



September 13, 2019

The Energy Master Plan Committee
New Jersey Board of Public Utilities
44 South Clinton Avenue, 3rd Floor
Suite 314
Post Office Box 350
Trenton, NJ 08625-0350

Email: Emp.comments@bpu.nj.gov

Re: Comments on the 2019 Draft Energy Master Plan

To Members of the New Jersey Energy Master Plan Committee:

On behalf of Signify, I write to express strong support for efforts underway by the State of New Jersey under the visionary leadership of Governor Phil Murphy to develop a plan for the Garden State to convert to clean and renewable energy sources, to achieve significant reduction of energy consumption and to deploy world class sustainable infrastructure.

Signify, formerly known as Philips Lighting, a global leader in lighting products, systems and services, delivers innovations that unlock business value, providing rich user experiences that help improve lives. Serving professional and consumer markets, we lead the industry in leveraging the Internet of Things to transform homes, buildings and urban spaces. Signify's U.S. corporate headquarters is based in Somerset, NJ, and is home to more than 300 employees.

When it comes to energy efficiency, Signify "walks the talk". More than a year ago, our U.S. operations achieved carbon neutrality and all the company's operations will be net zero carbon by the end of next year. Worldwide, 92% of our electricity use comes from renewable sources, 80.2% of our revenues are from the sales of sustainable products and we were recently named industry leader by in the 2019 Dow Jones Sustainability Index (DJSI) for the third consecutive year. On the local level we promote rapid acceleration of solid state lighting and serve communities by donating LED light bulbs such as those to be disseminated to Franklin Township citizens on "Franklin Day" September 28.

While action at the federal level continues to stall, many states are moving forward to embrace policies and actions in accordance with The Paris Climate Treaty. Massachusetts and New York are both leading in this area, passing legislation, deploying policies and implementing plans to make an impact in their municipalities' efforts to reduce greenhouse gases.

For the last eight years, **Massachusetts** has been ranked as the national leader in energy efficiency but, in spite of that ranking, continues to innovate. With the State Legislature's passage of the *Act to Advance Clean Energy* in August and a new three-year plan for statewide energy efficiency programs in place,

Massachusetts is preparing to keep building on its successes. As a result of these state policies, programs such as “Greenovate Boston: Smart Energy Use” which is committed to reducing GHG emissions by 25% by next year and 80% by 2050, to achieve a net zero/carbon-free status by 2050, are occurring across the Commonwealth.

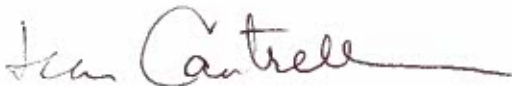
In **New York**, the passage of the *Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act* created the most aggressive climate change program in the nation with goals to reach zero carbon emissions in the electricity sector by 2040, install nine gigawatts of offshore wind by 2035, six gigawatts of solar by 2025 and three gigawatts of energy storage by 2030. As part of the Governor’s vision, an energy efficiency program called *Smart Street Lighting: NY* was created and is being implemented by New York Power Authority (NYPA). With this program, existing streetlight systems are being converted to energy efficient LEDs, allowing municipalities to save taxpayer dollars, provide better lighting to their community, reduce energy use and subsequently decrease a community’s impact on the environment. In late June, Albany announced a \$20 million upgrade, financed and implemented by NYPA to replace more than 10,800 streetlights throughout the city. This comprehensive streetlight conversion project will significantly reduce CO2 emissions and ultimately save taxpayers \$3 million annually.

In New Jersey, we applaud the leadership of Governor Murphy in creating Executive Order 28, an important step in achieving the State’s ambitious clean energy goals. We agree the purpose of New Jersey’s 2019 Energy Master Plan (EMP) is to create a strategic vision for the production, distribution, consumption and conservation of energy in New Jersey. The State’s energy policy should reflect the full scope of New Jersey’s current energy sector as well as its future. New opportunities – jobs, industries and increased economic development – are a natural derivative as the State undertakes the imperative of expanding its green economy.

That said, among the challenges in taking on such a monumental effort is making sure programs are affordable, benefits are well quantified and effectiveness is achieved. While the EMP’s goal is laudable, we would encourage an approach that nets early wins, such as creating documentable savings through the adoption of additional energy efficiency programs for residents, business and municipalities. While the NJ Board of Utilities’ leadership, oversight and experience is critical to a successful implementation of the EMP, we believe stakeholders such as the those in the utility sector have incredible experience and expertise to offer and should be a valued partner in the State’s efforts to meet these goals.

Clean energy is vital for our collective futures and we must work collaboratively to accelerate efforts to significantly reduce energy consumption, employ clean and renewable power, effectively modernize the grid and ensure the State’s infrastructure is both resilient and sustainable. We are grateful for Governor Murphy’s leadership in guiding New Jersey to a clean energy economy and look forward to the expeditious rollout of plans to help New Jersey achieve these important goals.

Sincerely,



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