Agenda Date: 5/14/09 Agenda Item: LSA



## STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Board of Public Utilities Two Gateway Center Newark, NJ 07102 www.nj.gov/bpu/

**CLEAN ENERGY** 

IN THE MATTER OF THE 2009 STATE ENERGY PROGRAM - AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT - FUNDING PLAN

ORDER

**DOCKET NO.: E009030210** 

(SERVICE LIST ATTACHED)

## BY THE BOARD:

This Order memorializes action taken by the Board of Public Utilities ("Board") at its May 14, 2009 Agenda meeting. At that meeting, the Board authorized the submission of the second portion of its application for State Energy Program ("SEP") funds pursuant to the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, Pub. L. No. 111-5 ("Recovery Act").

The Recovery Act is intended to stimulate the economy and to create and retain jobs. To that end, the Recovery Act appropriates funding to the Department of Energy ("USDOE") for the award of formula-based grants through the SEP above and beyond those traditionally provided by the SEP. The SEP is a joint state-federal initiative whose goals are to:

- 1 Increase energy efficiency to reduce energy costs and **consum**ption for consumers, businesses and government;
- 2. Reduce reliance on imported energy;
- 3. Improve the reliability of electricity and fuel supply and the delivery of energy services; and
- 4. Reduce the impacts of energy production and use on the environment.

Comprehensive programs, developed and implemented by the states are financially supported by the USDOE through the SEP. New Jersey's allocation for the funding is approximately \$73,643,000.

As a first step in applying for SEP Recovery Act funds, an Initial Application was submitted on March 23, 2009 on behalf of the State. Among other things, this initial application packet included a preliminary list of planned project activities. The Initial Application was discussed at the Board's March 27, 2009 special agenda meeting. The second step of the application process required the Board to submit a comprehensive application package on May 12, 2009 to the USDOE. The comprehensive application included more detailed descriptions of the preliminary planned project activities and budget justification information. The Board has

prepared and submitted an application package conforming to the USDOE's instructions and containing all required information and attachments.

As set forth more fully in the attached application, the Board proposes to use SEP funds allocated under the Recovery Act to provide financial assistance for energy efficiency and renewable energy to segments of the public that have been unable or less able to access such assistance through existing State programs. The proposed uses of the Recovery Act SEP funding will supplement or expand existing New Jersey Clean Energy Program ("NJCEP") programs, and is therefore consistent with the goals of the Recovery Act, New Jersey's Energy Master Plan, and the New Jersey Clean Energy Program. Therefore, Staff recommended that the Board approve the application package and authorize its submission as within time.

Having reviewed the application and Staff's recommendation, the Board HEREBY FINDS that the Plan contains programs designed to further State and Federal energy conservation and efficiency goals in accord with the Recovery Act and New Jersey's Energy Master Plan. The Board FURTHER FINDS that the Plan utilizes the Recovery Act funding to supplement and expand existing NJCEP programs. The Board HEREBY FINDS that the application package has been properly prepared and duly submitted to the USDOE on May 12, 2009. In light of the foregoing, the Board HEREBY APPROVES the application package and AUTHORIZES its submission as within time.

DATED: 6/16/09

**BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES** 

BY:

PRESIDENT

COMMISSIONER

NICHOLAS ASSELTA COMMISSIONER

JOSEPH L. FIORDALISO

COMMISSIONER

ELIZABETH RANDALL COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:

**SECRETARY** 

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the within document is a true copy of the original in the files of the Board of Public