

LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY

(a)

DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS

Notice of Final Action on Petition for Rulemaking Board of Marriage and Family Therapy Examiners Professional Counselor Examiners Committee N.J.A.C. 13:34-13.1

Petitioner: Jeffrey W. Cox Jr., LPC, LCADC, ACS.

Take notice that on March 10, 2025, the Professional Counselor Examiners Committee (Committee) of the Board of Marriage and Family Therapy Examiners (Board) received a petition for rulemaking from the above-named petitioner requesting that the Board amend the experience and training requirements for supervisors of licensed associate counselors. Specifically, the petitioner requests that the Board amend N.J.A.C. 13:34-13.1 to allow only the following individuals to supervise licensed associate counselors: (1) licensed professional counselors, licensed clinical social workers, and licensed marriage and family therapists with at least three years of licensure in New Jersey; (2) individuals who hold doctoral degrees in counseling or psychology with at least one year of postdoctoral experience in clinical practice; and (3) individuals who hold a Psychiatric Advanced Practice Nurse or Psychiatrist license with at least one year of experience in mental health counseling. In addition, the petitioner requests that the Board require supervisors to obtain an approved clinical supervisor credential from the Center for Credentialing and Education of the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC) or have completed at least 27 credits in counseling related coursework.

Currently, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:34-13.1(a), supervisors of licensed associate counselors must have 4,500 hours of work experience subsequent to obtaining a clinical license to provide mental health counseling services. They must also have either an approved clinical supervisor credential from the Center for Credentialing and Education of the NBCC, an equivalent supervisor credential recognized by their respective professional healthcare licensing board, or three graduate credits in clinical supervision from a regionally accredited institution of higher education. In addition, pursuant to the definition of "qualified supervisor" at N.J.A.C. 13:34-10.2, only individuals who hold a clinical license to engage in the practice of professional counseling, marriage and family therapy, psychology, psychiatry, and social work may supervise licensed associate counselors provided they meet the requirements at N.J.A.C. 13:34-13.1. The petitioner states that the education and training licensed clinical social workers receive do not provide the in-depth training in counseling-specific techniques, psychotherapeutic models, or diagnostic frameworks required for mental health counseling and, therefore, do not meet the education and training criteria to become a licensed professional counselor. The petitioner also maintains that the clinical supervision certification required for licensed clinical social workers does not align with the supervision standards of the NBCC. Consequently, the petitioner asserts that licensed associate counselors supervised by professionals who lack formal training in professional counseling, such as licensed clinical social workers, may not get the full benefit from supervision, as their supervisors may lack the training and experience necessary to guide and support them.

A notice acknowledging receipt of the petition was filed with the Office of Administrative Law on March 19, 2025, and was published in the New Jersey Register on April 21, 2025, at 57 N.J.R. 849(a).

On April 3, 2025, the Committee referred this matter to its Regulations Sub-Committee for further deliberation in order to develop a better understanding of the implications this request would have for licensees and the public. A notice acknowledging the Committee's action on April 3, 2025, was filed with the Office of Administrative Law on July 11, 2025, and was published in the New Jersey Register on August 4, 2025, at 57 N.J.R. 1734(a).

Take further notice that at its June 5, 2025 meeting, the Committee, after an oral report of the Regulations Sub-Committee, determined to deny the petition for rulemaking. The Committee believes that licensed clinical

social workers have the clinical experience and knowledge necessary to supervise licensed associate counselors. Moreover, the existing rules at N.J.A.C. 13:34-13.1 are comprehensive enough to ensure that licensed associate counselors are only supervised by qualified supervisors.

To qualify for licensure as a clinical social worker in this State, applicants need a master's or a doctorate degree in social work. The Committee reviewed the courses offered by the Master of Social Work programs at Rutgers University, Seton Hall University, Montclair State University, and Kean University. Contrary to the petitioner's assertions, the Committee found that these programs provide extensive training in clinical assessment, diagnosis, and counseling. In addition, to obtain licensure as a clinical social worker in this State, applicants must have completed 3,000 hours of clinical social work under direct supervision. Of the 3,000 hours of experience required for licensure, at least 1,920 hours must be obtained through face-to-face client contact. Consistent with the education and training licensed clinical social workers receive, their scope of practice includes clinical assessment, clinical consultation, and psychotherapeutic counseling. Lastly, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:34-13.1(c), prior to supervising the provision of professional counseling services, a qualified supervisor must create a written supervision plan with their supervisee that includes the supervisor's qualifications. Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:24-13.1(d), the Committee evaluates every supervisor and plan of supervision on an individual basis and approves only qualified supervisors.

The Board duly considered the Committee's recommendation at its June 12, 2025 public meeting. The Board voted to affirm the Committee's recommendation to deny the petition for the reasons stated by the Committee. Accordingly, the petition is denied.

A copy of this notice has been mailed to the petitioner pursuant to N.J.A.C. 1:30-4.2.

PUBLIC UTILITIES

(b)

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

Notice of Receipt of Petition for Rulemaking Clean Energy Proposed New Rule: Energy Eligible for Class I RECs

Petitioners: Vitol, Inc. and VC Renewables, LLC.

Take notice that on August 11, 2025, the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (Board) received a petition for rulemaking from Vitol, Inc. and VC Renewables, LLC (petitioners) seeking amendments to New Jersey's Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) rules governing eligibility for Class I Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs). The petitioners seek to amend these rules such that out-of-State solar energy generated within the PJM, Inc. (PJM) region or delivered into it would be eligible to serve as the basis for a Class I REC that could be used by third-party suppliers (TPS) and basic generation service (BGS) providers to satisfy their RPS obligations.

In support of its petition, the petitioners state the following: that the proposed rule amendments would amend the definition of eligible Class I renewable energy to remove the requirement that only solar energy from a facility previously certified as eligible to generate energy for the creation of Solar Renewable Energy Certificates (SRECs) may serve as the basis for a Class I REC. Since only solar generation facilities interconnected with an electric distribution system that serves New Jersey customers may generate energy eligible for the creation of an SREC, removing the requirement that a facility must have formerly been eligible to generate energy for the creation of SRECs would allow solar energy generated outside of New Jersey but within the PJM region to serve as the basis for a Class I REC. The petitioners further allege that the proposed amendments are consistent with the statutory definition of Class I renewable energy.

In accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 1:30-4.2, the Board will subsequently mail to the petitioner, and file with the New Jersey Office of Administrative Law, a notice of action on the petition.

(a)

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES**Notice of Fund Availability
Urban Heat Island (UHI) Mitigation Program**

Take notice that the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (“BPU” or “Board”), located at 44 South Clinton Ave, Trenton, New Jersey 08625, hereby announces the availability of a grant using funds from the New Jersey Clean Energy General Fund.

New Jersey has \$5 million available for the program. The funding structure is as follows: (i) Comprehensive UHI Interventions (up to two \$1M grant awards; three-year grant term); (ii) Cooling the Built Environment (up to four \$500,000 grant awards; three-year grant term); and (iii) Urban Microclimate Interventions (up to 20 \$50,000 grant awards; two-year grant term). This notice of funding availability (NOFA) requests qualified entities to submit applications in response to the NOFA linked below.

The full grant solicitation and additional information is available at:

[http://nj.gov/bpu/pdf/publicnotice/UHI%20NOFA%20v3%20\(revisions%20and%20comments%20from%20RB%20%20MI\)%20\(MI5\).pdf](http://nj.gov/bpu/pdf/publicnotice/UHI%20NOFA%20v3%20(revisions%20and%20comments%20from%20RB%20%20MI)%20(MI5).pdf).

Entities that may apply for funding: Funding is available only for projects within designated overburdened municipalities (OBMs), provided the proposed interventions specifically benefit heat-vulnerable and overburdened communities. A list of OBMs can be found at www.njcleanenergy.com/CEP. For (i) Comprehensive UHI Interventions; and (ii) Cooling the Built Environment, OBMs are eligible to apply. For (iii) Urban Microclimate Interventions, only community-based organizations (CBOs) are eligible to apply. CBOs may include local nonprofits, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), grassroots groups, and coalitions.

Application instructions: Please direct email inquiries regarding this notice to community.energy@bpu.nj.gov. OBMs and CBOs applying for this grant must submit an administratively complete application through System for Administering Grants Electronically (SAGE) in order to be considered for funding. The sections and subsections within SAGE that must be correctly filled out are as follows:

- A) Application
 - a. Applicant Information
 - b. Vendor Information
 - c. Officer and Directors List
 - d. Program Details
 - e. Objectives
 - f. Background History/Capacity/Financial Management
 - g. Agency Minority Profile
 - h. Personnel Expenses
 - i. Personnel Justification
 - j. Consultant Services Cost
 - k. Other Cost Categories
 - l. Cost Summary
 - m. Required Documents (to be attached in SAGE)
 - B) Contract
 - a. Application for Grant Funds Certification Regarding Debarment and Suspension
 - b. Application for Grant Funds Certification Regarding Lobbying
 - c. Certification Sheet
- A more comprehensive UHI Program guidance packet will be available to all interested applicants at <https://www.njcleanenergy.com/cep>.
- Application due date:** All applications are due on or around 5:00 P.M., Eastern time on Friday, December 15, 2025.

Applicants will receive notice of the award within 365 days of the close of the application window.

TRANSPORTATION

(b)

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER**Notice of Receipt of Petition for Rulemaking
N.J.A.C. 16:1A-3**

Petitioner: Caleb L. McGillvary.

Take notice that on September 5, 2025, the New Jersey Department of Transportation (Department) received a petition for rulemaking from Caleb L. McGillvary seeking the promulgation of rules pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:14B-4(f) and implementing rules at N.J.A.C. 16:1A-3.

The petitioner demands that the Department adopt rules to establish a permanent advisory board composed of women from diverse demographics to conduct ongoing women’s audits of services and operations provided by the Department and New Jersey Transit.

The petitioner states that transportation systems in New Jersey and across the U.S. have historically been designed without full consideration of the unique needs, experiences, and safety concerns of women. The petitioner also states that Title VI and equity impact reviews are standard practice but often do not capture women-specific patterns and disparities in mobility, care-based trips, safety at night, sexual harassment, or affordability for low-wage earners.

The petitioner indicates that by establishing the proposed board, the Department will: (1) Promote safety, accessibility, and dignity for all users; (2) Demonstrate leadership in women’s rights in mobility policy; and (3) Proactively reduce disparities and ensure equal access for the millions of New Jersey women who rely on public infrastructure and services.

In accordance with the provisions at N.J.A.C. 1:30-4.2 and 16:1A-3.1, the Commissioner of the Department, on behalf of the Department, will mail to the petitioner, and file with the New Jersey Office of Administrative Law, a notice of action on the petition for publication in the New Jersey Register.

TREASURY—GENERAL

(c)

DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATION**Notice of Availability of Funds
Economic Development Grant for Municipalities and
Counties Impacted by Horse Racing Sports
Wagering**

Take notice that, in compliance with N.J.S.A. 52:14-34.4, 34.5, and 34.6 (P.L. 1987, c. 7), the Department of the Treasury, Division of Administration (Division), hereby publishes a notice of availability of funds.

Name of program: Economic Development Grant for Municipalities and Counties Impacted by Horse Racing Sports Wagering.

Purposes for which grant funds shall be used: Pursuant to P.L. 2018, c. 130 (codified as N.J.S.A. 5:12A-16), 1.25 percent of the tax imposed on amounts received from horse racing sports wagering operations is to be distributed by the Department of the Treasury, upon application, to any municipality (0.75 percent) and county (0.50 percent), or an economic development authority of that municipality or county, in which the majority of a racetrack is located. The funds must be used to support economic development of that municipality or county, which shall include, but not be limited to, improvements to: transportation and