



New Jersey Board of Public Utilities

PRESS RELEASE

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CLEAN ENERGY IS SMART BUSINESS FOR NEWARK

*Board of Public Utilities and New Jersey's **Clean Energy Program**TM highlight clean energy solutions at Newark's Green Future Summit*

(NEWARK, NJ) – The New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (BPU), a sponsor of Newark's Green Future Summit held today at the New Jersey Institute of Technology, highlighted a variety of programs and incentives available to the city through *New Jersey's Clean Energy Program*TM. The presentation was part of a collaborative initiative to make Newark a national showcase for clean and efficient energy use, green economic development and job creation, and equitable environmental opportunity.

New Jersey's Clean Energy Program promotes increased energy efficiency and the use of clean, renewable sources of energy, including solar, wind, geothermal, and sustainable biomass. The result for New Jersey is a stronger economy, less pollution, lower costs, and reduced demand for electricity.

The Apollo Alliance and the Office of the Mayor of Newark led the summit, a Clinton Global Initiative Energy and Climate Change Program Commitment, to ultimately engage and touch the lives of all Newark's 300,000 residents, especially those in its most economically and environmentally distressed communities.

"I commend the city of Newark, with the help of the Apollo Alliance and local and regional partners, for making a commitment to creating a sustainable community and developing a green economy," said BPU Commissioner Joseph L. Fiordaliso. "Clean energy and green economy initiatives are an important part of New Jersey's plan to reduce overall energy use 20 percent by 2020."

During the summit's kickoff, Commissioner Fiordaliso outlined several programs and incentives available to help Newark become a leader in the clean energy economy. For example, residential programs such as *Home Performance with ENERGY STAR*[®] and *New Jersey ENERGY STAR Homes* offer opportunities for contractors and builders to differentiate themselves in the competitive housing market while helping residents reduce energy use and costs, improve the comfort and safety of their homes and help protect the environment.

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The Commissioner also discussed opportunities available for the Newark business community as part of the *NJ SmartStart Buildings Program*, which provides financial incentives, design support and technical assistance to commercial and industrial customers. In addition, an overview was given of the Municipal Energy Audit initiative that will be launched in the next few weeks as part of the *SmartStart Buildings Program* – in an effort to help local governments identify cost-effective, energy saving measures in their facilities.

The BPU and New Jersey’s Clean Energy Program work with local governments and municipalities statewide to bring the message of energy efficiency to residents and business owners as part of its “*whole house/whole community*” initiative.

For more information about *New Jersey’s Clean Energy Program*, visit www.njcleanenergy.com or call 1-866-NJSMART (1-866-657-6278).

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About the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (NJBPU)

The New Jersey Board of Public Utilities 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 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

New Jersey's Clean Energy Program, 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.