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Board of Public Utilities



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## NOTICE<sup>1</sup>

### IN THE MATTER OF THE 2024 NEW JERSEY ENERGY MASTER PLAN

[Docket No. QO24020126](#)

**Please Take Notice** that pursuant to the “Open Public Meetings Act,” N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq., the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (“NJBP” or “Board”) hereby gives notice of a series of virtual public meetings to discuss the 2024 update to the State’s Energy Master Plan (“EMP”) in which all interested parties and members of the public are invited to participate.

#### **Background and Procedural History**

In 2018, Governor Phil Murphy signed Executive Order No. 28, which directed the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (“Board” or “NJBP”) to develop an EMP to serve as the State’s blueprint to achieve 100% clean energy by 2050.<sup>2</sup> Released on January 27, 2020, the 2019 EMP establishes a set of goals to put New Jersey on a pathway to achieve the State’s clean energy goals, and expands upon previous EMPs to account for the complete energy system in the State, including electricity generation, transportation, and usage in commercial buildings.<sup>3</sup> Additionally, the 2019 EMP incorporates mandates from the Clean Energy Act of 2018, the Zero Emission Vehicle Memorandum of Understanding, and the Global Warming Response Act of 2009 to reduce greenhouse gas (“GHG”) emissions 80% by 2050, relative to 2006 levels.<sup>4</sup>

This year, the EMP will undergo an update as required by the EMP Statute (“Statute”).<sup>5</sup> The 2024 EMP will serve as a whole-of-government progress report on the goals and strategies in the 2019 EMP, outline the changing landscape of State and federal support for climate action, and determine the basis for the development of actionable next steps to reduce GHG emissions and maximize clean energy uptake economy-wide. The 2024 EMP will be a public-facing document that incorporates progress information acquired through inter-agency collaboration and stakeholder feedback to build upon the 2019 EMP and that will help New Jersey reach its goal of 100% clean energy by 2035, amongst other key clean energy and climate goals and benchmarks. Specifically, the 2024 EMP will examine the progress that has been

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<sup>1</sup> Not a paid legal advertisement.

<sup>2</sup> Exec. Order No. 28 (May 23, 2018), 50 N.J.R. 1394(b) (June 18, 2018).

<sup>3</sup> New Jersey Board of Public Utilities, 2019 New Jersey Energy Master Plan: Pathway to 2050, [https://nj.gov/bpu/pdf/publicnotice/NJBPU\\_EMP.pdf](https://nj.gov/bpu/pdf/publicnotice/NJBPU_EMP.pdf).

<sup>4</sup> Id. See also L. 2018, c.17 (N.J.S.A. 48:3-87, et seq.) (“Clean Energy Act of 2018”); Governor Murphy signed the Multi-State Medium-and Heavy-Duty Zero Emission Vehicle Memorandum of Understanding on June 30, 2020 (“Zero Emission Vehicle Memorandum of Understanding”), <https://nj.gov/dep/ages/docs/mhdv-zev-mou-20200714.pdf>; L. 2007, c.112 (N.J.S.A. 26:2C-37, et seq.) (“Global Warming Response Act of 2009”).

<sup>5</sup> L. 1977, c.146, amended 1987, c. 365 § 14 (N.J.S.A. 52:27F-14(b)).

made toward the seven (7) strategies enumerated in the 2019 EMP, as well as provide an overview of the State’s progress toward achieving 100% clean energy by 2035, and an 80% reduction in greenhouse gas (“GHG”) emissions, by 2050:<sup>6</sup>

1. Reducing Energy Consumption and Emissions from the Transportation Sector;
2. Accelerating Deployment of Renewable Energy and Distributed Energy Resources;
3. Maximizing Energy Efficiency and Conservation, and Reducing Peak Demand;
4. Reducing Energy Consumption and Emissions from the Building Sector;
5. Decarbonizing and Modernizing New Jersey’s Energy System;
6. Supporting Community Energy Planning and Action in Underserved Communities; and
7. Expanding the Clean Energy Innovation Economy.<sup>7</sup>

The Statute directs an EMP Committee to set dates for a series of public hearings.<sup>8</sup> At least 60 days prior to each public hearing, the EMP Committee is required to “notify each energy industry and each State department, commission, authority, council, agency, or board charged with the regulation, supervision or control of any business, industry or utility engaged in the production, processing, distribution, transmission, or storage of energy in any form of the time and place for the hearing.”<sup>9</sup>

**PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE:** that as authorized by N.J.S.A. 10:4-9.3, virtual public hearings will be conducted on the following days and times so that members of the public may present their views:

Hearing #	Public Hearing Date and Start Time	Agenda	Location - Virtual Link or Call-in Information to Join the Public Hearing
1	May 20, 2024 9:30 a.m. Eastern Time	Overview, progress, and current actions for Strategies 1, 2, and 5 listed in the 2019 EMP.	Zoom Virtual Webinar Registration: <a href="https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_goJaEc6tQv23llb2-mKXMg#/registration">https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_goJaEc6tQv23llb2-mKXMg#/registration</a>  (Note: If you are typing the URL, please use UPPERCASE for all capitalized letters.)  This hearing will describe the goals under Strategies 1, 2, and 5 of the 2019 EMP, the progress on achieving those goals, and potential current actions regarding the Update. There will be a panel of NJBPU Staff and representatives from other State agencies to provide insights into these specific subject matters. <sup>10</sup> Stakeholders and members of

<sup>6</sup> Exec. Order No. 315 (Feb. 15, 2023), 55 N.J.R. 509(A)-11(A) (Mar. 20, 2023); Global Warming Response Act of 2009.

<sup>7</sup> New Jersey Board of Public Utilities, 2019 New Jersey Energy Master Plan: Pathway to 2050, [https://nj.gov/bpu/pdf/publicnotice/NJBPU\\_EMP.pdf](https://nj.gov/bpu/pdf/publicnotice/NJBPU_EMP.pdf).

<sup>8</sup> The EMP Committee consists of “the heads of the following New Jersey principal departments, or their designees: Commerce; Energy and Economic Development; Community Affairs; Environmental Protection; Health; Human Services; Transportation; and Treasury,” with the Commissioner of Commerce, Energy and Economic Development or such person’s designee serving as chairperson of such committee. See N.J.S.A 52:27F-14(a).

<sup>9</sup> L. 1977, c.146, amended 1987, c. 365 § 14 (N.J.S.A. 52:27F-14(c)(2)).

<sup>10</sup> This includes, but is not limited to, certain members of the EMP Committee such as the State’s Department of Environmental Protection, the Department of Community Affairs, the Department of Health and Human Services,

			the general public will be invited to comment on strategy, progress, and current actions, either orally at the time of the public hearing or in writing.
<b>2</b>	<b>May 22, 2024 6:00 p.m. Eastern Time</b>	<b>Overview, progress, and current actions for Strategies 3 and 4.</b>	<p>Zoom Virtual Webinar Registration:  <a href="https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_xKOrnDddREemUCbAoDs8uA#/registration">https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_xKOrnDddREemUCbAoDs8uA#/registration</a></p> <p>(<u>Note</u>: If you are typing the URL, please use all UPPERCASE for all capitalized letters.)</p> <p>This hearing will describe the goals under Strategies 3 and 4 of the 2019 EMP, the progress on achieving those goals, and potential current actions regarding the Update. There will be a panel of NJBPU Staff and representatives from other State agencies<sup>11</sup> to provide insights into these specific subject matters. Stakeholders and members of the general public will be invited to comment on strategy progress and current actions, either orally at the time of the public hearing or in writing.</p>
<b>3</b>	<b>May 29, 2024 9:30 a.m. Eastern Time</b>	<b>Overview, progress, and current actions for Strategies 6 and 7.</b>	<p>Zoom Virtual Webinar Registration:  <a href="https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_ULEmXVER6O9VkJTsSYFUhQ#/registration">https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_ULEmXVER6O9VkJTsSYFUhQ#/registration</a></p> <p>(<u>Note</u>: If you are typing the URL, please use UPPERCASE for all capitalized letters.)</p> <p>This hearing will describe the goals under Strategies 6 and 7 of the 2019 EMP, the progress on those goals, and potential current actions regarding the Update. There will be a panel of NJBPU Staff and representatives from other State agencies<sup>12</sup> to provide insights into these specific subject matters. This hearing will also serve as a brief recap of Hearings 1 and 2. Stakeholders and members of the general public will be invited to comment and ask questions on strategy progress and current actions, either orally at the time of the public hearing or in writing.</p>

Representatives from Board Staff and other State agencies will participate in the virtual public hearings. Members of the public are invited to express their views and by utilizing the link or dial-in information set forth above.<sup>13</sup> All comments will be part of the final record of the proceeding and will be considered by the Board. In order to encourage full participation in this opportunity for public comment, please submit

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the Department of Transportation, and the Department of Treasury.

<sup>11</sup> Id.

<sup>12</sup> Id.

<sup>13</sup> Id.

any requests for needed accommodations, such as interpreters and/or listening assistance, 48 hours prior to the above hearings to the Board Secretary at [board.secretary@bpu.nj.gov](mailto:board.secretary@bpu.nj.gov).

### **Comments**

The Board is also accepting written and/or electric comments.

**The deadline for comments on this matter is 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on June 12, 2024.**

While all comments will be given equal consideration and will be made part of the final record of this proceeding, the preferred method of transmittal is via the Board's [Public Document Search](#) tool. Search for the docket number listed above, and post by utilizing the "Post Comments" button. Emailed comments may also be filed with the Secretary of the Board, in pdf or Word format, to [board.secretary@bpu.nj.gov](mailto:board.secretary@bpu.nj.gov).

Written comments may also be submitted to the Board Secretary, Sherri L. Golden, at the Board of Public Utilities, 44 South Clinton Avenue, 1st Floor, P.O. Box 350, Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0350. All emailed or mailed comments should include reference to Docket Number QO24020126.

All comments are considered "public documents" for purposes of the State's Open Public Records Act. Commenters may identify information that they seek to keep confidential by submitting them in accordance with the confidentiality procedures set forth in N.J.A.C. 14:1-12.3.

**Please direct all questions about this matter to: [EMPupdate@bpu.nj.gov](mailto:EMPupdate@bpu.nj.gov).**

Board Staff looks forward to receiving and reviewing your comments. Thank you for your interest in the 2024 EMP.

*Sherri L. Golden*

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Sherri L. Golden  
Secretary of the Board

Dated: March 11, 2024