

**Address by President Jeanne M. Fox  
Energy Council/EMP Public Meeting  
Thursday, Oct. 1, 2009, 10 a.m.  
Edward J. Bloustein School, New Brunswick**

Welcome/Thank you for attending.

In 2006, Governor Corzine directed my agency, the Board of Public Utilities, to lead an inter-departmental, cross-agency effort to undertake comprehensive energy planning.

That was the beginning of the Energy Master Plan.

On July 6, 2007, Governor Corzine signed the Global Warming Response Act, making NJ the third state to legislatively mandate reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, which were changing our climate.

On Oct. 16, 2008, Governor Corzine addressed a joint session of the Legislature to unveil a multi-faceted economic plan aimed at providing immediate assistance for Garden State residents to coax the state out of the economic recession.

Six days later, on Oct. 22, 2008, the Governor released the final Energy Master Plan. The EMP had taken two years of deliberation, sophisticated computer modeling and extensive public input. It set out strategic goals and policies that would harness the State's energy industry to lay what the Governor called "a pathway to prosperity" marked by job creation, economic growth and environmental responsibility.

Only a year has passed since the Governor released the EMP, but we can already recognize its foresight and its value in charting a path toward a future of sustainable economic growth.

A year ago, the federal government was absent in the battle against climate change. Today, with the Obama Administration on the verge of engagement, Governor Corzine's EMP has prepared us for whatever federal mandates we may face.

NJ is ready.

In October of 2008, when the Governor addressed the Legislature and the EMP was released, the **full impact** of the economic crisis was not fully understood by many people, but the Governor clearly recognized that our energy policies as outlined in the EMP could drive job creation and economic development, not only in the long term, but immediately.

He called on our State's investor-owned utilities to accelerate their schedule of necessary infrastructure projects to put people to work and help NJ bounce back from the cruel recession that encompassed not just this State, but the entire world. NJ utilities responded, filing petitions with the Board of Public Utilities represented significant investment and job growth. Later in today's program, we will be talking more about that.

The EMP is an example of what the Governor sees when he says our State's best days are ahead. The EMP shows the need to take the long view and to understand that tomorrow's quality of life and prosperity are only possible if we act today.

In 2008, I was appointed by the then-U.S. Secretary of Energy, Samuel Bodman to be a member of the Electric Advisory Committee. It was a cross-section of knowledgeable energy industry leaders from academia, private sector, and state governments like California, Kansas, and Maryland. Together we prepared a report called "*Keeping the Lights on in a New World*," which made recommendations that could guide policy in the next administration. At that time, we did not know, of course, who would be elected, but we knew it was important to brief the new Administration, whichever party it was, about these issues.

When I look at that report today, I am proud of NJ.

The goals and policies of the Governor's EMP address every major recommendation made in the report. The EAC report said our nation should make expanding energy efficiency and demand response programs a priority. NJ's EMP does that.

The EAC report states that modernizing the electric grid is very important. One of the five goals of the EMP is to create a 21<sup>st</sup> Century infrastructure. The EAC report advises that emphasis be placed on expanding renewable energy – that is exactly what NJ did in the EMP. By 2020, our State’s goal is to have 30% of its electricity generated by renewable sources.

The EAC report advises emphasis be put on generation planning, R&D, nurturing new technologies, addressing the issue of carbon, and educating young people as engineers, and scientists – the EMP proposes solutions for every one of these issues.

(If you would like to read the report, visit: [www.oenergy.gov/eac.htm](http://www.oenergy.gov/eac.htm) or see one of my staff members who can see to it that you get the link.)

Many of you here today became involved in helping develop the EMP. You should be proud too. The EMP is a set of energy policies that demonstrate the know-how and innovative spirit of NJ’s energy industry and the foresight of our leaders, in government and in the private sector.

When we started working on the plan, two years before the economic crisis, little did we know how important the policies we were developing would be and how much we would need to rely on them to be “pathway to prosperity.”

When we embarked on the Energy Master Plan, it was with full knowledge that the plan would not be static. As you may recall, we spoke of it as a “*living*” plan. As it has turned out, we have not always taken steps forward in exactly the ways proscribed by the EMP. We have had to react to circumstances. We have been required to bring some matters to the fore and put others on the back burner. But we have made progress.

Perhaps the single most significant course adjustment we had to face was the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act – the federal stimulus. And I am pleased to say that course adjustment was a positive one – a leap forward. Energy efficiency and renewable energy funding provided through ARRA will give a great boost to our efforts to implement the EMP. NJ

residents, businesses, schools, local governments and state facilities are beneficiaries of the energy-related ARRA funding. Because of ARRA, we can do more energy efficiency, we can put more minds to work developing new energy technologies, and we can create more jobs in new EE and RE fields.

Today we would like to review where we stand on implementing our energy policies, in the context of all the unexpected events, fortunate and unfortunate, that have occurred since the first time we met. It was -- if you recall -- in October too -- October of 2006 at a series of town hall meetings and with the Governor's announcement in the State House—that we began the collective effort that brought us to where we are today.

In the next few minutes, members of the BPU staff will discuss EMP implementation. Our presentation is organized to correspond with the goals of the EMP:

- Victor Fortkiewicz, the BPU Executive Director, will discuss infrastructure related efforts.
- Ron Reisman, our Business Outreach Manager, will discuss our efforts to cut peak demand.
- And Lance Miller, our Chief of Policy and Planning, will discuss our efforts to expand energy efficiency and renewable energy.

After all three presentations have concluded, we will be happy to take your questions and comments.

Thank you.