Re: IEP Feedback

New Jersey can and should be a global leader in addressing our climate emergency. Instead, the findings presented in the Integrated Energy Plan (IEP) fall far short of what we need to do to address the climate crisis. I consider it imperative that you take additional steps through the IEP modeling and analysis to address the critical deficiencies in the IEP before finalizing the IEP and the Energy Master Plan.

NJBPU has given 15 days for the public to comment on the IEP starting from November 1 and ending on November 15. Such a short comment period on modeling that can threaten to shape NJ next 30 years regarding Energy doesn’t make sense. RMI provided the webinar video recording availability notice on November 6 at 3:52pm (cteplin@rmi.org). In effect, the public (stakeholders) were allotted 8 days to assess this and provide feedback to NJBPU. For a 30-year program, this is wrong.

RMI did not present what is occurring around the world with countries, states and companies pursuing hydrogen as the key ingredient for creating a clean energy infrastructure and reducing CO₂ emissions.

The IEP presented on November 1, 2019, doesn’t reflect recent studies, and it is not consistent with how other countries and states are reducing CO₂ emissions and approaching clean energy.

Please do not use the RMI IEP to guide the EMP since the scenarios are flawed and do not leverage what the rest of the world is pursuing.

I realize that NJBPU is under pressure to show that they are done with the EMP and now the IEP, but this is a 30-year project. They need support to know that they can take several years to get the planning for the right mix of energies and conversion to enable New Jersey to be 100% converted to clean energy (as specified in the EO28). Using RMI castigates NJ residents over the long term with higher costs and solutions that are not consistent with the rest of the world.

Please consider the following request for action:

Create an Energy Master Plan Transformation Program (EMPTP) Office that would directly report to Governor Murphy.

Cancel target for the IEP to be completed by December 2019. This is not realistic, uses bad information, and completely ignores what is taking place in other countries and California. Rather: Have NJBPU and other Agencies involved spend 2020 through 2025 developing the Integrated Energy Plan as a project track in the EMPTP.

I greatly appreciate the work NJBPU has taken on the EMP and for all of its oversight on current energy demand. Please do not write off the future from premature data and analysis simply to issue a Final EMP. This is a substantial long-term change for New Jersey, and we need to take the time to figure out the best plan that helps New Jersey change.

New Jersey Agencies should be given time since this EMP is going to take place and last the 30 years. Please take the time to do this right. Short answers today will not reflect cost effective clean energy solutions even 5 years from now and in fact will curtail our ability to adopt better answers even in the next 2 years. We don’t need the wrong answer today or this year.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the IEP. I am counting on NJBPU to listen to all input, including all comments submitted on the Draft EMP, and run additional scenarios to successfully combat the growing climate emergency here in NJ.
Regards,
Ankit