

FIVE POINT STATEWIDE ENERGY REDUCTION PLAN
Freeholder James Polos
Middlesex County

POINT ONE: Eliminate the state required 5% down payment requirement for municipal and county solar, wind and geothermal projects. Cap purchases as a percentage of the total bond indebtedness of the entity.

POINT TWO: When a municipality or county completes an NJBPU funded Energy Audit, allow the entity to fund the capital repairs specifically identified in the report through bonds without the 5% down payment requirement.

POINT THREE: Allow municipal or county governments to bundle solar power installation requests from residents and businesses into a municipal project funded as a capital project. The project would not require the 5% down payment so there is no impact on the local taxpayer, it would provide reduced costs for the participants through large buying power, and insure proper installation and inspection of work. The municipality or county would have a lien against the property for the individual system, receive SREC dollars directly toward project payoff and receive payment from the property owner as an added assessment payment.

POINT FOUR: The state should develop a solar install standard or standards and for municipal, school and county use and create a state contract price for the installations. Accessing state contract pricing for standard solar installations will reduce costs, eliminate bid, consulting, legal and advertising costs and simplify the process. This pricing should also be extended for residential and commercial applications to stimulate private investment and the vendors should be New Jersey based.

POINT FIVE: A program must be developed to reduce energy costs and consumption for suburban and inner city age restricted communities where inefficient all electric heating and air conditioning systems exist. Additional regulations and requirements must also be established for utility companies which do not generate electric and find conservation and reduction in energy consumption adverse to their business plan