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Governor

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Lt. Governor



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President

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NOTICE¹

New Jersey Energy Efficiency Transition

Staff Stakeholder Notice - Equity in Energy Efficiency Meeting

The New Jersey Board of Public Utilities ("NJBPU" or "Board") hereby gives notice of a public Equity in Energy Efficiency Working Group Meeting as part of the New Jersey Energy Efficiency Transition.

In order to facilitate discussion, the meeting will consist of panel discussions on topics related to equity in energy efficiency, as well as a presentation on the results of the demographic analysis completed by New Jersey's public utilities. Each panel session will include a period for open discussion and public comment. The first panel will focus on current energy efficiency programs for low- and moderate-income (LMI) households and challenges to participation. The second panel will focus on reducing the barriers to participation in energy efficiency programs for LMI households, including opportunities for improvements and enhancements to energy efficiency programs. There will also be a presentation of the demographic analysis study that was conducted to determine if all public utility customers are able to participate fully in implementing energy efficiency measures, to identify market barriers that prevent such participation, and to make recommendations for measures to overcome such barriers.

The public meeting will be held at the following date, time, and place:

Date: Monday, May 4, 2020
Time: 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. ET

Held via webinar: Please note that, in the interest of public health and safety, this meeting will be conducted via webinar. You must register for the May 4 meeting before attending by clicking the following new registration link:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3845137704283250701>

¹Not a Paid Legal Advertisement.

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar and checking your system requirements ahead of the meeting. Stakeholders should check their systems ahead of the meeting to ensure that they will have access.

Background

On May 23, 2018, Governor Phil Murphy signed into law P.L. 2018, c. 16 (C.48:3-87.8 et al.) (“Act”). N.J.S.A. 48:3-87.9 requires electric and gas public utilities in the state to reduce the use of electricity and natural gas in their service territories. Specifically, the Act states that, by May 23, 2019, the Board shall require (a) each electric public utility to achieve, within its territory by its customers, annual reductions of 2% of the average annual electricity usage in the prior three (3) years within five (5) years of implementation of its electric energy efficiency program; and each natural gas public utility to achieve, within its territory by its customers, annual reductions in the use of natural gas of 0.75% of the average annual natural gas usage in the prior years within five (5) years of implementation of its gas energy efficiency program.

[N.J.S.A. 48:3-87.9(a).]

In addition, the law requires that:

The board shall adopt, pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), an electric energy efficiency program in order to ensure investment in cost-effective energy efficiency measures, ensure universal access to energy efficiency measures, and serve the needs of low-income communities that shall require each electric public utility to implement energy efficiency measures that reduce electricity usage in the State pursuant to section 3 of P.L.2018, c.17 (C.48:3-87.9). Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to prevent an electric public utility from meeting the requirements of this subsection by contracting with another entity for the performance of the requirements.

[N.J.S.A. 48:3-87(g).]

The board shall adopt, pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), a gas energy efficiency program in order to ensure investment in cost-effective energy efficiency measures, ensure universal access to energy efficiency measures, and serve the needs of low-income communities that shall require each gas public utility to implement energy efficiency measures that reduce natural gas usage in the State pursuant to section 3 of P.L.2018, c.17 (C.48:3-87.9). Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to prevent a gas public utility from meeting the requirements of this subsection by contracting with another entity for the performance of the requirements.

[N.J.S.A. 48:3-87(h).]

Next Steps

Staff hereby announces this May 4 public working group meeting, which continues stakeholder engagement on the energy efficiency transition. There will be panel discussions by invited guests, and members of the public are invited to attend and present their views. Please note that this working group meeting is limited to comments concerning equity related to implementation of New Jersey’s current and the next generation of energy efficiency and peak demand programs.

In order to encourage full participation in this opportunity for public comment, please submit any requests for needed accommodations for disabled citizens to the Office of the Secretary of the Board at (609) 777-3300 at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

Members of the public may file written comments with the Secretary of the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities, regardless of whether they participate in the public meetings. Written comments may be submitted electronically to EnergyEfficiency@bpu.nj.gov in PDF or Word format. Please include a subject line of "Equity in Energy Efficiency." **All comments must be received on or before the comment deadline of 5:00 p.m. ET on Friday, May 15, 2020.**



Aida Camacho-Welch
Secretary of the Board

Dated: April 27, 2020