



STATE OF NEW JERSEY
Board of Public Utilities
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MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

A special board meeting of the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities was held on June 30, 2025 online @ <https://www.youtube.com/live/dQ4PWvN8iqU?si=X2qDPbF2vbroGDZP>.

Public notice was given pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-18 by posting notice of the meeting at Board's Trenton Office, on the Board's website, filing notice of the meeting with the New Jersey Department of State and newspapers of broad circulation in the State of New Jersey.

The following members of the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities were present:

President Guhl-Sadovy, President
Commissioner Christodoulou, Commissioner
Commissioner Abdou, Commissioner
Commissioner Bange, Commissioner

President Guhl-Sadovy presided at the meeting and Sherri L. Lewis, Secretary of the Board, carried out the duties of the Secretary.

It was also announced that the next regular Board Meeting will be held on July 16, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. and would be a hybrid meeting at the Board's Hearing Room at 44 South Clinton Avenue, Trenton and livestreamed via YouTube.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

After appropriate motion, the following matters, which involved N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(b)(7) attorney-client privilege and/or contract negotiations exceptions, were discussed in Executive Session.

8. CLEAN ENERGY

C. Docket No. QO25040217 – In the Matter of a Memorandum of Understanding Between the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities and New Jersey Institute of Technology.

BACKGROUND: Since Fiscal Year 2016 (“FY16”), the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (“BPU” or Board”) has partnered with the New Jersey Institute of Technology (“NJIT”) to develop, maintain, and expand the New Jersey Clean Energy Learning Center (“NJCELC”). NJCELC provides online education for the full range of stakeholder groups engaged with New Jersey’s Clean Energy Program (“NJCEP”), including building owners, building managers, design professionals, energy professionals, contractors, code officials, homeowners, and NJCEP program representatives.

During Fiscal Year 2026 (“FY26”), BPU and NJIT intend to continue this partnership to expand on the work performed from FY16 through Fiscal Year 2025. If approved, NJIT would be tasked with performing program administration and management for the NJCELC; maintaining, updating and generating analytics for the NJCELC; updating content for existing NJCELC topic areas; and developing educational content for new NJCELC topic areas. NJIT would also continue to support the Business and Industry Leadership Team initiative, the Comfort Partners Program, and the Campus Consortium for Decarbonization.

Board Staff has developed a Memorandum of Understanding (“MOU”) and recommends that the Board approve the MOU and authorize the President to execute the MOU on the Board’s behalf.

D. Docket No. QO25040218 – In the Matter of a Memorandum of Understanding Between the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities and The College of New Jersey.

BACKGROUND: Since Fiscal Year 2010 (“FY10”), the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (“BPU” or “Board”) has partnered with The College of New Jersey (“TCNJ”) to develop education, training, and outreach materials to serve the goals of TCNJ’s “Sustainable Jersey” program and New Jersey’s Clean Energy Program (“NJCEP”).

During Fiscal Year 2026 (“FY26”), Board Staff (“Staff”) seeks to continue the BPU and TCNJ’s partnership to expand on work performed from FY10 through Fiscal Year 2025. If approved, TCNJ would be tasked with performing outreach and training in support of NJCEP programs; supporting the Community Energy Plan Grant (“CEPG”) and Community Energy Plan Implementation (“CEPI”) Grant programs; providing comprehensive resources for schools and municipalities; developing new programs; administering the Sustainable Jersey certification

program and updating related actions and standards; performing program management; and providing technical support to the BPU, as needed.

Staff recommends that the Board approve the MOU and authorize the President to execute the MOU on the Board's behalf.

CONSENT AGENDA

I. AUDITS

There were no items in this category.

II. ENERGY

There were no items in this category.

III. CABLE TELEVISION

There were no items in this category.

IV. TELECOMMUNICATIONS

There were no items in this category.

V. WATER

There were no items in this category.

VI. RELIABILITY AND SECURITY

There were no items in this category.

VII. CUSTOMER ASSISTANCE

There were no items in this category.

VIII. CLEAN ENERGY

There were no items in this category.

IX. MISCELLANEOUS

There were no items in this category.

AGENDA

1. AUDITS

There were no items in this category.

2. ENERGY

There were no items in this category.

3. CABLE TELEVISIONS

There were no items in this category.

4. TELECOMMUNICATIONS

A. Docket No. TO25020078 – In the Matter of the Publishing of a Notice of Funding Availability for the Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment Grant Program.

Valarry Bullard, Division of Broadband and Connectivity, presented in this matter.

BACKGROUND: This matter pertains to requesting the Board's approval to publish the updated Notice of Funding Availability for the Broadband Equity Access and Deployment program into the New Jersey Register. This revised NOFA will reflect all of the changes that were issued by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration on June 6, 2025. It is necessary for New Jersey to align our program with the federal requirements.

By way of background, New Jersey Office of Broadband Connectivity received \$263.7 million in federal BEAD funding through the NTIA announced by the Biden administration in June of 2023. The formal announcement was sent out in June 30 and NTIA also approved New Jersey's initial proposal in August of 2024. On June 6 NTIA released a BEAD reconstruction policy notice which modified prior program requirements. States must comply with this notice to gain final approval for their proposals. And everywhere that there are conflicts when it came to State laws, states were able to submit a waiver.

In response to this notice that was issued, New Jersey has to revise several aspects of our BEAD implementation to align with the updated federal requirements. Some of these key changes include modifying the subgrantee selection process, to remove now optional elements, updating our score criteria to reflect NTIA's prioritization of certifications and technology neutral approaches and revalidating the list of BEAD eligible locations and community anchor institutions based on formalized and final challenge outcomes. These revisions must be incorporated into the State's final proposal to ensure compliance and reconstructive framework to maintain eligibility for full funding.

Now, the revised BEAD program requires states to reissue our notice of funding availability to reflect all of these changes that are updating the subgrantee selection criteria. This impacts the

scoring methodology and eligibility requirements that are all outlined in the June 6 reconstruction policy notice. New Jersey must rescind any prior provisional awards to ensure that all applicants have a fair opportunity to compete under the revised technology neutral framework. Reissuing the NOFA is necessary to maintain compliance with NTIA's requirements and proceed with our final proposal.

So, Staff recommends that the Board approve publishing the Notice of Funding Availability for federal funds available through the BEAD grant program that reflects the changes issued by NTIA on June 6th of 2025.

Decision: After discussion, the Board adopted the recommendation of Staff as set forth above.

Roll Call Vote:	President Guhl-Sadovy	Aye
	Commissioner Christodoulou	Aye
	Commissioner Abdou	Aye
	Commissioner Bange	Aye

5. WATER

There were no items in this category.

6. RELIABILITY AND SECURITY

There were no items in this category.

7. CUSTOMER ASSISTANCE

There were no items in this category.

8. CLEAN ENERGY

A. Docket No. QO25040205 – In the Matter of the Comprehensive Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Resource Analysis for Fiscal Year 2026 Clean Energy Program.

Veronique Oomen, Division of Clean Energy, presented in this matter.

BACKGROUND: In the matter of the Comprehensive Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Resource Analysis for Fiscal Year 2026, or FY26, Clean Energy Program, Staff is pleased to present recommendations. As the Commissioners are aware, the Electric Discount and Energy Competition Act require the Board to initially undertake a comprehensive resource analysis, or CRA, every four years. Since 2012 this has been done from an annual basis and for FY26 Staff has created another one-year CRA. The CRA includes the level of funding estimated to meet the needs of the New Jersey Clean Energy Program, or NJCEP.

For FY26, Staff is recommending that the Board set the FY26 Societal Benefits Charge funding level of \$344,665,000.00, which is the same funding level approved by the Board since FY15 and will therefore have no incremental impact. The FY26 funding proposal has gone through a comprehensive stakeholder process, including a draft proposal with opportunity for public comment and a public hearing on May 28 of this year.

Having reviewed and considered the comments regarding the proposed FY26 funding level, Staff recommends that the Board set and approve the proposed FY26 funding level and proposed FY26 utility payments.

Decision: After discussion, the Board adopted the recommendation of Staff as set forth above.

Roll Call Vote:	President Guhl-Sadovy	Aye
	Commissioner Christodoulou	Aye
	Commissioner Abdou	Aye
	Commissioner Bange	Aye

B. Docket No. QO25040206 – In the Matter of the Clean Energy Programs and Budget for the Fiscal Year 2026.

Veronique Oomen, Division of Clean Energy, presented in this matter.

BACKGROUND: This item addresses the Clean Energy programs and budgets plan for FY26. The New Jersey Clean Energy Program promotes increased energy efficiency and reused clean renewable source of our energy. The results for New Jersey have been less pollution, lower costs, and reduced demand for electricity.

Staff has worked diligently to work towards a portfolio of clean energy programs that place increased emphasis on cost effectiveness in meeting our goals and all the impact our programs have on utility rates. I will note the Board's recent launch of the Garden State Energy Storage Program, which is projected to result in net financial benefits to ratepayers as an example of this emphasis.

In the coming months we will necessarily accelerate these efforts. Like many families in New Jersey, we will have to do more with less and I am beyond proud of our team for all the work they have done and continue to do to further our goal of a hundred percent clean energy by 2035.

Together with the FY26 funding proposal, the FY26 budget has gone through a comprehensive stakeholder process. Staff has reviewed and considered the comments received, and recommends that the Board approve the process utilized in developing the detailed FY26 program budget contained in the order, as well as the FY26 program budget and compliance facts.

Further, on May 25, 2024, the State of New Jersey and the Board entered into a settlement agreement with Orsted. As part of that agreement Orsted agreed to pay the State the sum of

\$125 million to be used at the absolute sole discretion of the Board for clean energy programs, including programs to encourage meeting the State's clean energy goals under the State's Energy Master Plan. The proposed FY26 compliance filings and budgets propose allocating the settlement funds to support the Board's energy storage programs recently launched.

Staff recommends that the Board release the settlement funds to the Garden State Energy Storage Program.

Decision: After discussion, the Board adopted the recommendation of Staff as set forth above.

Roll Call Vote:	President Guhl-Sadovy	Aye
	Commissioner Christodoulou	Aye
	Commissioner Abdou	Aye
	Commissioner Bange	Aye

C. Docket No. QO25040217 – In the Matter of a Memorandum of Understanding Between the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities and New Jersey Institute of Technology – Executive Session.

Dustin Wang, Division of Clean Energy, presented in this matter.

BACKGROUND: This matter is a Memorandum of Understanding for Fiscal Year 2026 between the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities and New Jersey Institute of Technology on continuing to develop, maintain, and expand the New Jersey Clean Energy Learning Center and support BPU initiatives.

As discussed in executive session, Staff recommends that the Board approve the MOU and authorize the President to execute the MOU on BPU's behalf.

Decision: After discussion, the Board adopted the recommendation of Staff as set forth above.

Roll Call Vote:	President Guhl-Sadovy	Aye
	Commissioner Christodoulou	Aye
	Commissioner Abdou	Aye
	Commissioner Bange	Aye

D. Docket No. QO25040218 – In the Matter of a Memorandum of Understanding Between the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities and The College of New Jersey – Executive Session.

Dustin Wang, Division of Clean Energy, presented in this matter.

BACKGROUND: This matter is a Memorandum of Understanding between the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities and The College of New Jersey on continuing to develop, maintain, and expand joint initiatives of the Board and Sustainable Jersey.

As discussed in executive session, Staff recommends that the Board approve the MOU and authorize the President to execute the MOU on BPU's behalf.

Decision: After discussion, the Board adopted the recommendation of Staff as set forth above.

Roll Call Vote:	President Guhl-Sadovy	Aye
	Commissioner Christodoulou	Aye
	Commissioner Abdou	Aye
	Commissioner Bange	Aye

9. MISCELLANEOUS

There were no items in this category.

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

Sherri L. Lewis

Sherri L. Lewis
Board Secretary

Date: 10/8/2025