DRAFT, Portion of Middletown Energy Plan, based on Rutgers Plan of August 2010

[Middletown for Clean Energy, John Luard]

The Rutgers Plan was prepared for Middletown by a technical assistance team from the Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy, Rutgers University, New Brunswick. The team included faculty and staff members from:

* New Jersey Sustainable State Institute (lead)
* Center for Energy, Economic, & Environmental Policy
* Center for Planning Practice
* Rutgers Center for Green Building
* Voorhees Transportation Center

In addition, the Bloustein team included an external planning consultant, Sam Casella, FAICP/PP, who specializes in energy planning and implementation.

The purposes of the Rutgers Plan were:

* Satisfy U.S. Department of Energy requirements for receipt of Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) monies;
* Reduce fossil fuel emissions;
* Reduce total energy use within Middletown;
* Improve energy efficiency in the transportation, building, and other appropriate sectors; and
* Create and retain jobs

*Text in italics represent comments from John Luard to Middletown for Clean Energy, a group of volunteers.*

*Items 2.1 through 5 of the Rutgers Plan could probably be re-written or edited. I have not done that to save time. I think we are at the beginning, living with hopes of writing a single plan that Middletown will accept and, ACT ON.*

*It seems to me likely that the Woodbridge Plan is less vague than what I’m seeing in the Rutgers Plan. Hopefully the Woodbridge Plan promotes action, and we can emulate it.*

*I have worked only on the first of the items under Rutgers Item 6, Idling. The text that is not “cut and paste” from the Rutgers Plan is in red.*

# **Summary of Alternative Energy and Conservation Plan Measures; Recommended Policy Alternatives**

**Summary of Energy Plan Implementation Measures**

This summarizes measures to implement the energy plan for Middletown Township. The measures are grouped under the following categories.

* Education and Outreach
* Renewable Energy
* Sustainable Landscaping and Land Use
* Water Efficiency
* Waste Reduction
* Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) Reduction
* Energy Efficiency and Green Building

**6.1 Education and Outreach**

1. *Implement an education and enforcement campaign to reduce vehicle idling.*

Vehicle idling, which occurs when a vehicle engine is on while the vehicle is not in motion, reduces air quality and is associated with negative health impacts. To avoid the unnecessary environmental and health impacts associated with idling, local governments can implement an education and enforcement campaign to reduce vehicle idling. Campaign activities could include performing educational outreach, installing no-idling signs in frequent idling locations (e.g., schools, public facilities, and drive-thrus), and increasing patrols and ticketing.

Campaign education could include training for all municipal employees as well as instruction in the school system’s driver’s ed.

Middletown for Clean Energy recommends that the school system and the Police department be reminded or trained regarding NJ State Administrative Code with respect to idling. Appendix 1 shows the code.

Middletown for Clean Energy recommends a municipal ordinance be passed, similar to that of Princeton (Appendix 2) or South River (Appendix 3).