State of New Jersey Governor Philip D. Murphy Lt. Governor Sheila Y. Oliver

Board of Public Utilities







Revised – September 9, 2021 *Revised - September 8, 2021 Joseph L. Fiordaliso **President

> Mary-Anna Holden Dianne Solomon Upendra Chivukula Bob Gordon Commissioners

NOTICE¹

IN THE MATTER OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF L. 2021, C. 200 REGARDING ESTABLISHMENT OF THE SCHOOL AND SMALL BUSINESS ENERGY EFFICIENCY STIMULUS PROGRAM

* Docket No. QO21081073

Pursuant to the "Open Public Meetings Act," N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq., the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (NJBPU or Board) hereby gives notice of a Stakeholder Meeting on the establishment of the School and Small Business Energy Efficiency Stimulus Program.

STAKEHOLDER MEETING

Monday, September 13, 2021 DATE:

TIME: 3:00 p.m.

LOCATION: Zoom Virtual Webinar

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_mKvMBqDnRAuqRI3iXrZPmQ

On August 24, 2021, Governor Phil Murphy signed into law L. 2021, c. 200 (Law) which directs NJBPU to establish and administer a School and Small Business Energy Efficiency Stimulus Program (SSB EE Stimulus Program) Fund for the installation of certain heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems as well as energy efficient and water-conserving plumbing fixtures and appliances that can improve air quality and energy efficiency in schools and businesses, especially those in underserved communities.

Pursuant to the Law, the SSB EE Stimulus Program Fund will be funded by monies provided to the State of New Jersey from the federal government under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, Pub. L. No. 117-2, and will be allocated as follows:

- 1. The School and Small Business Ventilation and Energy Efficiency Verification and Repair Program (SSB-VEEVR) (75% of total funds) will provide grants to ensure recipients have functional HVAC systems that are tested, adjusted, and, if necessary or cost effective, repaired, upgraded, or replaced to increase efficiency and performance. **The draft SSB-VEEVR program guide is available here.
 - 75% of SSB-VEEVR funds allotted to school districts:
 - 75% to school districts located in underserved communities
 - 25% to other school districts

¹ Not a paid legal advertisement.

- 25% of SSB-VEEVR funds allotted to small businesses:
 - 75% to small businesses located in underserved communities
 - 25% to other small businesses
- 2. The School and Small Business Noncompliant Plumbing Fixture and Appliance Program (SSB-NPFA) (25% of total funds) will provide grants for replacement of noncompliant plumbing fixtures and appliances with water-conserving plumbing fixtures and appliances. **The draft SSB-NPFA program guide is available here.
 - 75% of SSB-NPFA funds allocated to school districts:
 - 75% to school districts located in underserved communities
 - 25% to other school districts
 - 25% of SSB-NPFA funds allocated to small businesses:
 - 75% to small businesses located in underserved communities
 - 25% to other small businesses

The law defines an underserved community as a school district in which at least 75% of public school students are eligible to receive free or reduced-price meals under the National School Lunch Program. The law defines a small business as a sole proprietorship, partnership, or corporation that has its principal place of business in New Jersey, is of a size and type determined by NJBPU, and is a women- or minority-owned business.²

Board Staff released the draft guidelines for SSB-VEEVR and SSB-NPFA on September 8, 2021 on the NJBPU website. Board Staff will present an overview of the programs and eligibility at the September 13 Stakeholder Meeting, with opportunity for clarifying questions and comments.

**The deadline for electronic or written comments on the draft guidelines is 5 p.m. on September 23, 2021. Although both will be given equal consideration, the preferred method of transmittal is electronic.

Please submit electronic comments directly to the specific docket listed above using the "Post Comments" button on the Board's <u>Public Document Search</u> tool, or send written comments to:

Aida Camacho-Welch Secretary of the Board 44 South Clinton Avenue, 1st Floor Post Office Box 350 Trenton, NJ 08625-0350 Phone: 609-292-1599

Comments are considered "public documents" for purposes of the State's Open Public Records Act and any confidential information should be submitted in accordance with the procedures set forth in N.J.A.C. 14:1-12.3.

 $^{^2}$ For definitions of a certified "women's business" and a "minority business," see section 2 of <u>L.</u> 1987, <u>c.</u> 55 (N.J.S.A. 52:27H-21.8).

Please submit any questions regarding this matter to energyefficiency@bpu.nj.gov and include the subject line "SSB EE Stimulus Program" as applicable.

Aida Camacho-Welch Secretary of the Board

Dida Camacho Welch

Dated: September 9, 2021