



Agenda Date: 4/22/26  
Agenda Item: 8D

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**Board of Public Utilities**  
44 South Clinton Avenue, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0350  
[www.nj.gov/bpu/](http://www.nj.gov/bpu/)

CLEAN ENERGY

IN THE MATTER OF THE CLEAN ENERGY PROGRAM )  
AUTHORIZATION OF COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL ) ORDER  
ENERGY EFFICIENCY INCENTIVES EXCEEDING )  
\$500,000 – JOINT MEETING OF ESSEX AND UNION )  
COUNTIES ) DOCKET NO. QO26020042

**Parties of Record:**

**Brian O. Lipman, Esq., Director**, New Jersey Division of Rate Counsel  
**Hanifa Johnson, Executive Director**, Joint Meeting of Essex and Union Counties

BY THE BOARD:

The New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (“Board”) through New Jersey’s Clean Energy Program (“NJCEP”) manages several individual commercial and industrial (“C&I”) energy efficiency (“EE”) programs targeting the C&I market segments. Eligible applicants may receive rebates for a portion of the cost of installing energy efficient technologies such as heating, ventilation, and air conditioning and other energy conservation measures (“ECMs”). NJCEP offers incentives to large energy users to upgrade or install ECMs in existing buildings to help offset these capital costs. Incentives are also available for projects involving distributed energy resources. All proposed C&I EE financial incentives and rebates exceeding \$500,000 require explicit Board approval.<sup>1</sup>

The Combined Heat and Power & Fuel Cell (“CHP-FC”) Program is open to all C&I customers of investor-owned utilities. Incentives are disbursed upon completion of three (3) program milestones: 1) proof of purchase of equipment; 2) project installation and operation, including successful inspection; and 3) acceptance and confirmation of achievement of the required performance thresholds based upon twelve (12) months of operating data.

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<sup>1</sup> In re the Comprehensive Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Resource Analysis for the 2009 Through 2012 Clean Energy Program -- Revised 2012-2013 Programs & Budgets - Revised Rebate Approval Process, BPU Docket No. EO07030203, Order dated May 3, 2013.

By this Order, the Board considers the application of the Joint Meeting of Essex and Union Counties (“Applicant”), submitted on December 19, 2024 under the Fiscal Year 2025 (“FY25”) CHP-FC Program pursuant to the Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Program Plan Filing for FY25 dated June 27, 2024.<sup>2</sup> The project is located at a wastewater treatment plant in Elizabeth, New Jersey. The Applicant requested a total financial incentive of \$3,174,090 for a project that is expected to cost \$15,502,288. The incentive amount includes a critical facility bonus and Class 1 renewable fuel bonus.<sup>3</sup> The Applicant also received a grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (“FEMA”) of approximately \$12,328,198 which would reduce the project cost for the counties to \$0.

This project involves the installation of two (2) 998-kilowatt CHP units for a total system size of 1,996 kilowatts, with an overall system efficiency of 62.9%. These units would provide space heating, process heating, and electricity for the facility. They would also provide the facility with black start and islanding capabilities. Furthermore, the wastewater treatment plant produces biogas through anaerobic digestion that would provide fuel for the CHP units.

The project is anticipated to annually produce 14,991,207.5 kilowatt-hours of electricity and 36,530.3 million British thermal units of recovered heat. Without the FEMA grant or the NJCEP incentive, the estimated payback period is 12.55 years; when factoring in the FEMA grant and without the NJCEP incentive, the estimated payback period is 2.57 years; when factoring in the NJCEP incentive and without the FEMA grant, the estimated payback period is 9.98 years; when factoring in the FEMA grant and the NJCEP incentive, the estimated payback period is reduced to zero (0) years.

TRC Environmental Corporation (“TRC”), the Program Manager engaged by the Board to manage the CHP-FC program, attested to the accuracy of certain information regarding the project and that the project application adheres to the current terms and conditions of the program. Further, TRC, in its role as the NJCEP Program Administrator, certified that the incentives were calculated in accordance with the program’s policies and procedures, the listed amounts are the true and accurate estimated incentives for which Applicant is eligible, and the documentation supporting estimated energy savings inputs was located, reviewed, and made available to calculate the rebate amounts as required by the program’s policies and procedures.

## **DISCUSSION AND FINDINGS**

The Board **HEREBY ORDERS** the approval of the aforementioned application for the total estimated incentive amount of \$3,174,090 for Joint Meeting of Essex and Union Counties and **AUTHORIZES** issuance of a standard commitment letter to the Applicant, setting forth the terms and conditions of this commitment.

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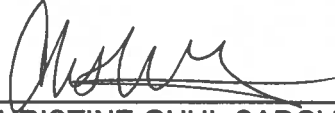
<sup>2</sup> See In re the Clean Energy Programs and Budget for Fiscal Year 2025, BPU Docket No. QO24040224, Order dated June 27, 2024.

<sup>3</sup> Class 1 renewable energy is defined as energy produced from solar technologies, photovoltaic technologies, wind energy, fuel cells, geothermal technologies, wave or tidal action, small scale hydropower facilities with a capacity of three megawatts or less and put into service after the effective date of P.L.2012, c.24, methane gas from landfills, methane gas from a biomass facility provided that the biomass is cultivated and harvested in a sustainable manner, or methane gas from a composting or anaerobic or aerobic digestion facility that converts food waste or other organic waste to energy.

The effective date of this Order is April 29, 2026.

DATED: April 22, 2026

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES  
BY:



CHRISTINE GUHL-SADOVY  
PRESIDENT



DR. ZENON CHRISTODOULOU  
COMMISSIONER



MICHAEL BANGE  
COMMISSIONER

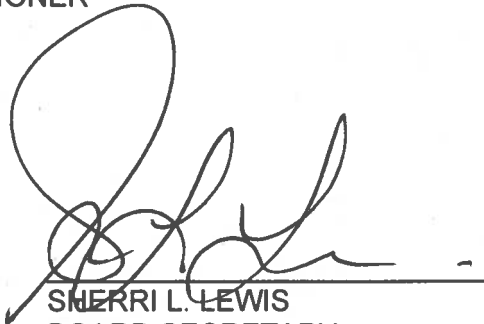


EMMA REBHORN  
COMMISSIONER



JOSEPH COVIELLO  
COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:



SHERRIL L. LEWIS  
BOARD 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 CLEAN ENERGY PROGRAM AUTHORIZATION OF COMMERCIAL AND  
INDUSTRIAL ENERGY EFFICIENCY INCENTIVES EXCEEDING \$500,000 – JOINT MEETING OF  
ESSEX AND UNION COUNTIES

DOCKET NO. QO26020042

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