



New Jersey Board of Public Utilities

NEWS RELEASE

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Get a Head Start on Spring Cleaning by Recycling Your Second Refrigerator or Freezer

Receive \$50 and help protect the environment by having your old refrigerator or freezer picked up for free

Trenton, N.J. – New Jersey’s Board of Public Utilities’ *Clean Energy Program*[™] is helping residents with their spring cleaning. All it takes is the decision to part ways with that second refrigerator or freezer and you can make a little extra money, save more money through lower electric bills and create extra garage or basement space.

For New Jersey residents who decide they really don’t need the extra cold storage, New Jersey’s Clean Energy Program offers any state resident a \$50 incentive for having older, energy-wasting refrigerators or freezers picked up (labor included) and transported to a recycling plant.

Older refrigerators and freezers can consume up to three times more electricity than newer models manufactured to higher energy standards. Without them, people can save up to \$150 a year in electric costs.

“Besides consuming three to four times the energy of newer, more efficient refrigerators, old refrigerators contain toxins which pose a significant threat to the environment when improperly discarded,” said Board of Public Utilities President Lee A. Solomon. “This program helps save energy, protects the environment and offers residents a \$50 rebate to schedule an appointment to have their appliance picked up.”

People taking advantage of the program are also doing their share to protect the environment. The old units are sent to an East Brunswick de-manufacturing facility operated by JACO Environmental, a national provider of appliance recycling services. JACO’s process includes the recycling of nearly 95 percent of each refrigerator including metals, plastic, oils and the foam insulation. The foam removed from the appliances contains chlorofluorocarbon (CFC) gases which, if improperly disposed of, can have harmful effects on the ozone. JACO removes and bags the foam and then has it incinerated where the heat generated from that incineration process is then used to create new energy.

To schedule a free, in-home pick up of a refrigerator or freezer for recycling, New Jersey electric customers can call 877-270-3520 or visit NJCleanEnergy.com. The program is limited to removal of

two units per household. Appliances to be recycled must be in working order and between 10 and 30 cubic feet using inside measurements.

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About the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (NJBPUP)

The NJBPUP is a state agency and regulatory authority mandated to ensure safe, adequate and proper utility services at reasonable rates for New Jersey customers. Critical services regulated by the NJBPUP include natural gas, electricity, water, wastewater, telecommunications and cable television. The Board has general oversight responsibility for monitoring utility service, responding to consumer complaints, and investigating utility accidents. To find out more about the NJBPUP, visit our web site at www.nj.gov/bpu.

About the New Jersey Clean Energy Program (NJCEP)

NJCEP, established on January 22, 2003, in accordance with the Electric Discount and Energy Competition Act (EDECA), provides financial and other incentives to the State's residential customers, businesses and schools that install high-efficiency or renewable energy technologies, thereby reducing energy usage, lowering customers' energy bills and reducing environmental impacts. The program is authorized and overseen by the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (NJBPUP), and its website is www.NJCleanEnergy.com.