



New Jersey Board of Public Utilities

PRESS RELEASE

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NJBPU EARNS NATIONAL HONORS **FOR RESIDENTIAL EFFICIENCY PROGRAMS**

(NEWARK, NJ) – The New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (NJBPU) and *New Jersey's Clean Energy Program*[™] have earned three top honors in the *2008 National ENERGY STAR*[®] Awards.

At a national awards banquet in Washington, D.C. – slated for April 1st, the NJBPU will be honored for *Excellence in ENERGY STAR Promotion for Home Performance with ENERGY STAR*, *Excellence in Energy Efficient Affordable Housing* for its Comfort Partners program and a *Sustained Excellence Award* as part of *The Northeast ENERGY STAR Lighting and Appliance Initiative*.

“We are proud of our efforts in promoting residential energy efficiency,” said NJBPU President Jeanne M. Fox. “To receive national recognition for the excellence of these efforts is a tribute to our hardworking, professional staff. These programs are an important part of Governor Corzine’s goal to reduce overall energy use 20 percent by 2020.”

The Excellence in ENERGY STAR Promotion for New Jersey’s *Home Performance with ENERGY STAR*[®] Program was awarded to New Jersey’s Clean Energy Program for its integrated marketing approach that included television, radio, online, direct mail, media relations, events, contractor outreach and other tactics to begin the transformation of the New Jersey market. *Home Performance with ENERGY STAR* helps New Jersey residents save up to 30 percent on their energy costs and improve the comfort, health and safety of their homes.

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New Jersey Comfort Partners won the 2008 Regional ENERGY STAR Award for Excellence in Energy Efficient Affordable Housing for promoting the use of ENERGY STAR-qualified lighting and appliances in the retrofitting of low-income homes. Since 2001, the Comfort Partners program has improved the energy affordability for more than 45,000 low-income households that have high-energy usage and completed comprehensive services to more than 7,700 homes in 2007. The program employs a whole-house approach, using advanced building science diagnostics and treatment techniques to address all aspects of energy conservation and affordability in a single integrated approach. All services are provided at no cost to participants, and the program has saved an estimated 48,000 MMBTUs of gas; 11,000 megawatt-hours of electricity and 2.2 million gallons of water for customers participating during 2007.

New Jersey's Clean Energy Program also is being honored with the ENERGY STAR Sustained Excellence Award as part of the Northeast ENERGY STAR Lighting and Appliance Initiative, a coalition of regional electric utility and energy efficiency program administrators in New England, New York and New Jersey, who provide efficiency services to over 15 million households. The Sustained Excellence Awards are presented to a select group of organizations that have exhibited outstanding leadership year after year. These winners have reduced greenhouse gas emissions by setting and achieving aggressive goals, employing innovative approaches, and showing others what can be achieved through energy efficiency.

For more information about *New Jersey's Clean Energy Program*, visit www.njcleanenergy.com or call 1-866-NJSMART (1-866-657-6278).

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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.

About the New Jersey Clean Energy ProgramTM

New Jersey's Clean Energy ProgramTM, 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 (NJBP), and its website is www.njcleanenergy.com.