



# New Jersey Board of Public Utilities

## PRESS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **NJ BPU JOINS OTHER STATE AND LOCAL OFFICIALS ANNOUNCING NEW SOLAR MANUFACTURING FACILITY IN MILLVILLE**

*MX USA Representatives on Hand; Laud 260 Future 'Green Jobs' in New Jersey*

(MILLVILLE, NJ) – New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (BPU) President Jeanne M. Fox, Commissioner Nicholas Asselta and other state and local government officials joined with MX USA representatives today in Millville to announce the company's plans to grow "green" jobs in New Jersey, where they expect to create 260 new jobs at their new solar module manufacturing facility.

MX Group S.P.A, a solar energy manufacturing company based in Northern Italy, has recently established a joint venture with IPPsolar, a leading developer, owner and operator of photovoltaic solar systems in the United States. Under the partnership, the two companies will form MX USA Manufacturing, Inc., in Millville, New Jersey. They expect to produce US-made solar panels by March, 2010.

"New Jersey is a national leader in solar generation," said Governor Jon S. Corzine. "Today's announcement will help us build our clean energy economy while creating jobs for South Jersey residents."

Millville was a center of glass manufacturing in the United States, since its first glass factory opened in 1806. The last large factory in the town closed in 1999. The return of glass manufacturing to the region, with a green twist, will help develop New Jersey's clean energy economy. The solar panel factory will benefit from a job-creation incentive from the New Jersey Economic Development Authority as well as local incentives.

New Jersey's aggressive Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) goals of 22.5 percent by 2020, combined with attractive incentives for customers to install solar and businesses to manufacture panels, have made New Jersey second only to California in solar installations. As part of the Energy Master Plan, the Governor increased the State's renewable energy goals to 30 percent by 2020.

"Today, New Jersey is recognized as a national leader in developing solar generation," said BPU President Jeanne M. Fox. "Under Governor Corzine's leadership, we have increased the number of solar installations ten-fold in the past four years. We have 4,400 installations with a generating capacity of more than 100 MW. It makes perfect business sense for MX USA to make their North American home in New Jersey – after all, we are the 'Solar Capital of the United States.'"

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New Jersey's accelerated solar growth provides a ready market for solar panels. In addition, the New Jersey Economic Development Authority's Business Employment Incentive program has committed \$2.4 million to MX USA to support their job creation in Millville. The company will receive the funds as a rebate from the income taxes generated by the new jobs the plant is expected to produce.

"We look forward to building strong and cooperative working relationships with the business community and government leaders of New Jersey," said Michael Latefi, Co-Founder and Chief Financial Officer of MX USA. "MX USA is committed to bringing the technology of the renewable energy sector to the U.S., which has lagged Europe in producing and implementing solar power. As a private venture, MX is also committed to providing solar panels at competitive cost to US industry, participating in the marketplace, earning profits and providing jobs for skilled workers who have been displaced during recent shifts in the global economy. "

Also on hand to welcome MX USA was Millville Mayor Tim Shannon. "This is a great moment in time for the City of Millville. It fits perfectly with our efforts to reinvent Millville's economy over the last ten years. Not only do we get a dynamic new industry locating in the city but also the creation of good paying, green jobs for local residents," said Shannon. "On behalf of the entire City Commission, I want to thank the officials of MX USA, as well as the state officials at the BPU, NJEDA, and the Governor's Office whose hard work and perseverance have made this exciting project possible."

"We feel that the United States and, particularly the state of New Jersey, is uniquely positioned for a solar revolution," said Carmelito Denaro, Chief Executive Officer of MX USA.

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**About the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (NJBP):**

*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 NJBP 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 NJBP, visit our web site at [www.nj.gov/bpu](http://www.nj.gov/bpu).*

**About the New Jersey Clean Energy Program (NJCEP):**

*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 (BPU), and its website is [www.njcleanenergy.com](http://www.njcleanenergy.com).*