Dear Drafters of the EMP:

I am writing to thank you for initiating the public conversation about NJ’s energy future by publishing a first draft of the Energy Master Plan that will have such an important role in determining the quality of life for New Jerseyans in the foreseeable future.

I hope you will take my comments below in the spirit in which they are intended: constructive feedback to help improve the effectiveness of the EMP.

* The document calls for more study of climate-related issues. There has already been ample study, by the U.N., by many independent climate-study bodies and scientists, by Project Drawdown and many others. What we need NOW is action. Please do not waste my tax dollars by setting up an unnecessary study commission!

* I am not completely certain that the EMP adequately states the urgency of the challenge we face. The most important element of any climate rescue and restoration plan must be a complete halt to new fossil fuel projects in NJ, giving us 100% renewable energy by 2050 — or sooner!

* We need performance milestones in the EMP to insure accountability, not just a statement of the end goal. I was a teacher for forty years and I have to say that this is basic and absolutely required in any kind of plan for anything. If I had ever submitted a lesson plan with only the desired outcomes and no indicators of progress toward those outcomes, my principal would have asked me for a complete rewrite.

The EMP also needs to include soot regulation (a dangerous by-product of the use of fossil fuels) to help mitigate health risks to our state’s vulnerable communities, as well as a carefully considered method of cooperation with NJ’s labor leaders to help create high quality, unionizable jobs in the Green Economy that will result from implementation of a strong and effective EMP.

Again, thank you for initiating the public conversation on this extremely important topic.

Sincerely,
Keith F. Voos
3 Park Lake Drive
North Brunswick, NJ 08902