



## **New Jersey Clean Energy Loans: NJ CELs**

### **Information for Financial Institutions**

#### **What is NJ CELs?**

[NJ CELs](#) is a \$80 million co-lending program for small businesses designed to catalyze the deployment of clean energy in New Jersey. Financing is available for eligible clean energy projects and the creation or expansion of clean energy businesses.

#### **Program Specifics**

- NJEDA will issue direct loans or purchase loan participations between \$250,000 and \$10 million
- Loans and participations must be matched at least 1:1 with capital from financial institutions
- Convenient terms with interest rates below the market rate and a term between 1 and 25 years
- NJEDA will be subordinate in collateral to participating co-lenders

#### **Benefits of Participating**

- NJEDA's lower co-lending rates may increase the number of small businesses seeking market-rate financing terms from financial institutions
- NJEDA's subordinated collateral position mitigates risk for participating co-lenders
- Allows financial institutions to participate in New Jersey's clean energy transition

#### **What types of institutions are eligible for NJ CELs?**

NJ CELs is funded by the federal State Small Business Credit Initiative (SSBCI). Financial institutions are eligible to serve as co-lenders for NJ CELs if they are:

- On the [NJEDA Premier Lender list](#) or NJEDA's CDFI Premier Lender list; or
- A private equity fund, bank, pension fund, insurance company, hedge fund, mezzanine fund, original equipment manufacturer (OEM), developer, family office, specialty finance company, or such other entity that has originated, maintained, and serviced more than \$5 million in clean energy loans over a three-year period.

Financial institutions will be required to certify that they meet these criteria, and that they meet the requirements for lenders under SSBCI.