



## **New Jersey Economic Development Authority**

### **REQUEST FOR INFORMATION (“RFI”)**

**2026-RFI-289**

**for**

**Solar and Storage**

#### **1. INTENT/SUMMARY OF SCOPE**

The New Jersey Economic Development Authority (“Authority,” “NJEDA,” or “EDA”), an independent authority of the State of New Jersey, is seeking information and ideas from qualified entities (“Respondents”) regarding potential opportunities for investment to further support the development of solar energy generation and storage capacity in the state of New Jersey. Solar energy generation and storage for the purpose of this RFI includes both utility-scale and behind-the-meter installations of solar photovoltaic systems and various energy storage systems (batteries, pumped storage, thermal storage, etc.).

Currently, the Authority has existing programs that support solar and storage installations and companies through various financing and grant funding mechanisms. See additional details at <https://www.njeda.gov/clean-energy/>.

The Authority is seeking additional insight regarding potential gaps in these existing programs, specific projects in New Jersey that are actively seeking funding, potential sites that are suitable for future solar and/or storage installations, or suggestions for other potential associated programs or investments from the Authority that will further support the buildout of solar generation and storage capacity in the state in alignment with Governor Sherrill’s Executive Orders 1 and 2.

The Authority is interested in receiving information (including but not limited to comments, questions, recommendations, white papers, tools, case studies, information, ideas, references, and general responses, e.g., willingness to participate in a focus group) that will help it to shape new initiatives to accelerate investment in solar energy generation and energy storage in the state. More specifically, this RFI aims to help the Authority better understand:

1. The key opportunities and barriers (financial, regulatory, technological, logistical) around the buildout of additional solar and storage capacity in New Jersey.
2. Projects that are actively seeking financing and investment for development in the state.
3. Specific properties and locations that are suitable prospects for solar and/or storage projects and any barriers or specific investment needs that are hindering project development.
4. Additional investment or financing mechanisms beyond project-level support that can further support solar and energy storage capacity in the state.

5. Financial partners – potential equity and debt providers interested in partnering with NJEDA to finance such projects

## 2. **BACKGROUND**

The Authority serves as the State’s principal agency for driving economic growth. Through partnerships with a diverse range of stakeholders, the Authority creates and implements initiatives to enhance the economic vitality and quality of life in the State and strengthen New Jersey’s long-term economic competitiveness.

Through Executive Orders 1 and 2, Governor Mikie Sherrill has committed to prioritizing energy affordability for all New Jersey residents and businesses. Specifically, Executive Order 2 highlighted solar and storage technologies as “particularly critical technologies to meeting the State’s and the region’s electricity supply shortage” given their ability to quickly deploy compared to alternative technologies. Additionally, clean energy resources will continue to be prioritized as New Jersey aims to reduce statewide greenhouse gas emissions compared to 2006 levels by 50% and then 80%--by 2030 and 2050 respectively.

## 3. **ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

The RFI is seeking responses from all interested stakeholders. Specifically, this RFI welcomes input from entities, organizations, and individuals including:

- Solar and energy storage project developers, trade associations, and independent power producers
- Subject matter experts and entities with expertise on solar and storage technologies and installation, including research institutions
- Manufacturers or installers of solar and energy storage systems or components
- Financial institutions, investors, and related organizations with solar and/or energy storage related transaction experience
- Property owners interested in hosting solar and storage installations (private, commercial, or public property owners)
- Electric utility providers and operators
- Environmental and other public policy-focused organizations

Qualified entities do not need to be located within the State of New Jersey to provide a response.

## 4. **RFI RESPONSE QUESTIONS**

In submitting responses to this RFI, respondents are encouraged to answer any questions they consider relevant and to the best of their ability. Respondents do not need to answer all questions for their response to be considered. Answers are understood to be preliminary and non-binding. Respondents are free to go beyond the scope of the questions and/or structure responses as necessary to increase clarity and efficiency of responses. Respondents should also feel free to submit additional or alternate information as deemed necessary and appropriate.

Thank you in advance for your time and response.

## **Background**

1. Please provide information on you/your entity's background (name, location, organization/business type and size), and your involvement or interest in solar and/or energy storage in New Jersey.

## **Barriers and Opportunities**

2. What are the financial (e.g. installation costs, changing federal tax credits, cost of capital, etc.) and non-financial barriers (e.g. site availability, permitting complexity, interconnection timelines, etc.) to the installation of additional solar and/or energy storage capacity in New Jersey?
  - a. How would you recommend NJEDA or other state government partners take action to address these barriers?
  - b. What gaps are there beyond existing state programs for financial support and incentives (recognizing existing NJEDA, BPU, DEP, and other agency programs)?
  - c. What types of projects (scale, location, property type, technology) have specific barriers? The Authority is specifically interested in leveraging landfill properties and/or State-owned property for hosting solar and storage capacity and interested in any barriers that are unique to these properties.

## **Investment Mechanism**

3. The Authority is considering various roles it can play in supporting the development of solar and storage projects in New Jersey, with a particular interest in utilizing landfill properties or different types of State-owned property. Please provide feedback on the following arrangements, being specific with your perspective on the potential benefits and/or drawbacks of each arrangement as they relate to various project types:
  - a. NJEDA could serve as sole developer and contract with EPC firms to design and build solar/storage projects, likely selling these completed projects to IPPs.
  - b. NJEDA could partner with developers to jointly finance and develop solar/storage projects. EDA contributions could be via equity and/or debt financing.
  - c. NJEDA could predevelop sites to be ready for future solar/storage projects, completing any remediation work, securing land use agreements, and permits as applicable, with a mechanism to recoup its investment following project completion. "Build-ready" sites would be made available to developers for project completion, potentially via a coordinated power solicitation with other State agencies.

NJEDA welcomes suggestions on other roles the Authority could play in the development of solar and storage projects. This could include a potential hybrid approach such as grant-style funding/investment from the Authority into a development project that requires profit-sharing with the Authority only if a project reaches a certain financial milestone or agreed upon level of financial return.

## Additional Support

4. Beyond financing of specific solar or energy storage projects via loans or direct investment, what other financial or other types of mechanisms would be helpful from the Authority to support the additional deployment of these technologies in the state? These may include, but are not limited to:
  - a. Opportunities to remove or offset development risk via financial guarantees or other arrangements
  - b. Ability to support relevant supply chain partners and capabilities in NJ
  - c. Pre-development investments into transmission or distribution capacity
  - d. Technology development
  - e. Workforce development and training
  - f. Policy changes

## Projects Seeking Financing and/or Investment

5. Are you aware of any specific solar or energy storage **projects** that are in development (whether early or later stages) that would benefit from financial support (grants, loans, equity investments, or other financial mechanisms) from the Authority in order to achieve viability and bring additional power capacity online? If so, please provide the following information:
  - a. Development team information and appropriate point of contact
  - b. Project details (technology, location, size, schedule)
  - c. Progress of development (engineering studies, site control, procurement, etc.)
  - d. Project financials (estimated cost, planned revenue, financial partners)
  - e. Need for additional financing or investment from the Authority (type, amount, desired terms)
    - i. Please be as specific as possible in what type of financing would be most helpful to enable this project or similar projects (construction financing, bridge loans, long-term financing, equity investments, etc.)

## Potential Properties and Sites

6. Are there any specific **properties** in New Jersey that are prospective sites for solar and/or energy storage projects that offer strong potential but may face barriers to development? In particular, the Authority is interested in supporting the utilization of brownfields, landfills (both publicly-owned and private), large rooftops, parking lots, and other non-greenfield sites for solar and storage projects, but are open to all types of prospective properties. Please provide the following information for the site(s):
  - a. Property Address
  - b. Owner and appropriate contact information
  - c. Description of property (size, current and former use)
  - d. Maps and/or photos as relevant
  - e. If available, any information on why the site may be appropriate for energy infrastructure development (layout, topography, proximity to electric infrastructure, permissive zoning, etc.)

- f. Any site-specific barriers to development, particularly those that could potentially be resolved with State support (environmental remediation, interconnection study and/or transmission costs, engineering studies, site access, permitting, etc.). Specific information on these challenges and possible solutions is encouraged in the response.

5. **QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS (from Respondents to NJEDA)**

All questions concerning this RFI must be submitted in writing no later than **5:00 PM ET, on Wednesday, June 17, 2026**, via e-mail to: [cleanenergy@njeda.gov](mailto:cleanenergy@njeda.gov).

The subject line of the e-mail should state: **Questions-2026-RFI-289**.

Answers to questions submitted will be publicly posted on the Authority's website on or about **Wednesday, June 24, 2026**, at: <https://www.njeda.gov/bidding/#OET> as Addenda.

IT IS THE RESPONDENT'S RESPONSIBILITY TO CHECK THIS URL REGULARLY FOR UPDATES.

6. **RESPONSE DETAILS (Info Provided to Respondents Regarding Document Submission)**

All RFI responses must be submitted in writing no later than **5:00 PM ET on Wednesday, July 8, 2026**, via e-mail to: [cleanenergy@njeda.gov](mailto:cleanenergy@njeda.gov).

The subject line of the e-mail should state: **RFI Response-2026-RFI-289**.

7. **FOLLOW-UP QUESTIONS (from NJEDA) / ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Respondents may be invited to provide additional information to allow the Authority to better understand information provided.

8. **PROPRIETARY AND/OR CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION**

The Authority reserves the right to copy any information provided by the Respondents. The Authority reserves the right to use ideas that are provided by Respondents, applicants, stakeholders, or vendors. By submitting a Response, the submitter represents that such copying or use of information will not violate any copyrights, licenses, or other agreements with respect to information submitted or product solutions demonstrated, if applicable. Responses must clearly be marked for any information the Respondent deems Proprietary and/or Confidential.

The Authority further reserves the right to share information with the NJDEP, NJBPU, the Governor's Office, and other State agencies/entities as relevant.

9. **DISCLAIMER / NO OBLIGATION**

The Authority is under no obligation to contact Respondents to this RFI. If necessary, it may contact respondents through telephone calls, written or electronic communications, presentation requests and/or interviews to seek clarification on submissions. Please note that, Respondents shall not be under any obligation to respond to any such request.

This RFI is completely voluntary and will not affect scoring or consideration of any applications that may in the future be submitted to the Authority under programs or projects intended to strengthen New Jersey's clean energy economy.

This RFI is issued solely as a means of gathering information. Interested parties responding to this RFI do so at their own expense. There will be no monetary compensation from the Authority for the time and effort spent in preparing the response to this RFI. All expenses incurred are the sole responsibility of the Respondent.

This RFI is not a request for qualification/proposal. It may or may not result in further action. Should the Authority to move forward and issue an RFQ/P or announce a program/product related to this RFI, Respondents need not have submitted a response to this RFI in order to be eligible for the program or to respond to the RFP. Should an RFQ/P be issued, responding to this RFI will not affect scoring or consideration for that process.

#### 10. **NEW JERSEY OPEN PUBLIC RECORDS ACT**

Respondents should be aware that responses to this RFI are subject to the "New Jersey Open Public Records Act" (N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1 et seq.), as amended and including all applicable regulations and policies and applicable case law, including the New Jersey Right-to-Know law. All information submitted in response to the RFI is considered public information, notwithstanding any disclaimers to the contrary, except as may be exempted from public disclosure by OPRA and the common law.

Any proprietary and/or confidential information submitted in response to this RFI will be redacted by the Authority. A person or entity submitting a response to this RFI may designate specific information as not subject to disclosure pursuant to the exceptions to OPRA found at N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1.1, when such person or entity has a good faith legal and/or factual basis for such assertion (i.e. information that may be included in another ongoing public procurement or solicitation). The Authority reserves the right to make the determination as to what is proprietary or confidential and will advise the person or entity accordingly. The Authority will not honor any attempt to designate the entirety of a submission as proprietary, confidential and/or to claim copyright protection for the entire proposal. In the event of any challenge to the Respondent's assertion of confidentiality with which the Authority does not concur, the Respondent shall be solely responsible for defending its designation.