

40 Years



**New Jersey  
Meadowlands  
Commission**  
1969-2009

# **NJMC NEWS RELEASE**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Nov. 10, 2009

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## **NJMC Unveils Solar Canopy Plan**

### ***Parking Area Project is Commission's Latest Renewable Energy Initiative***

**LYNDHURST, N.J.** – In its continuing effort to promote renewable energy production and grow the state's green economy, the New Jersey Meadowlands Commission today invited companies to submit plans to construct a solar canopy at the Commission's parking facility in DeKorte Park. The structure will reduce greenhouse gas emissions by generating clean energy for the Commission's administration building while providing the opportunity for green jobs in the Meadowlands District.

“Building a solar canopy is the latest example of the NJMC's firm commitment to renewable energy projects that provide green business opportunities, while also benefiting the environment,” said Robert Ceberio, the Commission's Executive Director. “By embracing alternative energy and promoting energy efficiency, the NJMC is helping position the Meadowlands District for an environmentally and economically sustainable future.”

The NJMC estimates that the solar canopy will generate about 150 kilowatts of power, enough to satisfy approximately 20 percent of the electricity needs of its administration building. The project will be funded by a Customer On-Site Renewable Energy (CORE) rebate the NJMC received from the state Board of Public Utilities.

In August the NJMC received \$8.5 million in federal stimulus funding through the BPU for use toward the construction of a solar facility on a closed landfill in Kearny. The landfill project was awarded a portion of the \$20.6 million in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act monies disbursed through the BPU's Innovation in Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy – Public Entities program.

The solar canopy and solar landfill projects support the goals of both the NJMC and New Jersey's energy master plans. The NJMC's plan calls for bringing 20 megawatts of renewable energy to the Meadowlands

District by the year 2020, while the objectives of the New Jersey Energy Master Plan include using alternative energy sources to meet 30 percent of the state's electricity needs by the same year.

In addition, the Commission is assisting Meadowlands District municipalities and school districts with the development of solar energy projects to be housed on the roofs of their public buildings through its Municipal Solar Assistance Program. The NJMC also offers financial incentives and priority plan review to developers who include energy efficient features in their projects. So far this year, a half-dozen applicants have asked permission to include solar structures on commercial buildings within the District.

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