



NEW JERSEY BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES PRESS RELEASE

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Public Hearings on Utilities' Storm Response Scheduled for Bergen, Camden and Hunterdon Counties

The remaining public hearings have been scheduled as part of the BPU staff investigation into the response of the state's four electric companies to the three March nor'easters.

The third hearing will take place on Monday April 16, from 4-7 p.m. in the Township of Mahwah Municipal Offices, Bergen County at 475 Corporate Drive. The fourth will occur on Monday April 23, from 4-7 at the Winslow Township Municipal Building in Camden County. The fifth and final hearing will take place on Friday May 4, from 4-7 at the Sergeantsville Firehouse, 761 Sergeantsville Road.

"I have promised that we will get to the bottom of what led to so many state residents losing power for such a long period of time," said BPU President Joseph L. Fiordaliso. "I would like to invite the public to attend a hearing in their area so they can share their experiences and help us make improvements to reduce the chances of this happening again."

In addition to public hearing comments, written comments may be submitted via email to board.secretary@bpu.nj.gov or in writing to Aida Camacho-Welch, Secretary of the Board, Board of Public Utilities, 44 South Clinton, Avenue, 3rd Floor, Suite 314, Post Office Box 350, Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0350.

Those filing written comments should reference March 2018 Winter Storm Events comments Docket Number EO18030255 in the subject field for emails and in the heading of any written correspondence. Comments will be accepted until May 31, 2018 pertaining to these hearings and will receive as much consideration in the investigation as oral comments provided at the hearings.

Winter storms Quinn, Riley and Toby left hundreds of thousands of the state's residents without power, some for more than ten days.

In addition to holding public hearings, President Fiordaliso directed Board staff to closely review the more than 100 utility storm protocols ordered by the BPU following Superstorm Sandy and Hurricane Irene to ensure that those protocols were followed and to recommend changes as needed.

Board staff is reviewing preparedness, mutual assistance agreements, vegetation management, communication, and the potential for underground lines, among other items.

About the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (NJBPU)

The NJBPU is a state agency and regulatory authority mandated to ensure safe, adequate and proper utility services at reasonable rates for New Jersey customers. Critical services regulated by the NJBPU include natural gas, electricity, water, wastewater, telecommunications and cable television. The Board has general oversight and responsibility for monitoring utility service, responding to consumer complaints, and investigating utility accidents. To find out more about the NJBPU, visit our web site at www.nj.gov/bpu.

About the New Jersey Clean Energy Program (NJCEP)

NJCEP, established on January 22, 2003, in accordance with the Electric Discount and Energy Competition Act (EDECA), provides financial and other incentives to the State's residential customers, businesses and schools that install high-efficiency or renewable energy technologies, thereby reducing energy usage, lowering customers' energy bills and reducing environmental impacts. The program is authorized and overseen by the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (NJBPU), and its website is www.NJCleanEnergy.com.