



**NJ
FREE**

New Jersey For Renewable Energy and Efficiency
80% Renewable Electricity by 2050 - for a Carbon-Free Future

Climate Mama

Environment New Jersey

Grandmothers, Mothers, and More for
Energy Safety (GRAMMES)

Greenfaith

League of Women Voters of Ocean
County

Mid-Atlantic Solar Energy Industries
Association (MSEIA)

Mr. Sustainable Blog

New Jersey Environmental Federation

New Jersey PACE

Potter & Dixon

Sierra Club – New Jersey

U.S. Green Building Council – New
Jersey

Mitsubishi Electric U.S.A.

September 16, 2013

Senator Thomas Kean
New Jersey State Senate
425 North Avenue, Suite C
Westfield, NJ 07090

Dear Senator Kean:

The environmental community and the renewable energy business community appreciate the work you have done to protect the environment and promote the growth of renewable energy. New Jersey has become a national leader in the early development of renewable energy. You can justifiably be proud of that, as can our great state. NJ FREE recognizes that New Jersey has taken important steps to move toward a sustainable future. We believe that the time has come to choose *the destination* for our energy future, and to embark on a definitive path to reach it.

NJ FREE is a broad-based coalition of organizations and individuals whose goal is to help lead New Jersey to take a decisive step in the creation of a sustainable society. We ask for your help in achieving that goal. We seek legislation in New Jersey requiring that the state achieve **80% Renewable Electricity by 2050**, with an intermediate requirement of **30% Renewable Electricity by 2025**. We also seek a requirement that the total electric usage in New Jersey be reduced by 20% by 2025 relative to 2012 usage, and be reduced by 30% by 2050 relative to 2012 usage.

This goal certainly is very ambitious, and it would require many changes in the way New Jersey approaches energy development and management. Some decisions regarding electric infrastructure improvement would need to be altered in the near term. It's a big undertaking, but conditions are ripe for taking this step, and New Jersey is uniquely positioned among all the U.S. states to do it. Moreover, Hurricane Sandy delivered a painful wake-up call to our state. The time to act is now to reduce the threat of climate change, and building a renewable energy economy is central to any effective response.

In the attached white paper you will find information summarizing the case that can be made now for the achievement of this goal, and some detail regarding what it would mean to the state.

We appreciate your scheduling a meeting with representatives of the coalition so quickly. If you share our vision, we look forward to working with you to craft the legislation we seek.

Sincerely,
Lyle Rawlings
NJ FREE