

October 12, 2018

To: Aida Camacho, Secretary
New Jersey Board of Public Utilities
44 South Clinton Avenue, 3rd Floor, Suite 314
Trenton, New Jersey 08625

Re: Joint Comments on the 2019 Energy Master Plan

We, the undersigned, would like to thank the BPU and the administration for considering public input during the Energy Master Plan (EMP) and putting New Jersey on a path to realize our clean energy future. Climate change is here, it is dangerous, and the recent IPCC report further highlights the urgency that we need to be aggressive to mitigate the worst impacts of climate change.

As the BPU begins to evaluate public input on this process, we believe there are a few significant themes that will serve instrumental in guiding New Jersey's clean energy pathway over the next ten years. Therefore, we, the undersigned, recommend that:

1. The Energy Master Plan (EMP) should put the state on a pathway to achieve 100% clean renewable energy by 2050. New Jersey has already enacted landmark legislation requiring 50% renewable energy (RPS) by 2030.
2. The EMP should set interim emissions targets for every five years between 2023 and 2050 that provide a pathway to achieve Global Warming Response Act (GWRA) goals by 2050 (statewide reduction of emissions by 80% from 2006 levels). The EMP should develop a comprehensive blueprint to achieve these interim targets and require bi-annual monitoring and reporting.
3. To meet the goals of the Global Warming Response Act, state policies will be needed that reduce reliance on natural gas and other fossil fuels, and instead focus on emissions-free energy, most notably solar and wind, and complementary resources that enable high utilization of these resources.
4. New Jersey is facing a multitude of proposed fossil fuel projects, including gas-fired plants and pipelines, that are not consistent with a clean energy future. The EMP should identify and implement policy mechanisms that prevent the approval of new oil and gas projects that threaten reaching statewide emissions reductions required under the Global Warming Response Act (GWRA).
5. The EMP should develop policies to guarantee pollution reductions in environmental justice communities in the near-term. Any energy policy development should consider and abate impacts on environmental justice communities and communities of color.
6. The state should determine pathways to reach 2050 goals utilizing state-of-the-art modeling and analysis of the regional grid out to 2050, as done recently by other states, in order to identify the mix of clean energy resources needed over time to achieve a reliable grid, deep decarbonization, and low-cost pathways.
7. The EMP should provide a cost-effective pathway to achieve 100% clean energy while capitalizing on the tremendous opportunities to generate good local jobs and spur economic

development in New Jersey through renewable energy projects and investments in energy efficiency and electrification.

We look forward to working with the Murphy administration, BPU and legislature to put New Jersey on a path to realize our clean energy economy of the future.

Sincerely,

Ed Potosnak
Executive Director
New Jersey League of Conservation Voters

Tom Gilbert
Campaign Director - Energy, Climate, and Natural Resources
New Jersey Conservation Foundation