



Governor Phil Murphy  
Lt. Governor Sheila Oliver

President Joseph L. Fiordaliso  
Commissioner Mary-Anna N. Holden  
Commissioner Dianne Solomon  
Commissioner Upendra Chivukula  
Commissioner Bob Gordon

## NEW JERSEY BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES PRESS RELEASE

**IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
May 13, 2021

**Contact:**  
Peter Peretzman  
(609) 900-5626

### **New Jersey Launches 3.1 MW Community Solar Project Constructed on Delanco Landfill**

*First-of-its-kind project offers low-income households access to clean energy  
and bill savings in historic Pilot Program*

**Delanco, N.J.**—Governor Phil Murphy’s Office of Climate Action and the Green Economy and the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (NJBPU) today celebrated the launch of the first community solar project to be constructed on a closed landfill as part of the NJBPU’s historic Community Solar Energy Pilot Program. Community Solar supports Governor Murphy’s commitment to achieve 100 percent clean energy by 2050 and ensures access to clean energy for communities previously unable to utilize solar energy. The 3.1 MW solar installation, constructed by New Jersey developer Solstage at 900 Coopertown Road in Delanco Township, will power up to 700 households with clean energy and dedicate 55 percent of its output to low- and moderate-income (LMI) subscribers.

“We are very proud to see successful community solar development, especially projects sited on former landfills,” said NJBPU President Joseph L. Fiordaliso. “Since these contaminated sites are often not suitable for other types of redevelopment, community solar is one of the best ways to utilize them in a way that promotes equity by making the benefits of clean energy more accessible to New Jersey residents.”

“Equal access to the Murphy Administration’s clean energy agenda is a key part of building a sustainable clean energy future,” said Jane Cohen, Director, Office of Climate Action and the Green Economy. “The community solar program puts the focus on equity, environmental justice, and workforce development, and brings us one step closer to creating a stronger and fairer New Jersey for all.”

“I have been an outspoken advocate, not just for the need for clean energy, but more importantly, clean energy equity,” said Senator Troy Singleton, who represents Delanco as part of the 7th Legislative District and is the prime sponsor of Senate Bill 2484, the Clean Energy Equity Act. “I appreciate the Administration’s commitment to making sure that as New Jersey works to establish a path to economic recovery, we are working simultaneously towards a future where energy is affordable, equitable, accessible and sustainable – for all New Jerseyans, regardless of their income. This project in particular is a perfect example of how community solar can bring renewed purpose to brownfields, while also giving hundreds of low income families in the region access to clean, renewable energy.”

The union-built project received significant community support in its application for Year 1 of the Pilot Program, and identified guaranteed savings in the form of fixed bill credits as an economic benefit to subscribers. Soltage also partnered with the Ladies in Transit Holistic Community Development Corporation to provide a job training workshop for local residents to learn about career paths in the solar industry.

“It’s been a pleasure to be involved with both Soltage and Pro-Tech Energy during the construction of the Tri-County Solar Farm,” said Mark Miller, Operations Manager of Southern New Jersey at Huen Electric and member of International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 351. “The State’s renewable energy program has been supportive for not only union electricians but also our union civil operators. We look forward to continuing being an important part of the State’s renewable energy goals.”

“Soltage is excited to bring the first landfill community solar project to our home state of New Jersey,” said Soltage CEO and Co-Founder Jesse Grossman. “We are especially proud of the real community engagement that the Tri-County Solar Farm has forged with our many community partners, and the project’s local benefits including allocation of the majority of its electricity to low- and moderate-income residents at guaranteed savings.”

The Community Solar Energy Pilot Program is administered by *New Jersey’s Clean Energy Program*<sup>™</sup> and provides access to solar energy by virtually connecting customers to a solar installation within their electric utility company’s service territory. This allows residential and commercial customers – who previously lacked access due to cost, shaded property, or lack of roof control – to reap the benefits of a more equitable solar market without having to purchase, install, or maintain solar panels.

NJBPU is in the process of reviewing 410 applications submitted for Year 2 of the Pilot Program and expects to award capacity later this year. Year 2 has allocated 150 MW of award capacity, including a 40 percent carve-out for projects serving LMI households. For more information about New Jersey’s Community Solar Energy Pilot Program, click [here](#).

*About the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (NJBPU)*

*NJBPU 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 NJBPU include natural gas, electricity, water, wastewater, telecommunications and cable television. The Board has general oversight and responsibility for monitoring utility service, responding to consumer complaints, and investigating utility accidents. To find out more about NJBPU, visit our website at [www.nj.gov/bpu](http://www.nj.gov/bpu).*

*About New Jersey's Clean Energy Program (NJCEP)*

*NJCEP, 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](http://www.NJCleanEnergy.com).*

###