

**New Jersey Petroleum Council
Trenton, New Jersey**

**2019 Energy Master Plan Comments
September 2019**

The New Jersey Petroleum Council, a division of the American Petroleum Institute, located in Trenton, New Jersey has a long history of representing the petroleum and natural gas industry in our state. This industry engages in /the many facets of this world- wide industry here in New Jersey including refining, transportation, research and development, and, of course, marketing of all types of fuels, both traditional and emerging new fuels.

We appreciate this opportunity to offer perspectives at this pivotal time in New Jersey's energy history. We firmly believe that success in meeting the demand for improved living standards and forecasted population growth in New Jersey will be the development of sound energy policy - delivering light, heat, transportation, food, and clothing - forces that benefit all residents of the State.

Governor Murphy has stated "If we do not get the economy right, we do not get New Jersey right." To that end, we would simply restate "If we do not get energy policy right, we will not have a successful economy." Let us join again in a commitment to a constructive dialog to make certain this is accomplished.

Natural gas and oil and the benefits from these energy sources belong on the positive side of public policy ledger. Our industry is committed to safe and responsible development that protects people and the environment - with energy and end products that are indispensable for lifting people and improving human conditions in our state. Energy is central to turn New Jersey's hope for a bright future into reality. Abundant sources of energy have boosted our state's economy and helped New Jersey residents manage their household budgets - all while helping to lead the progress in reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Any proposal that fundamentally reorders the State's energy picture must be measured by its impact on the environment and the economy, and the future opportunity for prosperity. To that end, the State is in the process of conducting an Integrated Energy Plan (IEP) at the same time it is proposing a new Energy Master Plan. The IEP is a modeling exercise designed to look at alternative strategies to accomplish similar goals as the Energy Master Plan with a least cost scenario in mind. This plan will influence the outcome of the Energy Master Plan process and the final plan. NJPC would ask that

the EMP comment period be left open at least until the results of the IEP are made public.

NJPC members recognize the climate challenge by meeting it head on with new technologies and solutions to continue our state's record of the lowering greenhouse gas emissions even as we supply and transport natural gas and oil for our state, region and others. Increased use of natural gas has changed New Jersey's power generation picture and improved our air quality by meeting important environmental goals over the decades providing the cleanest air in generations - at a most reliable and affordable price. Natural gas is responsible for 60 percent of the carbon reductions in electric power. Given the changing nature of technologies within the energy industry, it would be prudent that the Energy Master Plan contain both longer-term aspirational goals and short-term implementable strategies. At the Energy Master Plan's next update, which by statute is every three years, the State can review the existing status of technological advances and make further updates as new technologies become available or cost-effective.

In addition, natural gas and oil are necessary for renewable energy sources to grow. They are used in manufacturing solar panels and wind turbine blades. Natural gas partners with renewables in the power sector providing fuel for balanced generation - when the wind doesn't blow, or the sun is not shining. There is no analysis in the draft Energy Master Plan as to how to maintain reliability in a system that is seeking to be 100% clean energy and one that aspires to rely almost entirely on distributed energy sources. Given our recent experience with Superstorm Sandy, it is imperative that this new plan address reliability and resiliency.

Materials found in lower emission or 'zero' emission vehicles are made from petroleum and natural gas. Batteries are charged with electricity much of which is generated with natural gas as the primary fuel. In summary, natural gas and oil will play an essential role in building our clean energy future and lift people to a brighter day.

We urge those developing our New Jersey's Energy Master Plan to consider these comments before making a final decision on the future of NJ Energy Policy.

Thank you and we look forward to working with you on this important challenge.

Sincerely,

Scott J. Ross, Associate Director
NJ Petroleum Council/API
150 West State Street
Trenton, NJ 08625