NJ 50x30 Building Electrification Team. 5/16/2022 REPORT

5/2/2022 [letter and Position paper](../../REF/2022-5-2MurphyBuildingElecLetterMerge.pdf) delivered to Gov. Murphy and all agency heads. The letter contains 6 recommendations for NJ adoption, related to building electrification

5/11/2022 [letter to Gov Murphy](../../REF/2022-5-11-Letter-to-Governor-on-3300-new-low-income-homes.pdf) and all agency heads . In this 2nd letter, we tell the Governor: We support your plan to dedicate $305 million to construct 3,300 affordable housing units, and we request these new units be all-electric, Zero Energy Buildings with heat pumps for building heating and cooling.

A group of 6 members of the BE Team have started a road show to meet NJ decision-makers.to discuss our recommendations, and start to network.

1. On May 10: We met with Jennifer Senick, Exec Dir of the Rutgers Center for Green Buildings. She has several roles. One is a BPU contract for settling the 2022 NJ Uniform Construction Code   
    (using a consultant, NEEP (Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnership)
2. on May 12 We met with 4 members of the NJ BPU
3. May 19 We meet with Dept of Community Affairs – esp the building code division, including Lt. Gov. Sheila Oliver’s office
4. On May 18, We start a legislative thrust with Asm James Kennedy, sponsor of the Assembly bill A1440 “Zero Energy Construction Act”   
   Our team is finalizing our legislative road show, We might propose the following, starting with Asm . James Kennedy, and soon carry the discussion to Sen Andrew Zwicker, and Sen. Bob Smith (and will bring in Anjuli, who has ties to Sen Smith)

* A. FIRST- we might consider NJ creating a legislative package of multiple bills, as now in NYState sponsored by the “Renewable Heat Now” coalition of over 200 NY environmental organizations.   
  NJ has a current strong platform- that we can leverage. the GWRA, the EMP, and 80x50 report, etc.
* B. SECOND: cold climate heat pumps will heat our houses and businesses in the future. we have a dilemma. The operating cost of a heat pump varies a LOT, depending upon the NJ tariff for electricity and gas. In some places heat pumps are lower operating cost than gas furnaces/boilers. In other regions, heat pumps have HIGHER operating costs than gas furnaces. A possibility: Consider a bill like the Vermont Clean Heat Standard (CHS) which creates rebate, that varies across NJ. We anticipate inviting the Vermont bill sponsors to talk to us. If we like it, we need to get that solution in front of BPU when the BPU issues FY 23 Clean Energy program budget.

1. On May 16, we met with the Sierra Club National Director of a national Campaign on Building Electrification, led by Jessica Tritsch, who is orchestrating across the U.S. We have joined their “Volunteers” team to share monthly news. BE team members, as they wish, can join the National BE listserv to receive email about BE From teams across the country.