



Agenda Date: 12/19/17
Agenda Item: 9A

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
Board of Public Utilities
44 South Clinton Avenue, 3rd Floor, Suite 314
Post Office Box 350
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0350
www.nj.gov/bpu/

MISCELLANEOUS

IN THE MATTER OF THE NEW JERSEY BOARD OF)
PUBLIC UTILITIES – NATURAL GAS VEHICLE) ORDER
INCREMENTAL COST GRANT PROGRAM)
MODIFICATIONS) DOCKET NO. QO17101024

Party of Record:

Stefanie A. Brand, Esq., Director, New Jersey Division of Rate Counsel

BY THE BOARD:¹

BACKGROUND AND PROCEDURAL HISTORY

The New Jersey Board of Public Utilities ("Board" or "BPU") is engaged in implementing the New Jersey Energy Master Plan ("EMP") policy of accelerating the adoption of Alternative Fuel Vehicles ("AFVs"), including electric vehicles and natural gas vehicles ("NGVs").

The BPU allocated \$200,000 of its 2017–2018 State Energy Plan funds to an Alternative Fuel Vehicles Compressed Natural Gas Vehicle Incremental Cost Grant program. The primary goal of the program is to improve New Jersey's air quality and reduce reliance on and consumption of foreign oil through the use of domestic natural gas as a transportation fuel.

On October 20, 2017, the Board approved the Natural Gas Vehicle Incremental Cost Grant Program and authorized Staff to publish the application for grant awards and a description of the grant approval process. Staff posted the application form and description of the grant approval process on the Office of Clean Energy ("OCE") website and sent an announcement to OCE email lists.²

This program has been adapted from Pennsylvania's Alternative Fuel Incentive Grant Program, except that this program is non-competitive. As further detailed in the application, eligible applicants include municipal authorities, political subdivisions, incorporated nonprofit entities, corporations, and limited liability companies or partnerships registered to do business in New

¹ Commissioner Upendra J. Chivukula did not participate.

² The application and information is available at <http://www.nj.gov/bpu/commercial/cng.html>.

Jersey. The eligible alternative fuel is limited to CNG vehicles only. Funding covers 50% of the incremental cost differential between an NGV and a comparable diesel-fueled vehicle. NGVs are significantly more expensive than comparable diesel vehicles. Awards are in the form of a reimbursement, premised on proof of purchase of a new NGV. Retrofits of used existing vehicles are excluded.

BPU began accepting applications at 12:00 P.M. (noon) on November 20, 2017. The application window is set to close at 12:00 P.M. (noon) on December 20, 2017.

As of December 18, 2017, BPU had received no applications. Staff therefore recommends a second application round in which applications will be accepted from 12:00 P.M. (noon) on January 2, 2018 until 12:00 P.M. (noon) on April 2, 2018. Staff also recommends expanding the application eligibility criteria from seven counties at present to include all 21 counties in New Jersey and increasing the award caps from \$20,000 to \$25,000 per vehicle and from \$40,000 to \$50,000 per applicant as detailed in the revised attached Natural Gas Vehicle Incremental Cost Grant Application. Staff will conduct outreach to increase public awareness of the availability of these grant awards.

If the Board receives applications within the first application window (November 20, 2017 to December 20, 2017), the Board will review them and award grants based on the eligibility criteria and award amounts specified in the November 20, 2017 to December 20, 2017 application round.

As in the first application round, funds will be awarded on a first-come, first serve basis. First-in-time will be ranked by the receipt of timely complete applications on the BPU email server. Staff will screen and accept applications for eligibility until available funds are exhausted. BPU will then seek to enter into grant contracts with awardees. BPU may "inspect" some or all of the purchased vehicles as a program verification measure. BPU will reimburse awardees that provide documentation that they have purchased an eligible NGV.

DISCUSSION

Staff recommends that the Board approve the revised Natural Gas Vehicle Incremental Cost Grant Program and authorize Staff to publish the attached application for grant awards and begin accepting applications on January 2, 2018 at 12:00 P.M. (noon) until 12:00 P.M. (noon) on April 2, 2018. Staff also recommends that the Board authorize the President of the Board to approve disbursement of the grant awards on a first-in-time basis.

The Board has determined that the recommendations of Staff to expand the eligibility criteria as described above and to open a second application round are reasonable. The Board **HEREBY APPROVES** the revised Natural Gas Vehicle Incremental Grant Program and **HEREBY AUTHORIZES** the sitting or acting President of the Board to approve disbursement of the grant awards and execute the requisite grant agreements.

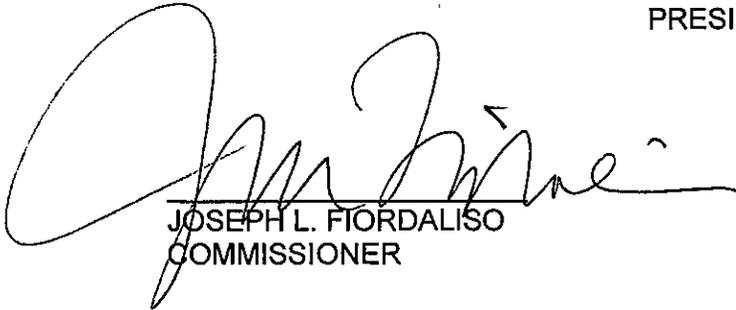
This Order shall be effective on December 29, 2017.

DATED: 12/19/17

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES
BY:



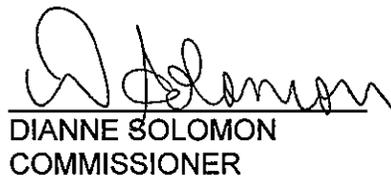
RICHARD S. MROZ
PRESIDENT



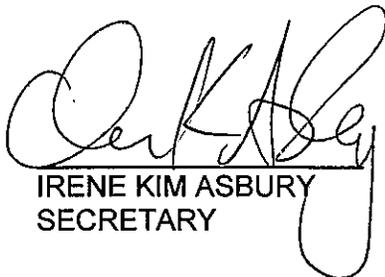
JOSEPH L. FIORDALISO
COMMISSIONER



MARY-ANNA HOLDEN
COMMISSIONER

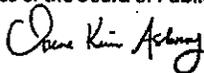


DIANNE SOLOMON
COMMISSIONER

ATTEST: 

IRENE KIM ASBURY
SECRETARY

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



IN THE MATTER OF THE NEW JERSEY BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES – NATURAL GAS
VEHICLE INCREMENTAL COST GRANT PROGRAM

DOCKET NO. QO17101024

SERVICE LIST

Stefanie A. Brand, Esq., Director
Division of Rate Counsel
140 East Front Street, 4th Floor
Post Office Box 003
Trenton, NJ 08625-0003
sbrand@rpa.nj.gov

Caroline Vachier, DAG
Department of Law & Public Safety
Division of Law
124 Halsey Street
Post Office Box 45029
Newark, NJ 07101-45029
caroline.vachier@law.njoag.gov

Andrew Kuntz, DAG
Department of Law & Public Safety
Division of Law
124 Halsey Street
Post Office Box 45029
Newark, NJ 07101-45029
andrew.kuntz@law.njoag.gov

Irene Kim Asbury, Esq.
Secretary of the Board
Board of Public Utilities
44 South Clinton Avenue, 3rd Floor, Suite 314
Post Office Box 350
Trenton, NJ 08625-0350
irene.asbury@bpu.nj.gov

Rachel Boylan, Esq.
Counsel's Office
Board of Public Utilities
44 South Clinton Avenue, 3rd Floor, Suite 314
Post Office Box 350
Trenton, NJ 08625-0350
rachel.boylan@bpu.nj.gov

Stacy Ho Richardson, Esq.
Counsel's Office
Board of Public Utilities
44 South Clinton Avenue, 3rd Floor, Suite 314
Post Office Box 350
Trenton, NJ 08625-0350
stacy.richardson@bpu.nj.gov

Michael Winka
Senior Policy Advisor
Office of Policy & Planning
Board of Public Utilities
44 South Clinton Avenue, 3rd Floor, Suite 314
Post Office Box 350
Trenton, NJ 08625-0350
michael.winka@bpu.nj.gov

Michael Hornsby
Chief Project Development Officer
Office of Policy & Planning
Board of Public Utilities
44 South Clinton Avenue, 3rd Floor, Suite 314
Post Office Box 350
Trenton, NJ 08625-0350
michael.hornsby@bpu.nj.gov



STATE OF NEW JERSEY BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

Natural Gas Vehicle Incremental Cost Grant Application Form (Revised Dec. 7, 2017)

The NJBPU is offering \$200,000 in grant funding to subsidize the incremental cost of purchasing certain new Natural Gas Vehicles (NGVs). The primary goal of the grant is to improve New Jersey's air quality and reduce reliance on and consumption of foreign oil through the use of domestic natural gas. BPU is soliciting applications for such purchases within the state. BPU staff will accept applications on a first come, first serve basis until funds are exhausted.

- Eligible applicants include municipal authorities, political subdivisions, incorporated nonprofit entities, corporations, and limited liability companies or partnerships registered to do business in New Jersey.
- The eligible alternative fuel is limited to compressed natural gas (CNG) only.
- Funding will cover 50% of the incremental cost differential between an NGV and a comparable diesel-fueled vehicle. There will be award caps of \$25,000 per vehicle and \$50,000 per applicant.
- Applicants will be required to identify an existing primary fueling site located in New Jersey that the vehicle will utilize.
- Awards shall be in the form of a reimbursement, premised on proof of purchase of a new NGV. Retrofits of used existing vehicles are excluded.
- Vehicles must be registered in New Jersey in order to be eligible to apply.
- Vehicles must remain registered in New Jersey for no less than two years after award date, or will be subject to award forfeiture.
- Vehicles must be primarily operated and fueled in New Jersey.
- Vehicle Classes 5 through 8 are eligible.
- Vehicles must be EPA and California Air Resources Board (CARB) compliant.
- The BPU reserves the right to "inspect" the vehicle for program verification purposes.
- Purchase eligible vehicle(s) by June 30, 2018. Vehicles purchased prior to October 20, 2017 are not eligible. Leased vehicles are not eligible.

Procedure

Step 1: Complete this Application Form, the NJBPU Natural Gas Vehicle Incremental Cost Grant Data Form, W-9 Form, and sign your business up for NJStart if you haven't already.

Step 2: Submit documents to NJBPU via this email box: BPU.CNGVehicleGrant@BPU.NJ.Gov.

- Application window opens: no sooner than 12:00 P.M. (noon) on January 2, 2018
- Application window closes: 12:00 P.M. (noon) on April 2, 2018

First in time will be ranked by the receipt of timely complete applications on the BPU email server.

Step 3: If the grant application is approved, NJBPU will provide and execute a grant agreement with the applicant.

Step 4: Purchase eligible vehicle(s) by June 30 2018. Vehicles purchased prior to October 20, 2017 are not eligible.



STATE OF NEW JERSEY
BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

Natural Gas Vehicle Incremental Cost Grant Application Form (Revised Dec. 7, 2017)

Step 5: Complete and submit a NJBPU Natural Gas Vehicle Incremental Cost Grant Reimbursement Request Form along with paid invoice(s) to NJBPU via this email box: BPU.CNGVehicleGrant@BPU.NJ.Gov.

Step 6: After NJBPU review and approval of provided invoices, grant funds will be disbursed. Although the applicant must include the requested grant amount in this application, the BPU, in its sole discretion, will determine the reimbursement amount based on 50% of the differential between the invoice price and a comparable conventional vehicle. BPU will arrange to have a check issued to the applicant for 50% of the incremental vehicle cost differential. (An exception to this formula may arise when available grant funds approach becoming exhausted. In such a case, the balance of the fund, which may be less than 50% of the incremental vehicle cost differential, would be awarded).

All fields are required to be completed. Failure to include required information may delay processing of your grant application or denial of a grant. If you have questions, please email BPU.CNGVehicleGrant@BPU.NJ.Gov

APPLICANT INFORMATION			
Applicant (Check One):			Application Date:
<input type="checkbox"/> Municipality, County, Other Local Government			
<input type="checkbox"/> Corporation*			
<input type="checkbox"/> Limited Liability Company or Partnership*			
<input type="checkbox"/> Non Profit			
* If the Grantee is a corporation or partnership, the Grantee must submit a disclosure of the names and addresses of any persons who own 10% or more of the firm's stock or interest. If the Grantee is a corporation incorporated outside of New Jersey, the Grantee must obtain a certificate of authority to do business in New Jersey from the Department of Treasury and file a copy with the Grant Officer.			
Organization Name:			
Mailing Address:	City:	State:	Zip:
Contact Person:	Phone:	Email:	
Vendor ID Number: (Obtain from NJStart)		DUNS Number:	



STATE OF NEW JERSEY
BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

Natural Gas Vehicle Incremental Cost Grant Application Form (Revised Dec. 7, 2017)

Financial Officer's Name:		Title:	
Grant Executor's Name:		Title:	
(Person authorized to sign the grant agreement on behalf of the applicant)			
Resolution Certifier's Name:		Title:	
(Person that will sign to certify that the resolution to accept the funding was passed. This person cannot be the same as the Grant Executor.)			
Type of Governing Body: (e.g. Mayor and Council, Township Committee, Board of Commissioners, Board of Freeholders, etc.)			
Accounting Method: <input type="checkbox"/> Cash <input type="checkbox"/> Modified Accrual <input type="checkbox"/> Accrual <input type="checkbox"/> Other			Date Fiscal Year Ends:

Insurance: The Grantee maintains and must continue to maintain the required insurance coverages as follows: (Check your coverage)	1. Comprehensive general liability		3. Worker's compensation	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Insurance	<input type="checkbox"/>	Insurance
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Self-insurance	<input type="checkbox"/>	Self-insurance
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not required	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not required
	2. Automotive liability		4. Employer's liability	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Insurance	<input type="checkbox"/>	Insurance
<input type="checkbox"/>	Self-insurance	<input type="checkbox"/>	Self-insurance	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Not required	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not required	
Certificates of insurance or documentation of self-insurance:	<input type="checkbox"/> Are on file with the BPU.			
	<input type="checkbox"/> Will be forthcoming within 30 days after the effective date of the agreement.			
	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (explain)			
Grant Requested:	\$			

Name

Title

Date

Signature



STATE OF NEW JERSEY
BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

Natural Gas Vehicle Incremental Cost Grant Application Form (Revised Dec. 7, 2017)

List of Applicable Documents

During Application

1. Natural Gas Vehicle Incremental Cost Grant Application Form (this Form)
2. Natural Gas Vehicle Incremental Cost Grant Application Data Form (attached)
3. W-9
4. NJ Start Registration

Post Award

5. Proof of purchase of a new NGV
6. Grant Agreement
7. NJBPU Natural Gas Vehicle Incremental Cost Grant Reimbursement Request Form
8. Treasury Circular NO. 07-05-OMB. Link: <http://www.nj.gov/infobank/circular/cir0705b.pdf>