DRAFT FOR COMMENT (v5.1)

Honorable Governor Murphy:

The signers represent NJ environmental organizations concerned with advancing more quickly NJ efforts to combat climate change. We thank you for the leadership you continue to demonstrate in addressing climate change. We believe NJ must use every available tool to reduce 2005 levels of GHG emissions 50% by 2030, through a combination of legislation, regulation, and incentives.

We recommend that NJ mandate that each municipality create a 10-year energy and emissions reduction plan and commitment to reach a 50% reduction in Greenhous Gas (GHG) by 2030 and a further goal of at least 80% reduction in GHG by year 2050.

To support the municipalities in creating plans and reaching their goals, we recommend that the state establish and fund a *clean energy resource center* to provide expertise, guidance, technical support, useful statistics, information sharing, model plans, and other resources to each municipality, and to review, provide feedback on, and approve the energy and emissions reduction plan of each municipality (recognizing differences among municipalities). Annually, each municipality shall report its progress to New Jersey and update its plan, New Jersey shall monitor and review municipal progress and reports, and New Jersey shall publish an overall report on progress as well as maintain a publicly available website containing all the municipal plans and reduction reports for every year.

Attachment 1 highlights 10 recommendations to allow NJ to reach 50% GHG reduction by 2030 on the way to near-complete GHG reduction by 2050.

Attachment 2 provides examples for communication to the public of NJ-wide initiatives.

Thank you for your ongoing clean energy transformation leadership.

We also thank Hannah Thonet for her thoughtful 7/2/2021 email response to an “Ask the Governor” question submitted by Jeffrey Davis, of our group. Hannah requested our thoughts on options to facilitate local action. Her request was answered by this cover letter and attachments.

Signed by: **[to be listed]** "50 x 30" Team, with members from:

Climate Reality Project NJ Gateway Chapter (add footnote/explanation)

Middletown for Clean Energy

NJ Sierra Club Jersey Shore Group \**NOTE: we hope to expand to endorsement by NJ Sierra Club Chapter*

CC: Hannah Thonet, Policy Advisor | Energy + Environment, Office of the Governor; Hannah.Thonet@nj.gov

MOVE TO APPENDIX

THE TOP 3 GHG SOURCES IN NJ ( See Appendix for detail) All must have strategies, simultaneously tackled and substantially reduced by 2030 (percentages are rounded):

* Transportation (40%)
* Natural gas (30%) –for all-electric new construction
* Electricity generation (20%) –

THE TOP 3 GHG SOURCES IN NJ: All must be simultaneously tackled and substantially reduced by 2030 (percentages are rounded):

* Transportation (40%) – Need clearly defined and enforced incremental goals to increase EVs to 100%. The NJ Integrated Energy Plan (NJ Energy Master Plan) finds the Least Cost scenario with 100% EVs in 2035.
	+ For new car sales
	+ For phasing out existing vehicles with internal combustion engines
* Natural gas (30%) – Need clearly defined incremental goals to eliminate 100% of natural gas (excepting a possible portion of hard-to-convert industrial)
* for all-electric new construction
* for retrofits of existing structures
* Electricity generation (20%) – Tighten RPS to quickly achieve 100%. The NJ BPU is considering an attractive model for clean energy acceleration, via ICCM (Integrated Clean Capacity Market) proposed by the Brattle Group, and documented 6/2021 in “Alternative Resource Adequacy Structures for New Jersey” [[1]](#endnote-1).

MAKE FOOTNOTE FOR RESOURCE CENTER

Potential information for NJ Resource Center:

* Emission reduction scenarios as documented in the (8/8/2020) “Middletown Energy Plan” [[2]](#endnote-2) .
* Exhaustive emission reduction actions are described in the Princeton University (12/15/2020) “NetZero America” report (page 335, “A blueprint for Action in the 2020s”, and page 336 “Eight Key Priorities for the 2020s”) [[3]](#endnote-3).
1. <https://nj.gov/bpu/pdf/reports/NJ%20BPU%20RA%20Investigation%20%28Final%29.pdf> [↑](#endnote-ref-1)
2. <http://climate.smiller.org/energy-plan/Middletown-2020-Energy-Plan/MiddletownEnergyPlan-V2-2020-8-8.pdf> [↑](#endnote-ref-2)
3. <https://netzeroamerica.princeton.edu/the-report> [↑](#endnote-ref-3)