



Agenda Date: 4/7/21
Agenda Item: 8C

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
Board of Public Utilities
44 South Clinton Avenue, 9th Floor
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0350
www.nj.gov/bpu/

CLEAN ENERGY

IN THE MATTER OF NEW JERSEY CLEAN ENERGY)
PROGRAM FISCAL YEAR 2021 COMMUNITY)
ENERGY PLANNING) DOCKET NO. QO21030678
)
JERSEY CITY) DOCKET NO. QO21030677

Parties of Record:

Stefanie A. Brand, Esq., Director, New Jersey Division of Rate Counsel
Kate Lawrence, Sustainability Director, Jersey City

BY THE BOARD:

By this Order, the Board of Public Utilities ("Board" or "BPU") considers Staff’s recommendation to approve the following application submitted to the Community Energy Plan Grant Program:

- Jersey City

BACKGROUND

On March 29, 2019, the Board approved the Community Energy Plan Grant Program through a Board Order entered under the Fiscal Year 2019 Budget docket.¹ The program was designed to provide communities and local government with the opportunity to localize the Energy Master Plan’s (“EMP”) goals to their own communities.

In accordance with the Board’s Order in May 2019, Staff has developed and administered an application process for Community Energy Plan Grants.² Through the program, communities and towns identify which strategies are most applicable in their communities, what obstacles may exist, what opportunities there may be, and which BPU incentive programs or other state programs may help them move towards the goals of the EMP.

¹ In re the Clean Energy Programs and Budget for Fiscal Year 2019 Trued Up and Revised Budget, BPU Docket No. QO18040393 (March 29, 2019).

² The application process for the program was approved in May 2019. In re New Jersey Clean Energy Program Fiscal Year 2019 Community Energy Planning, BPU Docket No. QO19040497 (May 8, 2019).

Awards are based on the quality of the application, identification of strategies to achieve program goals, and population. To be eligible for an award, applicants must receive a minimum of 30 points out of a possible 80. The score consists of four metrics: Planning Committee, Past Successes, Opportunities Identified, and Environmental Justice Engagement. The maximum grant allocation is based on the applicant's population, as follows:

Population of under 10,000: \$5,000.00
Population of 10,001 to under 25,000: \$10,000.00
Population of 25,001 to under 50,000: \$15,000.00
Population of 50,001 to under 100,000: \$20,000.00
Population of over 100,000: \$25,000.00

The Board received a grant request from Jersey City on September 11, 2020. Jersey City has recently completed a Climate Action Plan that can inform the city's community energy plan. A steering committee including 15 community partners will assist in the planning process and has identified potential 60 strategies to effectuate changes in the energy, transportation, and waste sectors. The steering committee will evaluate these 60 proposals to determine which can be utilized to impact the EMP's strategies on a local level.

An evaluation committee comprising Board Staff ("Staff") reviewed the application, and Jersey City received a score of 67 points. At the time of application submission, Jersey City had a population of 265,549.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends Board approval of Jersey City's application and authorization for Staff to disburse the grant requested by Jersey City in accordance with BPU procedures.

DISCUSSION AND FINDINGS

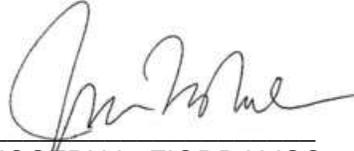
Following careful consideration, the Board **HEREBY FINDS** that the Jersey City application was submitted, reviewed, and deemed complete. The Board **FURTHER FINDS** that Jersey City had a population of 265,549 at the time of submitting its application. The Board **HEREBY APPROVES** a Community Energy Plan Grant of \$25,000 to Jersey City.

The Board **HEREBY DIRECTS** Staff to disburse \$25,000 in funding from the program budget in accordance with BPU procedures.

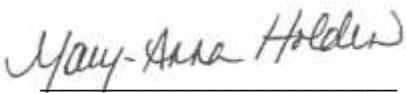
The effective date of this Order is April 17, 2021.

DATED: April 7, 2021

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES
BY:



JOSEPH L. FIORDALISO
PRESIDENT



MARY-ANNA HOLDEN
COMMISSIONER



DIANNE SOLOMON
COMMISSIONER

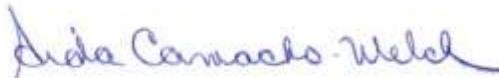


UPENDRA J. CHIVUKULA
COMMISSIONER



ROBERT M. GORDON
COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:



AIDA CAMACHO-WELCH
SECRETARY

IN THE MATTER OF NEW JERSEY CLEAN ENERGY PROGRAM FISCAL YEAR 2021
COMMUNITY ENERGY PLANNING - JERSEY CITY
BPU DOCKET NOS. QO21030678 AND QO21030677

SERVICE LIST

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