Receive BPU Clean Energy Incentive

New Jersey Board of Public Utilities President Joseph L. Fiordaliso today recognized a newly installed renewable electricity storage system at the Atlantic County Utilities Authority’s Waste Water Treatment Facility in Atlantic City on behalf of the Board and the Murphy Administration. This “battery storage system” is the first project of its kind to receive an incentive through the BPU’s Clean Energy Program.

The system was installed and will be operated by Viridity Energy Solutions based in Philadelphia, which is scheduled to receive a $300,000 rebate from the state’s Clean Energy Program to partially offset the cost of the project.

The wastewater treatment facility has received more than 60 percent of its electrical demand from wind and solar in the past. When more power than needed is generated it has been sent back to the electrical grid. Now that the battery storage system is in place that power, up to one megawatt, will be stored in the battery system so it can be used to ease pressure on the grid in times of high demand or during a power outage. The battery system will help manage supply and demand and in the worst case scenario can keep the plant working if the grid goes down.

“This project fits right within the Murphy Administration’s aggressive clean energy agenda which has already positioned New Jersey as a national leader in a very short period of time,” said Fiordaliso.

“Clean, renewable energy is something very near and dear to my heart. We have a moral obligation to promote clean and renewable energy use to combat the effects of climate change for our future generations including my own four young grandchildren.”
It has been a priority of the Board, especially since Superstorm Sandy, to ensure ways of keeping power flowing should the main grid go down. Last year, the Board established a Town Center Microgrid Feasibility Study program to fund 13 applications to conduct feasibility studies at a total cost of $2,052,480. The program was developed to provide incentives for local and state government agencies to study the feasibility of Town Center microgrids that would enable critical facilities to keep operating in case of outages.

About the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (NJBPU) The NJBPU is a state agency and regulatory authority mandated to ensure safe, adequate and proper utility services at reasonable rates for New Jersey customers. Critical services regulated by the NJBPU include natural gas, electricity, water, wastewater, telecommunications and cable television. The Board has general oversight and responsibility for monitoring utility service, responding to consumer complaints, and investigating utility accidents. To find out more about the NJBPU, visit our web site at www.nj.gov/bpu.

About the New Jersey Clean Energy Program (NJCEP) NJCEP, established on January 22, 2003, in accordance with the Electric Discount and Energy Competition Act (EDECA), provides financial and other incentives to the State’s residential customers, businesses and schools that install high-efficiency or renewable energy technologies, thereby reducing energy usage, lowering customers’ energy bills and reducing environmental impacts. The program is authorized and overseen by the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (NJBPU), and its website is www.NJCleanEnergy.com.