



MSEIA SOLAR REPORT FOR NEW JERSEY APRIL 2016 SUMMARY

Strategic Highlights

New Jersey Senate bill introduced to ensure customers are not restricted from solar installations. Senate Bill [S2029](#) was introduced on April 18 as a companion bill to previously filed Assembly Bill [A210](#). The bills would ensure that potential customers are not restricted from solar panel installation by homeowners' associations. The bills make clear that homeowners' associations in common interest communities cannot prohibit the installation of solar collectors on the roof of any single family home or any townhouse located within such a community. Senate Bill S2029 awaits a committee hearing...

New Jersey Senate schedules hearing on financing mechanism for clean energy projects. Senate Bill [S684](#) which would establish the Clean Energy Technology Center and Alternative and Clean Energy Investment Trust Fund to issue loans and loan guarantees to companies, universities, and nonprofits to encourage the creation of clean technology ventures, including solar development, is scheduled for a Senate Environment and Energy Committee hearing on May 2...

Pennsylvania Senate bill would grant General Assembly additional time to review Federal Clean Power Plan. Senate Bill [S1195](#), introduced on April 8, would extend the amount of time the General Assembly would have to review Pennsylvania's compliance plan for the Federal Clean Power Plan. Review and approval of the plan would be extended from 100 to 180 days before submission to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), which is slated for September 2016. The bill was reported favorably by the Senate Environmental Resources and Energy Committee and is scheduled for a Senate floor vote...

Navy plans ambitious 227-acre solar facility at the New Jersey Naval Weapons Station Earle. The U.S. Navy intends to build a 32.8-MW solar facility at Naval Weapons Station Earle spanning 227 acres. The Navy plans to lease the properties to a utility company or a private developer that would construct and operate the facility, according to a [fact sheet](#) posted on the weapon station's website. See the fact sheet for more information...

SolarCity launches solar service in Western Pennsylvania. SolarCity [announced](#) on April 11 that it will begin operations in Western Pennsylvania with a residential solar project with no upfront cost. Solar City's product will cost \$30 per month, with design, installation, financing, insurance, monitoring and a performance guarantee included in the offers...

GENERAL POLICY				
Reference No.	Description	Why It Matters	Most Recent Action	Next Action

STATE PROGRAMS AND REGULATIONS				
Reference No.	Description	Why It Matters	Most Recent Action	Next Action
BPU Docket No. Q016020106 <i>Opened on 2/10/16.</i>	BPU’s consideration of implementing Section 48:3-87(r) of the Solar Act (signed into law in 2012), this section directs the BPU to govern grid supply solar applications submitted on or after 6/1/16.	Makes substantive changes to solar regulations in New Jersey.	Proposed amendments published in the <i>New Jersey Register</i> (3/7/16). See <i>a summary of the solar-related amendments in the March 2016 Report</i> .	Comments are due within 60 days of publication in the <i>Register</i> , or by 5/6/16.



STATE PROGRAMS AND REGULATIONS				
Reference No.	Description	Why It Matters	Most Recent Action	Next Action
<p>BPU Docket Nos. Q015040477 & Q015121333</p> <p><i>Opened on 12/16/2015.</i></p>	<p>BPU’s review of the clean energy programs and budget for fiscal year 2016 as well as BPU’s review of the Renewable Electric Storage incentives in the renewable energy incentive program – revision to NJCEP compliance filing.</p> <p>The state is seeking applications to finance energy-storage projects that would provide backup power from renewable sources, such as solar and wind, in the event of widespread outages on the grid.</p> <p>This is the second year the BPU has funded energy storage. Last year, it gave out \$2.9 million to 13 projects after receiving 22 applications.</p>	<p>Opportunity for financial incentive for renewable energy projects integrated with energy storage.</p>	<p>NJCEP issued request for comment on the second straw proposal (9/15/15).</p> <p>BPU issued an order (12/16/15). BPU approved Staff’s recommendation for a FY2016 renewable electric storage incentive program. Financial incentives will be offered for electric storage systems that are integrated with new or existing net metered New Jersey Class 1 Renewable Energy installations, such as solar, wind or sustainable biomass. \$3 million will be available on a first-come, first-served basis for 2016. Program participants will be offered a rebate of \$300 per kilowatt-hour, based on the energy capacity of the storage equipment (minimum of 100 kWh) as verified by the manufacturer’s spec sheets. Maximum incentive levels are \$300,000 per project and \$500,000 per entity, with an entity defined as either the site host or the project developer if the developer proposes to own the system.</p> <p>The program, designed as an open enrollment program with a prescriptive rebate, began accepting applications (3/1/16).</p> <p><i>Continued on next page...</i></p>	<p><i>This entry will be archived and not included in future Updates.</i></p>



STATE PROGRAMS AND REGULATIONS				
Reference No.	Description	Why It Matters	Most Recent Action	Next Action
BPU Docket Nos. Q015040477 & Q015121333 <i>(cont.)</i>			NJBPU issued an order adopting revisions to the NJCEP budget and to NJCEP's Residential New Construction (RNC) program (3/18/16). Several programs have experienced higher than anticipated participation levels since the beginning of 2016. Staff's proposed revisions to the FY16 budget address the higher participation levels. Revisions were made by increasing transfer funds to the RNC program and to the Home Performance with ENERGY STAR program. Much of this funding is coming out of the Energy Efficient Products program, which received a lower level of participation in 2015.	



STATE PROGRAMS AND REGULATIONS				
Reference No.	Description	Why It Matters	Most Recent Action	Next Action
NJ Office of Clean Energy Programs (NJCEP) New Jersey SREC Trading Statistics	New Jersey monthly reporting on SREC pricing data based on prices reported by registered SREC account holders. The value of the solar alternative compliance payment for Energy Year 2016 is \$323.	Intelligence on SREC pricing.	Monthly SREC trading statistics issued (3/1/16). For 1/16: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 76,018 SRECs were issued; • 308, 212 SRECs were traded; • SREC values ranges from a low of \$70/MWh to \$559/MWh; • The weighted average SREC price for Energy Year 2016 so far is \$219.08 / MWh. 	Awaiting next month's NJ SREC Trading Statistics.
			Monthly SREC trading statistics issued (4/1/16). For 2/16: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 97,859 SRECs were issued; • 132,982 SRECs were traded; • SREC values ranges from a low of \$60/MWh to \$490/MWh; • The weighted average SREC price for Energy Year 2016 so far is \$222.26/ MWh. 	



STATE PROGRAMS AND REGULATIONS				
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<p>NJ Office of Clean Energy Programs (NJCEP)</p> <p>New Jersey Solar Installation Update</p>	<p>NJCEP’s monthly update on the state’s solar installation capacity.</p>	<p>Market intelligence.</p>	<p>The 11/15 report is now available (1/16).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The preliminary installed solar capacity as of 11/30/15 is 1,567,231.4 kW. • The preliminary solar project pipeline capacity as of 11/31/15 is 433,240.1 kW; • with 10,315 projects in solar pipeline. <p>The 2/16 report is now available (4/16).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The preliminary installed solar capacity as of 2/29/16 is 1,604,180.7 kW. • The preliminary solar project pipeline capacity as of 2/29/16 is 392,809.9 kW; <p>with 11,142 projects in solar pipeline.</p>	<p>Awaiting next Solar Market Update.</p>



STATE PROGRAMS AND REGULATIONS				
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NJ Utilities SREC II Financing Program	Utilities Atlantic City Electric (ACE), Jersey Central Power & Light (JCP&L), and Rockland Electric Company (RECO) have issued a request for proposals (RFP) to select solar projects with which to enter into contracts for the purchase of SRECs.	Opportunity to sell SRECs in the NJ market.	<p>Results from the 2nd round of the SREC program solicitation have been announced (12/16/15). NJBPU authorized EDCs to execute Purchase and Sale Agreements (PSAs) for 18 projects with SREC prices deemed competitive. The NJBPU rejected two proponents' bids which were deemed to be uncompetitive.</p> <p>The third solicitation round of the NJ SREC-II based financing program was released (12/17/15); the RFP webinar for Round 3 of the Solicitation was filed (1/6/15). Bids were due (2/12/16).</p> <p>BPU meeting held to consider the results from the 3rd solicitation round (4/27/16). <i>The order is not yet publically available.</i></p> <p>Results from the 3rd solicitation round were scheduled to be announced (4/28/16). <i>Announcement not yet confirmed.</i></p> <p>The next Solar PV solicitation round will begin on or after 4/28/16 (4/28/16).</p>	<p>NJBPU is scheduled to execute the SREC Purchase and Sale Agreements with the round 3 winners by 6/12/16.</p>



STATE PROGRAMS AND REGULATIONS				
Reference No.	Description	Why It Matters	Most Recent Action	Next Action
NJ Office of Clean Energy Programs (NJCEP) Net Metering and Interconnection Standards (NMIX) Working Group	Stakeholder working group that meets regularly to discuss and resolve issues related to net metering and interconnection standards.	Opportunity to gain insight into net metering and interconnection issues in NJ, and propose other issues for discussion and resolution.	<p>Proposed Revisions to Treatment of Mixed Generation Behind a Single Meter was filed (9/17/15).</p> <p>Written comments on the proposed revisions filed (10/17/15). A solar company, A.F. Mensah (AFM), was the only party to submit comment suggesting improvements to metering requirements, such as: options for customer meter eligibility, algorithmic determination of the NM eligible energy, and submission of meter data. Regarding interconnection requirements, AFM agrees that precautions need to be made to ensure that for net metering billing purposes, energy generate by non-eligible resources is not included in the amount of net generation from a facility.</p> <p>Meeting held (12/15/15). Among other issues, stakeholders discussed the utility proposal for the treatment of mixed generation behind a single meter and the model-based integrated high penetration renewables planning and control analysis.</p> <p><i>Continues on next page...</i></p>	<i>As no formal BPU actions are anticipated from the issue addressing mixed interconnection of NJ Class I renewables and non-renewables, PRQ believes further action is unlikely. This entry will be archived and not included in future Updates.</i>



STATE PROGRAMS AND REGULATIONS				
Reference No.	Description	Why It Matters	Most Recent Action	Next Action
			According to BPU Staff, no formal BPU actions are anticipated from the issue addressing mixed interconnection of NJ Class I renewables and non-renewables (2/29/16).	
	NJ Office of Clean Energy Programs (NJCEP) Net Metering and Interconnection Standards (NMIX) Working Group (cont.)			



STATE PROGRAMS AND REGULATIONS				
Reference No.	Description	Why It Matters	Most Recent Action	Next Action
NJ Office of Clean Energy Programs (NJCEP) Renewable Electric Storage Working Group	<p>Stakeholder working group that meets regularly to discuss and resolve issues related to renewable electric storage standards.</p> <p>Of note, the group is considering the proposed FY2016 Renewable Electric Storage Incentive program, which will provide financial incentives for energy storage systems that are integrated with Class 1 renewable energy projects installed behind-the-meter at customer sites. The program will support the installation of renewable electric storage systems in government, commercial, institutional and industrial entities for the purpose of providing emergency back-up power for essential services, and more.</p>	Opportunity to gain insight into renewable electric storage in NJ, and propose other issues for discussion and resolution.	<p>Working group meeting held (6/24/15).</p> <p>Second Staff straw proposal released (9/15/15).</p> <p>Joint comments on the straw proposal filed by Solar City and Eos Energy Storage (9/25/15).</p> <p>Application instructions for the FY2016 Renewable Electric Storage program was posted on the website, see here (2/23/16).</p> <p>The FY2016 Renewable Electric Storage Incentive application portal launched (3/1/16).</p>	Awaiting next action.



LEGISLATION				
Reference No.	Description	Why It Matters	Most Recent Action	Next Action
<p>Senate Bill S2029 (Smith, Greenstein)</p> <p><i>Formally introduced on 4/18/16.</i></p> <p>Assembly Bill A210 (DeAngelo, Gusciora, Benson)</p> <p><i>Introduced on 1/27/16.</i></p>	<p>This bill makes clear that homeowners' associations in common interest communities cannot prohibit the installation of solar collectors on the roof of any single family home or any townhouse located within such a community.</p>	<p>Would ensure that potential customers are not restricted from solar panel installation by homeowners' associations.</p>	<p>A210 was favorably reported by the Assembly Telecommunications and Utilities Committee (2/4/16).</p> <p>S2029 was introduced into the Senate and referred to the Senate Community and Urban Affairs Committee (4/18/16).</p>	<p>Awaiting Assembly vote on A210.</p> <p>Awaiting scheduling of a committee hearing on S2029.</p>
<p>Senate Bill S1887 (Doherty)</p> <p><i>Introduced on 3/10/16.</i></p>	<p>This bill narrows the definition of "inherently beneficial" in municipal land use law so that wind and solar facilities are only included under the definition if located on or above a parking lot, rooftop, or brownfield, and not within agricultural land or open space.</p>	<p>This bill would significantly limit the availability of greenfield opportunities for renewable energy projects.</p>	<p>Introduced and referred to Senate Environment and Energy Committee (3/10/16).</p>	<p>Awaiting committee hearing.</p>



LEGISLATION Reference No.	Description	Why It Matters	Most Recent Action	Next Action
<p>Senate Bill S1707 (Smith, Bateman, Gordon)</p> <p><i>Introduced on 2/16/16.</i></p> <p>Assembly Bill A1759 (multiple sponsors)</p> <p><i>Introduced on 1/27/16.</i></p>	<p>Would increase state RPS requirements, Class I renewable energy requirement would increase once every five energy years between energy years 2015 and 2050, from 11% to 80%.</p> <p>The bill also requires a certain percentage of the electricity sold to be from solar energy; by energy year 2030, 13.849%.</p> <p><i>S1707 as amended:</i> As amended, the percentage of electricity sold in the State that is from Class I renewable energy is to increase once every five energy years between energy years 2017 and 2052, still from 11% to 80%.</p>	<p>Would significantly increase RPS obligations, includes a solar carve out.</p>	<p>Introduced and referred to Assembly Telecommunications and Utilities Committee (1/27/16).</p> <p>S1707 passed Senate 23-15 (3/14/16).</p> <p>S1707 introduced in the Assembly and referred to the Assembly Telecommunications and Utilities Committee (3/14/16).</p>	<p>Awaiting Assembly committee hearings.</p>



LEGISLATION Reference No.	Description	Why It Matters	Most Recent Action	Next Action
Senate Bill S1514 (Turner) <i>Introduced on 3/16/16.</i>	<p>Would direct the BPU to require electric and gas suppliers, brokers, energy agents, marketers, private aggregators, sales representatives, and energy telemarketers to record each telemarketing sales call to a customer made by, or on behalf of, the energy business, and to maintain that recording for at least three years from the date the telemarketing sales call was recorded.</p> <p>Currently, BPU allow for the disposal of the marketing portion of calls six months after the call was recorded.</p>	<p>For solar companies that use telemarketing, this would be a significant increase in compliance obligations.</p>	<p>introduced and referred to Senate Economic Growth Committee (2/16/16).</p>	<p>Awaiting committee hearing.</p>



LEGISLATION Reference No.	Description	Why It Matters	Most Recent Action	Next Action
Senate Bill S1441 (Bucco) <i>Introduced on 2/16/16.</i> Assembly Bill A3072 (Bucco) <i>Introduced on 2/18/16.</i>	Requires establishment of regulations for solar panel installation, maintenance, and education, to be developed by the Commissioner of Community Affairs.	Regulatory barriers to solar panel deployment.	S1441 introduced and referred to Senate Environment and Energy Committee (2/16/16). A3072 introduced and referred to Assembly Telecommunications and Utilities Committee (2/16/16).	Awaiting committee hearing.



LEGISLATION Reference No.	Description	Why It Matters	Most Recent Action	Next Action
<p>Senate Bill S984 (Smith)</p> <p><i>Introduced on 2/4/16.</i></p>	<p>This bill establishes a Solar Roof Installation Warranty Program within the New Jersey Economic Development Authority. The purpose of the program is to provide a source of indemnification to commercial, industrial, and institutional building owners who install solar photovoltaic equipment on their building roofs but are unable to obtain sufficient warranty coverage against damage to those roofs resulting from such installations.</p>	<p>Provides assurance to property owners concerned about the risk from rooftop PV installations.</p>	<p>S984 was introduced in the Senate, and referred to the Senate Environment and Energy Committee (2/4/16).</p>	<p>S984, which passed the Senate, is awaiting a hearing in the Assembly Telecommunications and Utilities Committee.</p>
<p>Assembly Bill A2446 (Eustace, Benson)</p> <p><i>Introduced on 2/4/16.</i></p>			<p>S984 was reported out of the Senate Committee (2/4/16).</p> <p>A2446 was introduced and referred to Assembly Telecommunications and Utilities Committee (2/4/16).</p> <p>Passed by the Senate, vote count:23-11 (2/11/16).</p> <p>S984 was received in the Assembly and referred to the Assembly Telecommunications and Utilities Committee (2/16/16).</p>	



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Senate Bill S865 Greenstein <i>Introduced on 1/12/16.</i> Assembly Bill A2788 (Benson) <i>Introduced on 2/8/16.</i>	Provides that solar and photovoltaic energy facilities and structures on farmland are not an inherently beneficial use, for purposes of zoning approvals.	This bill could raise barriers to deployment of solar PV panels on farms and other land zoned for agricultural use.	S865 was introduced and referred to the Senate Environment and Energy Committee (1/12/16). A2788 was introduced and referred to Assembly Environment and Solid Waste Committee (2/8/16).	Awaiting committee action.



LEGISLATION				
Reference No.	Description	Why It Matters	Most Recent Action	Next Action
Senate Bill S772 (Smith) <i>Opened on 1/12/2016.</i>	<p>Would require an electric utility to enter into long-term (10-20 year) contracts for the purchase of Class I renewable energy certificates (RECs). The Class I RECs purchased would be equal to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 percent of the Class I RECs that the electric utility is required to purchase in energy year 2016; • 20 percent of the Class I RECS that the electric utility is required to purchase in energy year 2018, and • 30 percent of the Class I REC that the electric public utility is required to purchase in energy year 2020 and in every energy year thereafter. <p>Any cost or revenue loss incurred by an electric utility under these requirements would be recoverable in base rates.</p>	<p>Mandated, long-term, rate-recoverable contracts between utilities and REC generators would significantly undermine the competitive energy market in New Jersey, but also could provide opportunities to sell RECs.</p>	<p>Introduced and referred to Senate Energy and Environment Committee (1/12/16).</p>	<p>Awaiting committee hearing.</p>



LEGISLATION Reference No.	Description	Why It Matters	Most Recent Action	Next Action
Senate Bill S612 (Addiego) <i>Opened on 1/27/2016.</i> Assembly Bill A1686 (Howarth) <i>Introduced on 1/27/16.</i>	This bill provides priority status to a solar generation system that is installed on the property of a NJ state or municipal entity (including school districts).	Would be a boon for projects that are for public customers, but could put significant blockages in the queue for interconnection by residential systems.	S612 introduced and referred to Senate Energy & Environment Committee (1/12/16). A1686 introduced and referred to Assembly Telecommunications and Utilities Committee (1/12/16).	Awaiting committee hearings.
Senate Bill S364 (Codey) <i>Introduced on 1/12/16.</i> Assembly Bill A2412 (McKeon) <i>Introduced on 2/4/16.</i>	Would allow municipal electric utilities to install solar generation systems on land reserved for conservation and recreation purposes, subject to significant conditions.	Marginally expands potential opportunities with municipal customers for solar developers.	S364 was introduced and referred to the Senate Energy & Environment Committee (1/12/16). A2412 introduced and referred to Assembly Environment & Solid Waste Committee (2/4/16).	Awaiting committee hearings.



LEGISLATION Reference No.	Description	Why It Matters	Most Recent Action	Next Action
Senate Bill S151 (Madden) <i>Introduced on 1/12/16.</i>	Requires BPU to provide grants (from Societal Benefits Charge funds) to customers for the cost of purchase and installation of "revenue-grade system output" electric meters, which have been required since 2012 for customers that want to install solar PV systems on their property.	Would remove an existing disincentive for customers to seek solar PV for their homes.	Introduced and referred to Senate Energy & Environment Committee (1/12/16).	Awaiting committee hearing.
Senate Bill S104 (Whelan) <i>Opened on 1/12/2016.</i>	Would require the BPU in consultation with the Department of Environmental Protection, is to determine the appropriate level of funding for the "Green Fund," established with monies collected from the societal benefits charge, to achieve energy reliability, infrastructure resilience, and energy sustainability through energy efficiency and energy conservation programs, as determined by the BPU.	Would open up a new source of funding for energy efficiency and microgrid projects.	Introduced and referred to Senate Energy & Environment Committee (1/12/16). Reported out of the Senate Energy & Environment Committee (2/29/16). Referred to Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee (2/29/16).	Awaiting committee hearing.



LEGISLATION				
Reference No.	Description	Why It Matters	Most Recent Action	Next Action
Assembly Bill A3030 (Dancer) <i>Introduced on 2/16/16.</i>	Allows solar PV projects to be installed on certain wetlands areas while waiving certain permitting provisions.	Eases regulatory burdens for certain projects in wetlands.	Introduced and referred to Assembly Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee (2/16/16).	Awaiting committee hearing.
Assembly Bill A2849 (McKeon) <i>Introduced on 2/16/16.</i>	Permits electric public utilities, electric power suppliers, and basic generation service providers to enter into certain agreements with building owners for use of solar energy systems for such buildings.	The purpose of the bill is to create an incentive to electric public utilities and suppliers to encourage more building owners to use solar energy systems for their buildings.	Introduced and referred to Assembly Telecommunications and Utilities Committee (2/16/16).	Awaiting committee action.
Assembly Bill A2640 (Gusciora) <i>Introduced on 2/8/16.</i>	Requires incorporation of solar panels in design and construction of new public school facilities.	Expanded opportunities for solar developers working with public customers.	Introduced and referred to Assembly Education Committee (2/8/16).	Awaiting committee hearing.
Assembly Bill A2600 (Gusciora) <i>Introduced on 2/8/16.</i>	Prohibits any person or state entity from constructing, installing, or operating a large-scale solar facility adjacent to an area zoned for residential use without the approval of the Department of Environmental Protection.	Zoning restrictions for grid-level solar or community solar development.	Introduced and referred to Assembly Telecommunications and Utilities Committee (2/8/16).	Awaiting committee hearing.



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<p>Assembly Bill A2217 (Eustace, Benson)</p> <p><i>Introduced on 1/27/16.</i></p>	<p>Would require an electric utility to enter into long-term (10-20 year) contracts for the purchase of Class I renewable energy certificates (RECs). The Class I RECs purchased would be equal to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 percent of the Class I RECs that the electric utility is required to purchase in energy year 2016; • 20 percent of the Class I RECS that the electric utility is required to purchase in energy year 2018, and • 30 percent of the Class I REC that the electric public utility is required to purchase in energy year 2020 and in every energy year thereafter. <p>Any cost or revenue loss incurred by an electric utility under these requirements would be recoverable in base rates.</p>	<p>Mandated, long-term, rate-recoverable contracts between utilities and REC generators provides opportunities to sell RECs.</p>	<p>Introduced and referred to Assembly Telecommunications and Utilities Committee (1/27/16).</p>	<p>Awaiting committee hearing.</p>



LEGISLATION Reference No.	Description	Why It Matters	Most Recent Action	Next Action
Assembly Bill A2203 (Eustace) <i>Introduced on 1/27/16.</i>	Would increase state RPS requirements, Class I renewable energy requirement would increase once every five energy years between energy years 2015 and 2050, from 11% to 80%.	Would significantly increase RPS obligations. Similar to A1759, but without solar carve-out.	Introduced and referred to Assembly Telecommunications and Utilities Committee (1/27/16).	Awaiting committee hearing.
Assembly Bill A1759 (multiple sponsors) <i>Introduced on 1/27/16.</i>	Would increase state RPS requirements, Class I renewable energy requirement would increase once every five energy years between energy years 2015 and 2050, from 11% to 80%. The bill also requires a certain percentage of the electricity sold to be from solar energy; by energy year 2030, 13.849%.	Would significantly increase RPS obligations for suppliers.	Introduced and referred to Assembly Telecommunications and Utilities Committee (1/27/16).	Awaiting committee hearing.



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<p>Assembly Bill A1672 (Schaer)</p> <p><i>Introduced on 1/27/16.</i></p>	<p>This bill establishes the "Neighborhood Solar Energy Investment Program," effectively allowing community solar projects. Consumers that seek to invest in a solar project would be compensated by a bill credit (kWh), provided that the credit could not exceed 100% of the customer's previous year annual usage.</p>	<p>Would allow the development of community solar projects in New Jersey, though the bill leaves a number of key policy decisions unmade and left to the BPU.</p>	<p>Reported favorably from the Assembly Telecommunications & Utilities Committee (2/4/16).</p>	<p>Awaiting floor vote.</p>



LEGISLATION				
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Assembly Bill A1500 (McKeon , Benson) <i>Introduced on 1/27/16.</i>	The bill would: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • require BPU to offer renewable energy and energy efficiency incentives at the same level as was offered as of 1/1/11; • provide all classes of ratepayers with access to solar renewable energy certificates (SRECs); • increase NJ’s RPS to require 30% of electricity be from Class I renewable energy sources by 2020; • require the BPU to set the value of the Solar Alternative Compliance Payment (SACP) higher than a SREC; and • require the BPU to establish a uniform Statewide energy efficiency policy. 	Increases RPS requirement, provides all classes of ratepayers with access to solar renewable energy certificates (SRECs).	Introduced and referred to Assembly Telecommunications and Utilities Committee (1/27/16).	Awaiting committee hearing.



LEGISLATION Reference No.	Description	Why It Matters	Most Recent Action	Next Action
Assembly Bill A1323 (Rible , DeAngelo , and Danielsen) <i>Introduced on 1/27/16.</i>	This bill would require that, where feasible, the construction of all new state government buildings include solar and/or geothermal generators.	Potential expansion of solar opportunities with state customers.	Introduced and referred to Assembly Telecommunications and Utilities Committee (1/27/16).	Awaiting committee hearing.



LEGISLATION				
Reference No.	Description	Why It Matters	Most Recent Action	Next Action
Assembly Bill A594 (Lagana) <i>Opened on 1/27/16.</i>	This bill amends current law concerning property tax exemption for property with a renewable energy system serving onsite buildings. The bill would establish a uniform property tax exemption rate for “commercial renewable energy systems,” defined as systems producing renewable energy onsite for uses other than to provide the electrical, heating, cooling, or general energy needs of onsite residential, commercial, industrial, or mixed use buildings. The bill does not apply to commercial renewable energy systems that were commercially operational or conditionally approved by the Board of Public Utilities prior to the date of enactment of the bill.	Would change the tax exemption for commercial solar systems designed to produce generation for sale to customers versus meeting on-site demand.	Introduced and referred to Assembly Telecommunications & Utilities Committee (1/27/16).	Awaiting committee hearing.



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A441 (Eustace , Benson , Zwicker) <i>Introduced on 1/27/16.</i>	<p>This bill would provide financial incentives for owners of solar generation systems. The reimbursement is only available for certain areas (“5 strategic zones,” to be designated by the BPU) as the primary goal of the bill is to reduce electric grid congestion. The incentives are only available to residential systems producing up to 25 kilowatts or for non-residential systems producing up to 200 kilowatts.</p> <p>For solar panel systems installed in the “strategic zones” after the bill’s effective date, the board is to reimburse an owner of a solar panel system 15 percent of the cost to install the solar panel system and \$1.50 per watt of energy produced by the solar panel system.</p>	<p>Further supports the use of residential and non-residential distributed renewable energy generation. Could potentially be a major incentive for to provide solar energy services.</p>	<p>Introduced and referred to Assembly Telecommunications & Utilities Committee (1/27/16).</p>	<p>Awaiting committee hearing.</p>



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Assembly Bill A282 (DeCroce) <i>Introduced on 1/27/16.</i>	This bill provides a gross income tax deduction for the costs of purchasing and installing a battery backup for a solar electrical generator in the taxpayer’s primary residence.	Since Superstorm Sandy, NJ has focused on building a more resilient grid for commercial, municipal, and industrial customers. This would encourage resiliency at the residential level.	Introduced and referred to Assembly Appropriations Committee (1/27/16).	Awaiting committee hearing.
Assembly Bill A220 (DeAngelo) <i>Introduced on 1/27/16.</i>	This bill would direct BPU to require electric and gas suppliers, brokers, agents, marketers, private aggregators, sales representatives, and energy telemarketers to keep a recording of each telemarketing sales call to a customer for three years from the date of the telemarketing sales call. Currently, BPU regulations allow for the disposal of the marketing portion of calls six months after the call was recorded.	Additional regulatory compliance hurdles for suppliers.	Introduced and referred to Assembly Consumer Affairs Committee (1/27/16).	Awaiting committee hearing.



LEGISLATION				
Reference No.	Description	Why It Matters	Most Recent Action	Next Action
Senate Bill S684 (Rice) (Gill) <i>Introduced on 1/12/16.</i>	<p>Establishes the Clean Energy Technology Center and Alternative and Clean Energy Investment Trust Fund for purposes of creating clean energy-related employment opportunities; allocates revenues from societal benefits charge to support its activities.</p> <p>“Clean energy” means any advanced technologies that reduce or eliminate the use of energy from non-renewable sources, including, but not limited to: energy efficiency, demand response, energy conservation and solar, wind, water, biomass, alcohol, wood, fuel cells, and any renewable, non-depleting, or recyclable fuel.</p>	Financing mechanism via loans and loan guarantees to companies, universities, and nonprofits to encourage the creation of clean technology ventures.	Introduced in the Senate, Referred to Senate Environment and Energy Committee (1/12/16).	S684 is scheduled for a committee hearing at 10:00 a.m. ET on 5/2/16.



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