

Governor Christie's Continued Commitment to Renewable Energy

"The future for New Jersey is in green energy and already we've put in place policies to broaden our access to renewable sources of energy, cleaner natural gas generation and ending our reliance on coal generation."

– Governor Chris Christie, 5/26/11

The Christie Administration has a proven record of commitment to secure the environmental and economic benefits of renewable energy in our state. The wind power movement is providing New Jersey with a unique opportunity to advance green energy as industry. New Jersey is leveraging the state's tremendous resources with innovative technologies, enabling our state to increase its use of renewable energy sources while advancing an industry that will create new jobs.

New Jersey Renewable Energy By the Numbers

- New Jersey has 10,086 solar energy array projects installed across the state providing over 380 MW of installed capacity.
- In June 2011, 520 solar projects were installed totaling over 40 MW of installed capacity.
- For the first quarter of 2011, New Jersey installed 42 MW of solar, representing 49% growth over first quarter 2010.
- According to the [Department of Energy](#), New Jersey has the 7th highest Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard in the nation at 22.5%.

Wind Achievements:

- Accelerated development of offshore wind projects through close coordination with the federal government to speed implementation of 1,000 MW of wind turbines;
- Conducted a Board of Public Utilities application process for prospective developers of offshore wind projects to be located in New Jersey waters;
- Joined with the federal government and fellow East Coast states to establish the Offshore Wind Consortium to promote commercial wind development on the Outer Continental Shelf of the East Coast;
- Provided "areas of interest" to the US Department of the Interior, enabling the subsequent federal "Call for Nominations" for wind project leases off the Jersey coast, which garnered 11 project proposals representing a combined 12,500 megawatts of green energy capacity;
- Signed the Offshore Wind Economic Development Act to provide financial assistance and tax credits to businesses that construct manufacturing, assembly and water access facilities that support offshore wind projects;
- Completed a first-of-its-kind, two-year baseline study that identifies environmentally optimal sites for offshore wind turbines.

Moving forward on the Governor's commitment to develop renewable sources of energy that protect the environment, promote economic development and create jobs, the Christie Administration has made New Jersey one of the largest and fastest-growing solar energy markets in the United States.

Solar Achievements:

- In June 2011, New Jersey set new monthly records for installed capacity and number of installations:
 - 520 solar projects installed, totaling over 40 MW of installed capacity.
- New Jersey has 10,086 solar energy projects installed across the state providing over 380 MW of installed capacity;

- New Jersey has one of the nation's most robust and mature Solar Renewable Energy Certificate (SREC) markets, which along with the best availability for long-term SREC contracts makes project finance much easier to attain;
- For the first quarter of 2011, New Jersey installed 42 MW of solar, representing 49% growth over first quarter 2010;
- The state has primarily become a market for non-residential projects over 100 kW;
- New Jersey is home to the largest rooftop solar array in the country, Gloucester Marine Terminal, at just over 9MW, 1 million square feet of panels, \$42 million project, which powers 80% of the ports 2 refrigeration and freezer warehouse;
- New Jersey Meadowlands Commission (NJMC) has begun construction on a project to transform a closed Commission landfill into a productive solar farm that will generate up to 3 megawatts of renewable, cost-efficient electricity:
 - The solar installation project at the 1A Landfill in Kearny is a joint effort between the NJMC, SunDurance Energy and Public Service Electric & Gas Company (PSE&G);
 - With the NJMC project, the grid-connected solar installation will feature 12,506 solar panels mounted on 13 acres atop the 35-acre landfill;
 - In June, the NJMC leased the 13 acres to SunDurance Energy, which will build the solar array;
 - PSE&G will purchase the solar farm just prior to completion and take over the lease from SunDurance. The utility will own, operate and maintain the facility as part of its Solar 4 All™ program;
 - The solar farm is expected to be placed in service during the fourth quarter of 2011;
 - Installation of solar panels is expected to begin later this summer;
 - In addition to its solar landfill project, this year, the NJMC will construct a solar canopy over its administration building parking lot. The canopy will generate approximately 20 percent of the electricity needs of the NJMC's headquarters.

Governor Christie put forward a revised Energy Master Plan that maintains New Jersey's renewable energy portfolio target at an aggressive, achievable level of 22.5% by 2021.

- According to the [Department of Energy](#), New Jersey has the 7th highest Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard in the nation at 22.5%;
- Nationally, 14 states maintain no renewable energy standard whatsoever;
- Governor Christies draft 2011 Energy Master Plan commits to no new coal-fired plants in New Jersey, ensuring that additional generation capacity comes from cleaner sources.

Beyond Green Energy, the Christie Administration Has Made a Strong Commitment to Protecting New Jersey's Environment:

- Enacted a Fiscal Year 2011 Budget that kept all parks, historic sites and wildlife operations running;
- Restored beach replenishment funding to its full level;
- Continued to advocate--both publicly and in the courts--a strong position against the dredging project to deepen the Delaware River;
- Stated clear opposition to off-shore drilling in New Jersey, as well as drilling off the coast of other states that could negatively impact New Jersey's waters and beaches, such as Delaware and Virginia;
- Maintained opposition to liquefied natural gas (LNG) facilities off of New Jersey's coastline, including the veto of a proposed deepwater operation 16 miles off the coast of Asbury Park, preventing construction and operation of an offshore port to receive foreign vessels transporting liquid natural gas (LNG) to the U.S. for regasification;

- Signed legislation exempting solar panels from certain land use restrictions and identifying solar energy developments as an important land use that will protect the environment;
- Signed into law three bills to improve the health of Barnegat Bay as components of a comprehensive 10-point Barnegat Bay Restoration plan for the long-term restoration of this 660-square mile ecological gem and improvement of water quality statewide, including establishing the strictest-in-the-nation standards for fertilizer content and application;
- Signed an Executive Order that targets air pollution caused by diesel engines used on major transportation construction projects in New Jersey, creating a diesel emission retrofit Pilot Program for construction equipment with the ultimate goal of improving air quality for those living near urban construction sites;
- Signed legislation to appropriate \$821 million in no-cost and low-cost loans for crucial clean water and sewer infrastructure projects across the state. The financing will make available approximately \$549 million for clean water project loans and \$272 million for drinking water project loans, with the federal government picking up at least half of the cost;
- Successfully petitioned the federal government to take steps to force the owners of a coal-powered Pennsylvania power plant to dramatically reduce harmful air emissions that are causing an even greater public health concern in North Jersey than originally known;
- Currently in federal court to force three other coal-fired power plants in western Pennsylvania to clean up emissions of pollutants that cause acid rain and degrade air quality in downwind states, including New Jersey;
- Called on the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey to help reduce harmful air emissions and take approximately 1,000 trucks per day off New Jersey's roads by building a new barge-to-rail facility at Greenville Yards in Jersey City;
- Adopted rules requiring significant reductions in sulfur content for home heating oil and other types of fuel oil used in the state to improve air quality and protect public health in New Jersey;
- Have begun aggressively implementing the recommendations of the 15-point plan developed by the Passaic River Basin Flood Advisory Commission, established by Executive Order to mitigate chronic flooding problems in the basin;
- Signed legislation creating a free State saltwater fishing registry in New Jersey, allowing New Jersey anglers to avoid a \$15 federal saltwater registration fee;
- Continued to aggressively pursue litigation against the parties responsible for contaminating the lower Passaic River with dioxin;
- Created Licensed Site Remediation Professionals Board to oversee effective, faster and more efficient cleanups of thousands of contaminated sites in New Jersey to return them to beneficial reuse.