Tony Mercantante

Ted Maloney

Tara Berson

Amy Sarrinikolaou

We wanted to keep you apprised of Middletown for Clean Energy stakeholder team efforts to publicize and promote a swift transition to clean energy broadly in our county and state, using our Middletown Energy Plan work as a model.

FIRST, Pat and Steve Miller each wrote and submitted articles that were chosen to be included in the NJ Sierra Club newsletter. Each article mentions Middletown as an example that other towns might follow. The *Jersey Sierran* (Oct-Dec, 2019) went to print with a special edition on "Energy." Distribution is via paper or electronic form to ~21,000 Sierra Club members in NJ. The attached PDF files are the two articles we authored:

- 1. How Towns Can Fight Climate Change (via an Energy Plan) "2019-8-10-towns-model-NJ-EMP.pdf"
- 2. BPU Grant for Town Energy Plans "2019-8-energy-grant.pdf"

The complete newsletter (19 pages) is linked here: (our articles are on page 6, under "Energy Special" banner)

https://www.sierraclub.org/sites/www.sierraclub.org/files/sce/new-jersey-chapter/njs_sierran/Sierran-19D.pdf

The first article describes how an Energy Plan can be developed and enforced, and kick started by a quick adoption of Community Choice Electric Aggregation with high renewable content. The second article details how Middletown can maximize its score in order to be awarded the maximum BPU grant of \$25,000 to create a Middletown Energy Plan.

SECOND, we have joined with over 80 NJ environmental organizations, called EMPower, to pressure the state DEP and BPU to make the 2019 NJ Energy Master Plan more robust. We both testified at the EMP public hearings and submitted written comments. See attached "2019-SGM-BPU-EMP-testimony.pdf" and "2019-PSM-Comments-on-NJ-2019-Energy-Master-Plan.pdf".

THIRD, we have been working with Sustainable Jersey and their Monmouth Hub to promote the adoption of clean energy by surrounding towns. We discussed clean energy with the Red Bank Environmental Committee and Green Team. Red Bank is now pursuing a renewable Electric Aggregation. We spoke at a meeting in Long Branch that was attended by their mayor and several other officials. Subsequently, the Long Branch Green Team is working with the Long Branch Mayor and Council toward a commitment to clean energy and the adoption of renewable Electric Aggregation.

It is our hope that Middletown and all these other communities will aggressively pursue these measures, with the goal of leaving a livable world for our children and grandchildren. Specifically, in Middletown we wish to begin promoting widely both the Energy Plan work and the BPU grant application via an active Community Outreach program.

Steve and Pat Miller Founding Members, Middletown for Clean Energy