



MEMORANDUM

TO: Members of the Authority
FROM: Tim Sullivan, Chief Executive Officer
DATE: October 30, 2025
SUBJECT: Take Charge Program

Request:

The Members are asked to approve:

1. The Take Charge Program (“Take Charge” or “the Program”), a pilot initiative designed to provide financial support for the installation of electric chargers for private fleets.
2. The utilization of \$50,000,000 from the Authority’s allocation of New Jersey’s Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (“RGGI”) 2023-2025 auction proceeds.
3. Delegation of authority to the Chief Executive Officer to:
 - a) Approve individual applications for the Program in accordance with the terms set forth in this memo and the attached Program Specifications.
 - b) Expand Program eligibility to include institutional¹ (local government, non-profits) applicants if other state programs cannot adequately serve these groups.
 - c) Increase funding from \$50,000,000 to up to \$75,000,000 based on available RGGI funding if application demand exceeds the initial \$50,000,000 funding allocation.

Background:

The Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) is a multi-state, market-based "cap-and-invest" program that establishes a regional cap on carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions from the electric power generation sector, therefore allowing for auctioning of emissions rights. States use the proceeds from the CO₂ allowance auctions to invest in programs to help further reduce CO₂ and other greenhouse gas pollution, spur clean and renewable energy, and provide rate relief on energy bills. New Jersey’s RGGI funds allocation is governed by the Global Warming Solutions Fund Act (P.L. 2007, c. 340).

Per New Jersey’s RGGI Strategic Funding Plan, the State will deploy RGGI funds for 2023-2025 within four initiative categories. This proposed NJEDA program aligns with the second initiative: Catalyze Clean, Equitable Transportation.

The Program builds on existing programs at the state level and within the EDA, including the New Jersey Zero-Emission Incentive Program (NJ ZIP) and the NJ ZEV (Zero Emission Vehicle) Financing Program, that encourage the adoption of zero-emission vehicles and the reduction of carbon emissions from the transportation sector. The Program was also informed by responses to “Request for Information #258 for Electric Vehicle

¹ Institutional entities are defined by the Department of Environmental Protection at NJAC 7:27D-1.2 to be those that serve “a non-profit or public purpose, such as a library, hospital, public school, institution of higher education, municipal utility, public recreation or cultural facility, or government entity.”

Charging Grants” which was released by the EDA in July 2025. More than 19 respondents to the RFI highlighted gaps in existing state incentives for electric vehicle charging, in particular for private fleets. In addition, the Authority held a public webinar for stakeholders to share comments and feedback on a proposed grant program structure.

Program Overview:

Take Charge is a first-come, first-serve grant program that will provide funding for charging infrastructure projects in New Jersey. The goal of the Program is to assist applicants by partially covering the costs, including hardware and related installation costs, of establishing electric vehicle charging infrastructure for private commercial fleets. Private fleets interested in adopting electric vehicles require consistently available and reliable charging infrastructure, but often face high costs for installation and site upgrades necessary for charger operation.

At this time, the Program will be open to charging projects serving private commercial fleets and will cover fifty percent of eligible project costs. Grant award amounts will range from a minimum of \$50,000 per project to a maximum of \$5 million. Applicants may be eligible for bonuses that can increase the award cap by 5% and may be stacked. The criteria for each are as follows:

- Projects located in Overburdened Communities (OBCs) or formally designated Adjacent Communities.
- Projects installing on-site renewable energy generation and/or energy storage systems to help manage power demand for chargers.
- Projects from small business applicants.

Multiple applications from the same entity (as determined by EIN) may be accepted, provided each project location has its own application, and provided that the total for all project locations does not exceed the \$5 million cap (plus any applicable bonuses).

The Program shall be implemented in accordance with the Program Specifications attached hereto as Appendix A.

Program Funding:

The Program will be funded from \$50 million in 2023-2025 RGGI auction proceeds available to the Authority.

Administrative costs for the Program will not be funded from the \$50 million because those costs will be covered under RGGI administrative funding that is available to NJEDA independently from RGGI project funding.

Delegated authority is requested to utilize up to an additional \$25,000,000 in RGGI funds available to NJEDA to expand the pilot if the Program demand exceeds the initial \$50,000,000 funding allocation.

Grant Amounts:

The minimum grant award size per project is \$50,000. The maximum grant award size is \$5,000,000, plus any stackable bonus. A single entity (as determined by EIN) may receive multiple grant awards provided those awards do not, in aggregate, exceed the maximum grant award size.

Delegated Authority:

Staff requests from the Members delegated authority to the CEO approve individual applications to the Program in accordance with the terms set forth in the attached Product Specifications.

In addition, staff is requesting delegated authority to the CEO to expand eligibility criteria of the Program to include institutional (local government and non-profits) applicants in the future. Institutional entities are eligible to receive RGGI funds from NJEDA under N.J.S.A. 26:2C-51(b)(1). While other State programs currently serve these types of entities, it may be preferable to include them in this program if other program funding for these programs becomes unavailable or these programs are fully subscribed.

In addition, delegated authority to the CEO is requested to utilize up to \$25,000,000 in additional RGGI funding as available to increase the Program funding if application demand exceeds the initial \$50,000,000.

Recommendation:

The Members are asked to approve:

1. Take Charge, a pilot initiative designed to provide financial support for the installation of electric chargers for private fleets.
2. The utilization of \$50,000,000 from the Authority's allocation of New Jersey's Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) 2023-2025 auction proceeds.
3. Delegation of authority to the Chief Executive Officer to:
 - a) Approve individual applications for the Program in accordance with the terms set forth in this memo and the attached Program Specifications.
 - b) Expand the Program eligibility to include institutional (local government, non-profits) applicants if other state programs cannot adequately serve these groups.
 - c) Increase funding from \$50,000,000 to up to \$75,000,000 based on available RGGI funding if application demand exceeds the initial \$50,000,000 funding allocation.



Tim Sullivan, CEO

Prepared by: Jessica Parineet

Attachment: Appendix A –Product Specifications: Take Charge Program

Appendix A
Take Charge Program Specifications
October 30th, 2025

Program Purpose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The goal of the Program is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the transportation sector by reducing the costs of installing electric vehicle charging infrastructure. The Program will accelerate the adoption of transportation electrification by supporting charging for commercial fleets.
Program Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$50,000,000 of Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative auction proceeds available to the Authority under the 2023-2025 RGGI Funding Plan.
Grant Amount	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimum award amount per project: \$50,000 Maximum award amount per EIN: \$5 million <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The award amount will be capped at 50% of eligible project costs. The cap on eligible project costs can be increased by an additional 5% each on a per project basis as follows for each of the following factors: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Projects located in Overburdened Communities (OBCs) or formally designated Adjacent Communities. NJ’s Environmental Justice Law (N.J.S.A 13:1D-157) defines overburdened communities as any census block group, as determined in accordance with the most recent United States Census in which: 1) at least 35 percent of the households qualify as low-income households; 2) at least 40 percent of residents identify as minority or as members of a State recognized tribal community; or 3) at least 40 percent of the households have limited English proficiency. Projects installing on-site renewable energy generation and/or energy storage systems to help manage power demand for chargers. Projects from small business applicants. For the purpose of the Program, a small business is defined as having 25 or fewer full-time employees in total OR less than \$5M in annual gross revenue. An applicant (determined by EIN) may apply for multiple projects across different sites so long as total funding awards do not exceed \$5 million in aggregate.
Eligibility Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Program will be open to for-profit commercial organizations that are purchasing and installing electric vehicle charging infrastructure in New Jersey. Eligible organizations must have 2 or more existing commercial-use vehicles (including light-duty, medium-duty, heavy-duty, off-road, or maritime vehicles). These vehicles must be registered in New Jersey OR domiciled in New Jersey OR otherwise plan to utilize the proposed charging infrastructure in New Jersey being supported under the Program. These existing vehicles can be electric vehicles or non-electric vehicles that the applicant is planning to transition to electric vehicles with the construction of the charging infrastructure. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Charging-as-a-service providers, including entities leasing chargers to fleet operators, OR property owners who are installing chargers on behalf of a tenant fleet may also apply provided they (1) install permanent charging infrastructure at a site in NJ and (2) have an agreement, letter of intent, or equivalent documentation indicating an identified commercial fleet operator that would otherwise meet the eligibility requirements of the Program. Projects can consist of installation of new chargers to a property that already has existing chargers. If applicable, applicants must demonstrate that they have reviewed with their electric utility provider the feasibility of charger installation on the selected site prior to submitting their application and are aware of costs that may be involved with providing sufficient electrical capacity to the site based on this review.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Applicant must also be in substantial good standing with the NJDOL and NJDEP. A current tax clearance certificate will need to be provided prior to application approval to demonstrate the applicant is properly registered to do business in New Jersey and in substantial good standing with the NJ Division of Taxation. A valid Applicant tax clearance certificate also is required prior to closing and disbursement of funds. • Applicants must satisfy the Authority’s debarment/disqualification review and not be in default under any Authority program or have any outstanding obligations to the Authority. • If the applicant is leasing the site for charger installation, then they must demonstrate that the property owner has approved of the project. Tenants must also provide a valid lease for at least the length of the proposed project’s construction timeline and the three-year compliance period. Applicants who have not yet finalized a lease for the total duration of the compliance period may be provided an exception provided the property owner certifies their intent to maintain or transfer usage of the chargers to a new tenant in the event of a non-renewal of the current lease.
Eligible Uses of Grant Funding	<p>Eligible costs include, but are not limited to materials, labor***, and equipment for the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Level 2 charging stations* • New Direct Current Fast Charging (DCFC) charging stations* • Delivery, activation fees, and warranty costs associated with new charging stations • Network subscription costs for up to three years* • “Make-Ready” costs including but not limited to upgrades of the electric power distribution system to the site, or wiring and electric work on the customer side of the electric meter necessary for charger installation • On-site renewable energy generation and/or battery storage systems to provide and/or store power for chargers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The amount of funding being allocated to this category cannot exceed more than 50% of the total eligible project cost • Associated site upgrades necessary for charger installation and operation, including but not limited to signage, protective bollards, and pavement striping • Payments for the use of temporary mobile chargers and/or mobile battery storage systems** • Site assessment, engineering, and related design costs for the above items <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A lookback period is included for any completed design related work (not-construction) looking back 12 months prior to application submission but no earlier than the date of Program NJEDA Board approval. ○ The amount of funding being allocated to this category cannot exceed more than 15% of the total eligible project cost. <p>* Applicants must select a Pre-Qualified Network Service Provider from the list of Compliant Network Service Providers housed on the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) website.</p> <p>**Costs incurred for mobile chargers/batteries are eligible on the condition that permanent chargers are installed by the end of the allowable construction period. Additionally, eligible costs incurred beyond permanent charger installation (after project completion) are not eligible.</p> <p>***All construction work must be conducted by New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development (DOL) Public Works registered contractors in accordance with NJ prevailing wage and affirmative action requirements.</p> <p>Ineligible costs include but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Level 1 charging stations • Chargers installed on residential properties for personal or non-commercial use • Electric vehicles • Permitting fees • Combustion-based generators or charging systems, including but not limited to combustion-based temporary or mobile chargers

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Taxes • Charging related operating expenses such as electricity supply charges and maintenance costs <p>For certain charging projects, applicants may be eligible for incentives directly from their electric utility such as utility-side or customer-side make ready costs. In this case, applicants are still eligible for the Program so long as the total grant amount received from both the EDA and the utility does not exceed 90% of the project’s eligible costs. Applicants may not otherwise stack grant funding with any other charging incentive program offered by the State (DEP, BPU, DOT, etc.) or Federal government.</p>
Application Process	<p>Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis. The application will remain open until all available funding is reserved or until three (3) years after the date of application launch, whichever is sooner. If within the 3-year window, following the initial reservation of all the Program funds, previously reserved funding becomes available due to applicants not utilizing funding reservations, the application may be re-opened.</p> <p>Applicants will be provided a 10-business day cure period to correct submission deficiencies that are identified by staff as incomplete or incorrect. At the sole discretion of the Authority, staff may ask for additional information or clarification of the information included in the application, including, but not limited to, responses, documentation, and attachments. Applicants that are non-responsive or that do not provide complete responses to NJEDA requests for additional information will be notified by NJEDA staff via email that the application will be administratively withdrawn and not advance.</p> <p>In addition to other items, applicants must submit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fleet information such as model and registration for existing vehicles and plans for future vehicles (if applicable) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ If the applicant is a charging-as-a-service provider or property owner applying on behalf of a tenant fleet, these details along with a signed agreement, letter of intent, or equivalent documentation between both parties will need to be submitted for the partner fleet • Project description, including proposed quantity and type of chargers, and if applicable, plans for on-site energy generation/storage systems • Project site address and property information <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Including proof of property ownership or lease agreement for the required duration of construction and program compliance terms (see Eligibility Requirements) • Estimated project timeline • Cost estimate budget spreadsheet including a total requested grant amount using NJEDA template, which is supported by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Quote(s) from contractor(s) that are registered with NJDOL as a Publics Works Registered Contractor with costs consistent with New Jersey State prevailing wage rates ○ Vendor quotes or similar retail price information for any relevant items/equipment to be purchased directly by the applicant <p>If an applicant is determined to be eligible, the EDA will issue an approval letter with a maximum potential grant award amount based on the information submitted by the applicant.</p> <p>NJEDA grant award amounts will not be adjusted following notice of application approval. The Applicant will be responsible for any additional or unexpected project costs, even if relevant to the eligible project scope.</p>
Grant Disbursement	<p>Applicants will have six months from application approval to present the EDA with the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Confirmation from the utility provider for existing electrical service capacity OR confirmed plans and schedule from the utility provider to provide any additional needed capacity for the proposed charging project OR confirmation that charger power needs will be met with non-utility sources (existing on-site generation, proposed renewable generation, etc.)

	<p>2. Proof of funding/project financing plan for total estimated project costs plus an additional 15% of overall project costs as contingency to allow for potential cost overruns that may arise during construction. Proof of funding can include bank account statements, financing agreement, or similar indication of available working capital for the project costs. Additional financing provided by NJEDA may be used to cover project costs not eligible under the Program. Additional financing provided by NJEDA may also be used to cover project costs paid up front by the Applicant prior to submitting for grant reimbursement.</p> <p>Additional six-month long extensions may be provided subject to the discretion of the Authority.</p> <p>After these items are provided, a grant agreement will be executed, and funding will be available for disbursement as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. At the time of grant agreement execution, up to 15% of the approved award amount may be reimbursed for any expenses incurred for site assessment, design, and engineering completed in the 12 months prior to application submission and/or between time of application and grant execution. 2. A maximum of 50% of the total awarded grant, minus any amount disbursed following grant agreement execution, may be reimbursed after at least half of total estimated eligible project costs have been incurred by the Applicant. 3. The remaining amount of the grant award utilized on eligible expenses pursuant to the grant agreement will be disbursed as a reimbursement following project completion and submission of final disbursement documents, including proof of completed charging project and charger connectivity. <p>Applicants will have 24 months following grant agreement execution to complete the project and submit all documents required for reimbursement, with the possibility of six-month extension(s) of this timeframe at the discretion of the Authority. Reimbursement will be based on submitted proof of actual project expenses (receipts, contractor invoices, etc.), signed progress/completion documents, and project photos. NJEDA reserves the right to conduct site visits during and following completion of construction activities to confirm that work is being completed by New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development (DOL) Public Works registered contractors in accordance with eligible uses for the Program and all prevailing wage and affirmative action requirements.</p>								
Compliance and Reporting	<p>Following project completion and final disbursement of funds, awardees must supply charger usage data to the Authority for a period of three continuous years. To simplify sharing of data, applicants must select software that is already pre-qualified and listed as a Compliant Network Service Provider on the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection website. If the awardee is unable to maintain operation of the charging site within the three-year compliance term, they must either assign a new owner or the Authority will impose a recapture of the grant award on a prorated basis as follows:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="354 1339 1334 1472"> <thead> <tr> <th>Year of Compliance event of default within</th> <th>Recapture Percentage</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1 year from project completion</td> <td>100%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2 years from project completion</td> <td>60%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3 years from project completion</td> <td>30%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Year of Compliance event of default within	Recapture Percentage	1 year from project completion	100%	2 years from project completion	60%	3 years from project completion	30%
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Fees	<p>NJEDA will charge applicants the following fees unique to the Program given the availability of RGGI administrative funding to cover the Program administrative costs: Non-refundable \$500 fee paid at time of application submission per project application.</p>								

Attachments

Resolution of the New Jersey Economic Development Authority
Regarding Approval of the Take Charge Program.

WHEREAS, the Members of the New Jersey Economic Development Authority have been presented with and considered Board Memoranda attached hereto; and

WHEREAS, Board Memoranda requested the Members to adopt a resolution authorizing certain actions by the New Jersey Economic Development Authority, as outlined and explained in said Board Memoranda.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Members of the New Jersey Economic Development Authority as follows:

1. The actions set forth in the Board Memoranda, attached hereto, are hereby approved, subject to any conditions set forth as such in said Board Memoranda.
2. The Board Memoranda, attached hereto, are hereby incorporated and made a part of this resolution as though set forth at length herein.
3. This resolution shall take effect immediately, but no action authorized herein shall have force and effect until 10 days, Saturdays, Sundays, and public holidays excepted, after a copy of the minutes of the Authority meeting at which this resolution was adopted has been delivered to the Governor for his approval, unless during such 10-day period the Governor shall approve the same, in which case such action shall become effective upon such approval, as provided by the Act.

DATED: October 30, 2025

EXHIBIT