

One Provost Square · Caldwell, NJ 07006 · 973-226-6100 · Fax 973-403-1355

Caldwell Statement in Support of Utility Role in Meeting N.J. Solar Targets

Good afternoon.

My name is John Kelley, the Mayor of Caldwell, New Jersey and I appreciate the opportunity to speak in support of PSE&G's role in New Jersey's effort to expand the use of solar power.

The Borough of Caldwell is already a beneficiary of a PSE&G solar power initiative. In 2017, Public Service opened an innovative solar power plus storage project at our wastewater treatment facility.

The Caldwell solar storage system combines a solar power plant with batteries. When everything is running normally, PSE&G's solar system delivers enough electricity directly to the grid to power about 165 homes annually.

PSE&G is a major developer, owner and operator of solar power through its Solar 4 All® program. Projects in the portfolio include centralized solar on rooftops and parking lots, utility-pole attached solar and landfill and brownfield projects which make up more than half of the portfolio.

Communities across New Jersey have benefited from those landfill and brownfield projects, which typically transform blighted properties into modern, clean-energy power plants. We understand that PSE&G has developed 11 solar farms on landfill or brownfield sites that encompass more than 230 acres and include 250,000 solar panels that can generate more than 80 MW of power.

Some of the solar projects include an energy storage component like the one located at our treatment plant. Gov. Phil Murphy and the state legislature have put New Jersey on a path to a clean energy economy that includes a proposal to reach 12.2GW of installed solar capacity by 2030, more than triple New Jersey's current annual installed solar capacity over the past five years. Solar growth will have to accelerate rapidly to reach the state's goals, and utilities like PSE&G are well positioned to spearhead the effort.

Even with PSE&G's success in brownfield and landfill solar, only about 21% of New Jersey's solar power is grid supply compared with other leading solar power states that have over 60% grid supply solar.

Utility participation also provides stability for the solar market and solar service providers, transparency in pricing and the assurance that the most underserved segments of the solar market will be addressed.



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I advocate for PSE&G and its Solar 4 All® Program to have a leading role and to be an active partner in New Jersey's effort to vastly expand the solar power market, to develop landfill, brownfield and public facility solar projects and to help the state realize all of the benefits that solar power offers.

Thank you again for your time.

John Kelley

Mayor

Borough of Caldwell

5/25/21