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**Building Electrification report:**

**1. Sept 15 7PM Building Electrification Webinar: Real Life Stories to eliminate your home GHG emissions**

[REGISTER HERE](https://bit.ly/3tmyd1g) for 7PM Sept 15 webinar. A climate activist presents Iceland’s view of climate change.  Iceland uses geothermal energy for electricity and heating of 90% of buildings. Back in NJ, three homeowners describe reduction of their home GHG emissions. [DETAILS HERE](https://climate.smiller.org/50x30/building-electrification/2022-9-15-webinar/2022-9-15-announcement-SC.docx)

**2. The NJ 50 x 30 BE Team drafted 2 legislative bills for Building Electrification legislation. The “**[**Building Electrification Act**](https://climate.smiller.org/BE/proposed-legislation/2022-7-15-Building%20Electrification%20Act.docx)**” has been:**

* Reviewed and endorsed by SierraClub NJ Chapter Legislative Committee
* Reviewed (and endorsed with qualifiers) by Climate Reality Project national office, which stated this is really impressive work, BUT will only get enacted with buy-in from strong partners, such as Builders, Utilities, Labor, and EJ Community. (Action begins, once a bill is written and proposed)
* Being reviewed by NJ Sen Andrew Zwicker and NJ Sen Bob Smith, chair of the NJ Senate Environment and Energy Committee. We expect our bill to be fodder for NJ Law.

**THE** [**2022-7-13 “Amendments to Zero Energy Construction Act A1440**](https://climate.smiller.org/BE/proposed-legislation/2022-7-13-draft-Zero%20Energy%20Construction-Act-%20A1440%20Amendments-4882-8610-4102CHSM.docx)” remains in draft. An early draft was discussed with Assemblyman Kennedy, sponsor of the “Zero Energy Construction Act” A1440 . The draft awaits applicable definitions in the 2022 NJ Uniform Construction Code (expected Sept, 2022) and then will be quickly finalized.

**3. OUR PLAN**

* Sept 13 meeting of “NJ 50x30 Building Electrification Team” to review status, and seek input
* Focus on the broad view of Building Electrification roadmap, as specified in NJ Energy Master Plan, its Technical Appendix, and the subsequent “80x50 Report”
* Seek meetings and support of NJ Agencies, Builders/industry, utilities, labor, business, EJ community: Governor’s Office of Climate Action (previous meeting 6/8/2022); Dan Kennedy (Dir. Of Utility and Transportation Contractors Assoc.); Ralph LaRossa (CEO of PSEG); Gasfitters/Utility Workers of America; EJ agencies

**DETAILS:  
1. Sept 15 7PM Building Electrification Webinar: Real Life Stories to eliminate your home GHG emissions**

[REGISTER HERE](https://bit.ly/3tmyd1g) for 7PM Sept 15 webinar. Lead speaker 'Ingólfur Páll Matthíasson',  a climate activist, presents Iceland’s view of climate change.  Iceland is ahead of NJ in reduction of GHG from buildings; it uses geothermal energy for electricity and heating of 90% of buildings. Back in NJ, two homeowners describe reduction of their home GHG emissions. [DETAILS HERE](https://climate.smiller.org/50x30/building-electrification/2022-9-15-webinar/2022-9-15-announcement-SC.docx)

**2. The NJ 50 x 30 BE Team drafted 2 legislative bills for Building Electrification legislation**

-Our comprehensive “Building Electrification Act” is designed to launch New Jersey’s latent Building Electrification program. The [Amendments to Zero Energy Construction Act A1440](https://climate.smiller.org/BE/proposed-legislation/2022-7-13-draft-Zero%20Energy%20Construction-Act-%20A1440%20Amendments-4882-8610-4102CHSM.docx) is designed to speed up new and rehab construction code to “NetZero” construction by greatly speeded dates

* Reviewed and endorsed by SierraClub NJ Chapter Legislative Committee
* Reviewed by Climate Reality Project national office, which stated this is really impressive work, BUT will only get enacted with buy-in from strong partners, such as Builders, Utilities, Labor, and EJ Community (Action begins, once a bill is written and proposed)
* The 2022-7-13 “[Amendments to Zero Energy Construction Act A1440](https://climate.smiller.org/BE/proposed-legislation/2022-7-13-draft-Zero%20Energy%20Construction-Act-%20A1440%20Amendments-4882-8610-4102CHSM.docx)” bill remains in draft. Early draft amendments were discussed with Assemblyman Kennedy, sponsor of the “Zero Energy Construction Act” A1440 . The draft awaits NJ settling on definitions in the 2022 NJ Uniform Construction Code (expected Sept, 2022)

**STATUS:**

“Building Electrification Act” is currently being reviewed for sponsorship by NJ Senators Andrew Zwicker and Bob Smith (chair of NJ Senate Environment and Energy Committee)

**OUR PLAN**

Sept 13 meeting of “NJ 50x30 Building Electrification Team” to review status, and seek input

Seek support from

·       **NJ AGENCIES**:  convene follow-up meeting with Catherine Klinger, Sr. Policy Advisor (presumed head of a Building Decarbonization working group), Governor’s Office of Climate Action and the Green Economy). (We met with Catherine on June 8, 2022)

·        **BUILDERS/INDUSTRY** Dan Kennedy, senior director at the Utility and Transportation Contractors Association (UTCA) of New Jersey. Dan chairs the national Clean Water Construction Coalition and is former assistant commissioner at the New Jersey DEP.

·       **UTILITIES (PSEG):** Ralph LaRossa new (2 weeks ago) CEO of PSEG- a fortune 500 company (replaced Ralph Izzo as CEO). [New PSEG chief continues on energy giant’s green path](https://www.njspotlightnews.org/2022/09/pseg-ceo-larossa-clean-energy-climate-change-solar-offshore-wind-evs-less-gas-electric-crucial/)

·       **LABOR**:  IBEW; Gas Fitters; Utility Workers Union of America

·       **BUSINESS**: SEIA  (NJ? subgroup of Solar Energy Industries Association)

·       **EJ Entities**

**EVALUATE A POSSIBILITY** THAT NJ: expedite climate-related legislation, and NJ follow NY State’s apparent example to provide job opportunities for displaced gas labor?

·       July 5, 2022 NY enacted a climate bill, **“Advanced Building Codes, Appliance and Equipment Efficiency Standards Act of 2022”** Legislation A.10439/S.9405 requires the New York State Energy Conservation Construction Code to be updated to **achieve energy efficiency and greenhouse gas emission reductions**. **Code provisions must be cost-effective over the buildings’ life cycle, and must achieve energy savings greater than the then-current IECC (residential buildings) or ASHRAE 90.1 (commercial buildings)**

·       Simultaneously, NY enacted a companion bill:  “**Utility Thermal Energy Network and Jobs Act”** A.10493/S.9422 allows utilities to own, operate, and manage thermal energy networks, as well as supply distributed thermal energy, with PSC oversight. Heating and cooling networks are also referred to as community thermal or district energy systems. Definitions. **A gas corporation** is organized to manufacture, to produce or otherwise acquire and to supply for public **use artificial or natural gas [or],** a mixture of both artificial and natural gases **or thermal energy for light, heat or power… An electric corporation is a corporation** organized to manufacture, to produce or otherwise acquire, and to **supply for public** **use electricity or thermal energy for light, heat or power…** **Within three months, each of the seven largest gas, electric**, or combination gas and electric corporations **shall submit to the commission for review and approval at least one and as many as five proposed pilot thermal energy network projects.** ..[including] **at least one pilot project in each utility territory shall be in a disadvantaged community… and if a utility proposes four or more pilot projects, at least two shall be proposed in disadvantaged communities**.

**BIG PICTURE:** Several balls are in play at the moment, and the rules may be changing  (little of this is public, so sharing will be only need to know).

1. BE Act” is currently being evaluated by Sen Zwicker and Sen Bob Smith  
   Mike Winka and Jeanne Fox (former BPU commissioner) recently met with Sen Smith & discussed the BE bill.
2. Anjuli Ramos-Busot is participating in a high level committee with Sen Smith and others.  Presently at a point where they agreed to write a memo; haven’t reached the stage of real bills, but now considering possible split of bills
3. Sen Smith publicly stated, a few months ago, he wanted a big climate bill by year end