REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

IN THE MATTER OF US DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY - THE STATE ENERGY PROGRAM COMPETITIVE PROGRAM 2017 NEW JERSEY UNDERSERVED COMMUNITIES ELECTRIC VEHICLE AFFORDABILITY PROGRAM

*Docket No. QO19010099*

Staff of the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities ("NJBPU" or "Board") invites all interested parties and members of the public to provide written comments on the draft report on an electric vehicle (EV”) transportation study conducted to identify how low and moderate income communities can gain better access to electric vehicles (“EVs”), titled New Jersey Underserved Communities Electric Vehicle Affordability Program (the “Study”).

On January 11, 2018, the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities ("NJBPU" or “Board”) applied for a United States Department of Energy (“USDOE”) State Energy Program (“SEP”) competitive grant (“Grant”) to implement the Study. On February 1, 2019, the USDOE awarded the Grant to the Board to implement the Study.

The Study was performed by Board Staff, with assistance from Rowan University, by conducting a series of interviews with local New Jersey government representatives and community group leaders within three communities, Newark, New Brunswick, and Washington Township (Gloucester County), as well as conducting a literature review on the topics of eMobility and Multi Unit Dwellings (“MUDs”) in order to identify best practices for increasing access to EVs in overburdened communities.

A review and analysis of existing ride-hailing and car sharing programs that utilize EVs was also performed to identify how support could be given to these growing operations and how they could be most effectively integrated into overburdened communities.

In addition, funding sources that could support a program to further New Jersey’s goal of increasing access to EVs in overburdened communities were identified.

Finally, a list of recommendations and best practices was developed from a combination of feedback received during the interview process, and Board Staff's research and analysis. These recommendations address how to increase access to EVs in overburdened communities, while considering their feasibility of implementation.

Board Staff is requesting public comment on the draft report to inform development of the final report of the Study.

The deadline for comments on this matter is 5 p.m. Eastern Time on August 9, 2022.

Please submit comments directly to the specific docket listed above using the “Post Comments” button on the Board’s Public Document Search tool. 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.

Written comments may also be submitted to:

Secretary of the Board
44 South Clinton Ave., 1st Floor
PO Box 350
Trenton, NJ 08625-0350
Phone: 609-292-1599
Email: board.secretary@bpu.nj.gov
Please direct all questions about this matter to board.secretary@bpu.nj.gov with the subject “Study on NJ Underserved Communities EV Affordability Program, *Docket No. QO19010099.*”

Board Staff looks forward to receiving and reviewing your comments.

Dated: July 27, 2022

Carmen D. Diaz  
Acting Secretary of the Board