

"A Model For Policymakers Across The Country"

Tuesday, July 24, 2012 Tags: [Energy and the Environment](#)

The Solar Energy Legislation Signed By Governor Christie "Will Grow Our Economy", "Create Jobs" And Keep New Jersey As "The Nation's Solar Leader"

"We pledge to continue to move forward with our commitment to develop these sources to meet the goals that we have in the Energy Master Plan, and to continue to lead the way in solar energy throughout the country...This is another example of ways that we can act in a bipartisan fashion for the good of all the citizens of our state. Having renewable energy in our state, having it be a larger part of our portfolio, creating jobs, is not a Republican issue or a Democratic issue it's an issue that the people of our state demand that we work on together."

– Governor Chris Christie, Remarks At The Solar Energy Bill Signing, July 23, 2012

Solar Energy Advocates And Environmental Leaders

Environment New Jersey's Clean Energy Advocate Matt Elliott: "Today we applaud the Legislature and the governor for supporting a bill to help New Jersey continue to be the nation's solar leader..." (Environment New Jersey, "NJ's Solar Energy Economy Gets a Boost: Gov. Christie signs a Pro-Solar Bill That Will Deliver More Clean Energy in Coming Years," Press Release, 7/23/12)

Elliott: "This bill ensures the continued success of our state's solar economy."

Elliott: "Without a doubt, today is a good day for solar in New Jersey."

Solar Energy Industries Association President and CEO Rhone Resch: "Thanks to the leadership of Governor Christie and our champions in the state legislature, in particular Senator Smith, Senate President Sweeney, and Assemblyman Chivukula, New Jersey's solar industry will now continue to provide jobs, investment and energy security for years to come." (Solar Energy Industries Association, "Governor Christie Signs Legislation to Stabilize New Jersey Solar Market," Press Release, 7/23/12)

Resch: "Bipartisan support for solar in New Jersey is a useful a model for policymakers across the country... All politicians should take notice"

Solar Energy Industries Association Spokeswoman Katie Bolcar-Rever: "It keeps New Jersey in the forefront and keeps the energy market growing..." (Michael Miller, "New Jersey orders bigger share of power come from sun," Press of Atlantic City, 7/23/12)

Mid-Atlantic Solar Energy Industries Association President Dennis Wilson: "The sponsors of the legislation and the governor worked long and hard to craft this bill, and we are grateful for their strong commitment to keeping the Jersey solar industry alive." (Mid-Atlantic Solar Energy Industries Association, "Governor Christie signs S1925, Solar Acceleration Legislation, saving thousands of solar jobs," Press Release, 7/23/12)

New Jersey Sierra Club Executive Director Jeff Tittel: "This law is a victory for solar in New Jersey because without it the solar program would have died. Solar is important for New Jersey because it is electricity without pollution. We get to grow our economy and create jobs..." (Kevin McArdle, "NJ Solar Program Gets New Life Under New Law," NJ 101.5, 7/23/12)

Tittel: "We thank Governor Christie for signing the bill because it is important in keeping the solar program moving forward in New Jersey."

Legislative Leaders

Senate President Sweeney (D-Gloucester, Cumberland and Salem): "This law is vital to the continued success of the state's solar market and in ensuring that the good-paying construction and installation jobs created by the solar industry stay in New Jersey..." (New Jersey Senate Democrats, "Smith And Sweeney Bill To Stabilize New Jersey Solar Market Becomes Law," Press Release, 7/23/12)

Sweeney: "There is great economic potential in growing this industry here in the Garden State and this law will help to attract more investment in the industry and ultimately provide more jobs for New Jersey's workers. That is what

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this measure is really about – supporting quality, good-paying jobs for New Jersey’s workers.”

Senator Smith (D-Middlesex and Somerset): “With the signing of this law, we will bring stability to the market, increase our use of a clean, domestically-produced energy source and ensure the continuation of manufacturing and installation jobs for many New Jersey residents, while keeping the costs down for electric ratepayers.” (New Jersey Senate Democrats, “Smith And Sweeney Bill To Stabilize New Jersey Solar Market Becomes Law,” Press Release, 7/23/12)

Assemblyman Upendra Chivukula (D-Somerset/Middlesex): “There are lots of jobs that are being created because of the solar industry and having a stable price will make it easier for people to obtain the financing...When you have the financing, they’ll be able to build the projects thereby creating the jobs.” (Phil Gregory, “N.J. aims to reinvigorate solar energy development,” WHYY, 7/23/12)

Industry Leaders

Atlantic City Electric Spokeswoman Lendel Jones: “We were pleased with the outcome of the legislation. We needed a way to give developers an option...” (Michael Miller, “New Jersey orders bigger share of power come from sun,” Press of Atlantic City, 7/23/12)

Solar Developer Pardee Resources Co. Vice President of Renewable Energy Michael Slom: “The law averted problems for the solar industry. ...Without it, we were in really grave danger...” (Jared Kaltwasser and Andrew Kitchenman, “Christie signs solar rescue bill,” NJBIZ, 7/23/12)

Press Contact:
Michael Drewniak
Kevin Roberts
609-777-2600



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Office of the Governor
PO Box 001
Trenton, NJ 08625
609-292-6000