

**NEW JERSEY CLEAN AIR COUNCIL**

<b><u>Clean Air Council Members</u></b> John Valeri Jr., Esq., Chair Allen Weston, Vice-Chair Leonard Bielory, M.D. Robert Campbell Maria Connolly, PP, AICP Michael Egenton	<b><u>Clean Air Council Members</u></b> Toby Hanna, P.E. Sandra Howland Andrew McNally Stephen Milgrom Richard Opiekun, Ph.D. Scott Ross
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**New Jersey Clean Air Council Meeting Record**

Meeting via Microsoft Teams

Wednesday, February 17, 2021

CALL TO ORDER	John Valeri opened the meeting.
COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT	All Council members were present with the changes noted below.
EXCUSED	Sandra Howland Andrew McNally Scott Ross
PUBLIC	Kimberly Scarborough, PSEG Andrew Arnold, PSEG Chris Gulics, PSEG
NJ DEP Staff	Francis Steitz Ken Ratzman Heidi Jones

**Meeting Record**

- Richard Opiekun made a motion to approve the January meeting minutes; Leonard Bielory seconded the motion. Minutes were approved with a unanimous vote.
- 2021 hearing topic was discussed The hearing is scheduled for Wednesday, April 21, 2021 via Microsoft Teams. More information will be posted on the website as it is made available.
- Leonard Bielory made a motion to adjourn; Michael Egenton seconded the motion. Meeting was adjourned at 10:31am.

## Administrative Report

*Presented by Francis Steitz, Director of Air Quality*

- 1. CMAQ Funding Award** – On February 10, 2021, North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority (NJTPA) awarded the Division of Air Quality (DAQ) just over \$5 million in Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) funds to support the State’s EV charging infrastructure grants and facilitate public outreach and EV ride and drives. The award is more than double the \$2.24 million amount asked for in the grant application. NJTPA also awarded the DAQ \$973,000 to install idle reduction technology on emergency vehicles; nearly double the \$462,000 amount asked for in that application. These awards highlight DAQ’s ability to craft strong project proposals and cultivate longstanding positive working relationships with funding partners such as the NJTPA.
- 2. California’s Advanced Clean Cars II (ACC II) Rules** -- The California Air Resources Board (CARB) is beginning to design its ACC II regulations to reduce criteria and greenhouse gas emissions from new light- and medium-duty vehicles beyond model year 2025, and increase the sales requirements for zero-emission vehicles. NJ, along with nearly all the other Northeast states, adopted the earlier iteration of this program in 2005. NJ is among a small group of states that is working with CARB on the design of their new program to ensure that it accounts for the state of the market in the Northeast. CARB anticipates holding stakeholder workshops this Spring and Fall.
- 3. NJBPU Approves PSEG Filling** -- On January 27, 2021, the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (NJBPU) approved PSE&G’s investment of \$166 million over the next 6 years in EV charging infrastructure. The investment will fund the infrastructure needed to support 40,000 chargers at residential homes, 3,500 chargers at 800 commercial locations, and 1,000 fast chargers at 300 locations on major travel corridors. The NJBPU deferred action on other portions of PSE&G’s proposal pertaining to a \$45 million investment in medium- & heavy-duty truck electrification and energy storage capabilities.
- 4. DC Circuit Vacates the Affordable Clean Energy (ACE) Rule** -- On January 19th, 2021, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit vacated and remanded the rule back to EPA to devise a new regulatory approach after finding that the rule failed to provide adequate environmental and public health protections. The opinion states the ACE rule "rested critically on a mistaken reading of the Clean Air Act." The Trump Administration rule was designed to regulate GHGs from fossil fuel power plants in place of the Obama Administration Clean Power Plan (CPP) Rules. Proponents of ACE are expected to appeal the vacatur to the U.S. Supreme Court.
- 5. EF Kenilworth LLC Operating Permit** – On January 18, 2021, Kenilworth Borough requested a public hearing on the renewal of EF Kenilworth LLC’s operating permit which includes a 248.6 mmBTU/hr dual fuel turbine that supplies power to the Merck Kenilworth facility. Kenilworth Borough raised concerns that with Merck’s recent announcement that it plans to remove all operations from the site, the permit is unnecessary and could possibly be transferred to a new facility on the site, creating new air pollution and health impacts. Air Quality expects to schedule the hearing for early March 2021.
- 6. Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission Significant Permit Modification** -- On January 14, 2021, the Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission submitted a permit application for the addition of a new standby power generation system to provide emergency power to the wastewater treatment plant at their Newark facility. The new system would include three 28-megawatt natural gas-fired turbines and two 2,000-kilowatt natural gas-fired stationary combustion engines. The turbines would have State-of-the-Art controls using oxidation catalysts and selective catalytic reduction catalysts. The facility is also proposing to enter into an agreement with the Pennsylvania Jersey Maryland (PJM) Interconnection to make the new system’s power available for facility-wide use during voltage reductions (brownouts) and regional peak demand.
- 7. Paulsboro Refining Permit Modification** -- On January 20, 2021, Paulsboro Refining in Gloucester County submitted a permit modification to double the annual throughput at their marine loading rack to accommodate the refinery’s increased off-site material shipments. The modification will not change the short term (hourly) emission rate but will double the annual (tons/year) emissions.

**2021 MEETING DATES & LOCATIONS (tentative)**

**Meeting will be 9:30am – 12pm, every 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month.**

January 20	Microsoft Teams Meeting.
February 17	Microsoft Teams Meeting.
March 17	Microsoft Teams Meeting.
April 21	Public Hearing - Microsoft Teams Meeting.
May 19	Microsoft Teams Meeting.
June 16	Microsoft Teams Meeting.
July 21	Microsoft Teams Meeting. - present report to commissioner (tentative).
August 18	No meeting. (Microsoft Teams Meeting, only if needed)
September 15	Microsoft Teams Meeting.
October 20	Microsoft Teams Meeting.
November 17	Microsoft Teams Meeting.
December 15	Microsoft Teams Meeting.