

A!ert



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Alert is a monthly update on transportation and air quality planning activities in the Delaware Valley.



Air Quality Regulations

Governor Murphy Announces New Climate Change Initiatives

In an address on February 15, 2023, New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy outlined several goals related to reducing greenhouse gas emissions in the state. One action that has garnered significant attention is the Governor's directive to the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to implement California's Advanced Clean Cars II rule, which would require all new car and light-duty truck sales to be zero-emission vehicles (ZEVs) by 2035. Several states including New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania have already adopted the Advanced Clean Cars I rule that was developed by the California Air Resource Board (CARB) in 2012 to limit criteria pollutants and greenhouse gas emissions from vehicles. Under the Clean Air Act, which establishes federal air quality and emissions standards, CARB may develop a set of more stringent standards which other states may adopt. While environmental groups lauded the action, others questioned whether the 12-year timeline was feasible. Nationally, only about five percent of new cars sold are electric. To support the adoption of ZEVs, Murphy announced the state would allocate \$70 million from the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative, the regional cap-and-trade program, to make electric vehicles more affordable.

In addition to 100 percent ZEV sales, the Governor also expressed the desire to move the state towards 100 percent clean energy by 2035 rather than the previous goal of 2050. Murphy highlighted the state's offshore wind projects, which are planned to generate 11,000 megawatts of clean electricity by 2040. However, many are still skeptical about how the state could achieve fossil fuel-free electricity generation, especially given the current programs and funding opportunities.

According to 2021 figures from the U.S. Energy Information Administration, 46 percent of the electricity generated in New Jersey came from natural gas. The three nuclear reactors in the state accounted for 44 percent. Solar is currently the largest source of renewable energy in the state with much of it coming small scale systems like rooftop solar panels. Wind and biomass facilities fueled by municipal solid waste also contribute to the state's energy production. Renewables account for approximately eight percent of the state's energy production with coal accounting for two percent. Since the state uses more energy than it produces, New Jersey needs to import 20 percent of its energy demand to meet the state's energy needs.

Other initiatives mentioned by the Governor include helping homes and businesses electrify space and water heaters and enhancing flood protections along the coast and rivers.

Read more about the latest [New Jersey Climate Change Initiatives](https://www.nj.gov/climate/) at www.nj.gov.



Save the Date

Friday
June 2, 2023
NJ BPU

Clean Fleet EV Incentive Program

Applications Due

Information is available at:
nicleanenergy.com

Search "Electric vehicle Incentive Programs"

Friday
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Multi-Unit Development EV Charger Incentive

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White House Announces that Tesla will Open Charging Network to All Electric Vehicles

On February 15, 2023, the Biden Administration announced that Tesla will make at least 7,500 chargers from Tesla's Supercharger and Destination Charger network available to non-Tesla electric vehicles (EVs) by the end of 2024. The plan is to open the nation's largest charging network to all drivers to support President Biden's goal to fight climate change by electrifying the transportation system. This announcement is an important component of the president's goal to install 500,000 chargers across America and build a network of fast-charging stations across 53,000 miles of freeways from coast to coast. This charging network is critical to meet the goal of 50 percent of new U.S. car sales will be electric by 2030.

This announcement is part of a larger series of strategies released by the Administration in February that included an announcement to set new standards to make EV charging networks convenient and reliable for all Americans, clarify the made-in-America requirements for EV components, and alert the public that funding for the competitive National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure program is forthcoming in next few weeks.

"No matter what EV you drive, we want to make sure that you will be able to plug in, know the price you're going to be paying and charge up in a predictable, user-friendly experience," Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg said.

The move to open its charging network to other EVs will make Tesla eligible to compete for federal grants to install chargers as part of the national charging network. The infrastructure law prohibits federal subsidies for chargers that only serve one brand. Tesla is one of a number of private companies, including General Motors, EVgo, Pilot, Hertz, that have agreed to add thousands of public charging ports in the next two years, using private funds and federal support from the infrastructure law.

The Biden Administration's [Fact Sheet](#) detailing the plan to create an affordable and accessible EV Charging network at www.whitehouse.gov.

New Jersey Bureau of Public Utilities Offers Electric Vehicle Charger Incentive

The New Jersey Bureau of Public Utilities (BPU) is accepting applications for funding for two programs aimed at encouraging more widespread and equitable adoption of electric vehicle technology. Applications for the *Clean Fleet Electric Vehicle (EV) Incentive Program* and *Multi-Unit Development (MUD) EV Charger Incentive Program* are due on June 2, 2023.

The Clean Fleet Electric Vehicle Incentive Program provides funding for local and state governments to transition their fleets to EVs. The program allows local and state government entities in New Jersey to apply for \$4,000 grants toward the purchase of battery electric vehicles, \$5,000 grants for public Level-Two chargers, and \$4,000 grants toward the purchase of a fleet of Level-Two EV charging station(s).

Eligible applicants include local schools, municipal commissions, state commissions, state universities, community colleges, county government and county authorities in addition to municipalities, municipal utility authorities, and state agencies.

The Multi-Unit Development EV Charger Incentive Program is designed to encourage owners and operators of MUDs to provide EV chargers for residents and guests. The program offers incentives to support the purchase and installation of eligible Level-Two EV charging equipment. Awards available under the program include \$4,000 toward the purchase of a dual-port, networked Level-Two EV charging station and \$6,000 toward the purchase of a Level-Two EV charging station for a MUD located in an overburdened municipality.

More information about the [BPU EV incentives](#), including a list of overburdened municipalities, can be found at www.njcleanenergy.com.



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