



# State of New Jersey

## DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

### OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

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**PHILIP D. MURPHY**

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*Lt. Governor*

**SHAWN M. LATOURETTE**

*Acting Commissioner*

### ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 2021-05

WHEREAS, climate change, driven largely by human activities that emit greenhouse gases (GHG) and other climate pollutants causing global atmospheric warming, presents an existential threat to the residents of New Jersey, their health, communities, businesses, environment, economy, and way of life; and

WHEREAS, without steep and permanent reductions in global GHG emissions within the next several years, New Jersey's people and their property will experience significant adverse effects of climate change, including rising sea-levels, increases in temperature and precipitation causing periods of both intense storms and drought, and chronic inundation from flooding; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Global Warming Response Act, N.J.S.A. 16:2C-42, (GWRA) directed the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to develop plans and make recommendations for reducing emissions of climate pollutants to eighty-percent below their 2006 levels by the year 2050 (known as the "80x50" goal); and

WHEREAS, the transportation sector represents the largest source of GHG emissions in New Jersey, representing approximately 42% of the state's emissions of climate pollutants, with gasoline-fueled vehicles accounting for over 70% of transportation sector emissions; and,

WHEREAS, according to the GWRA 80x50 Report issued by DEP on October 15, 2020, continued orders-of-magnitude increases in electric vehicle (EV) adoption rates are critical for New Jersey to achieve the necessary emissions reductions from light-duty vehicles. EV adoption rates must dramatically increase from today's average rate of 8,000 annual electric vehicle purchases to more than 111,000 annually, with significant continual increases until 2035, when all new light-duty vehicle sales will need to be electric in order to achieve the 80x50 goal; and

WHEREAS, by virtue of their purchasing power, state government agencies can achieve substantial reductions of transportation-related greenhouse gas emissions through the rapid conversion of their automobile fleets to low- or zero-emissions vehicles; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey's recent EV Law, N.J.S.A. 48:25-3, enacted on January 17, 2020, establishes the State's goals for vehicle electrification: (1) by December 31, 2025, at least 25 percent of State-owned, non-emergency, light duty vehicles shall be plug-in electric vehicles; and (2) by December 31, 2035, 100 percent of State-owned, non-emergency, light duty vehicles shall be plug-in electric vehicles; and

WHEREAS, the DEP has approximately 1,300 vehicles in its fleet, half of which are subject to N.J.S.A. 48:25-3a(8); and

WHEREAS, to meet the 2025 goal of the EV Law, DEP must replace approximately 30 existing vehicles with plug-in electric vehicles each year; and

WHEREAS, “rightsizing” is a management practice that can help the DEP’s fleet become more fuel efficient and sustainable by ensuring that the DEP’s vehicle choices reflect the State’s air quality goals in addition to the Department’s vehicle needs; and

WHEREAS, transitioning the DEP’s fleet will require a carefully crafted plan for the deployment of EV charging infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, the DEP has continued to lead by example, having installed nine EV charging stations around the Trenton campus and acquiring ten new electric vehicles to date, including several pool vehicles; and

WHEREAS, the DEP recognizes the importance of providing EV charging options to its employees that own, or plan to own, electric vehicles, and will address this objective as its second priority; and

WHEREAS, the DEP recognizes that its many State-owned parks and recreational areas provide the Department a unique opportunity to deploy EV charging stations to better serve the needs of visitors, and promote the objectives of the EV Law and the GWRA 80x50 Report; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Shawn M. LaTourette, Acting Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, hereby ORDER as follows:

1. Effective immediately, every Departmental program purchasing a vehicle shall purchase the most fuel-efficient vehicle possible.
  - a. The Department’s Division of Health, Safety and Facility Management (Facilities), in consultation with Division of Air Quality Bureau of Mobile Sources (Mobile Sources), shall review each vehicle request and, to ensure the directives of this Order are met, shall only approve a vehicle for purchase when it is satisfied that the most fuel-efficient vehicle possible has been identified for purchase.
  - b. Vehicle purchase approvals shall ensure that the requisition reflects best available technology to achieve the lowest emissions in the following order of priority: Battery Electric Vehicles, Plug-In Hybrid Electric Vehicles, Hybrid Electric Vehicles, and, only where strictly necessary, the most fuel-efficient combustion engine vehicles, with consideration given to the following:
    - i. Specific use case for the vehicle being purchased; and

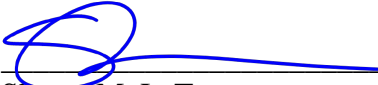


- ii. Reasonable accessibility of EV charging stations relative to the vehicle's use area.
2. By July 31, 2021, Mobile Sources and Facilities shall work to ensure that Department staff can successfully adapt to using Department-owned electric vehicles by developing, in conjunction with the Department of the Treasury, a standard operating procedure and educational materials.
  3. Mobile Sources and Facilities shall ensure the deployment of appropriate charging infrastructure to support the Department's electric vehicle fleet as follows:
    - a. Conduct regular meetings with members of the State's Partnership to Plugin to coordinate State fleet turnover, EV adoption, and charging infrastructure deployment; and
    - a. In coordination with the State's Partnership to Plugin, identify locations and types of charging infrastructure needed at State buildings and any additional locations, such as the State's centralized fueling stations, based on vehicle assignments and travel patterns, as well as the feasibility of charging State vehicles at commercial EV charging stations;
    - c. Immediately begin providing technical and planning assistance to the Department of the Treasury in the successful award of State contracts to facilitate the goals of this Order.
  4. By December 31, 2021, Mobile Sources and Facilities shall develop an implementation plan for the deployment of charging infrastructure at State parks and other State-owned tourist locations owned or managed by DEP.
  5. By December 31, 2022, Mobile Sources and Facilities shall develop an implementation plan for providing workplace EV charging stations to DEP employees with personal EVs, and coordinate with the Partnership to Plugin in the development of any such plans for employees of other state agencies and authorities.

All previous Administrative Orders that are inconsistent with this Administrative Order are hereby superseded and repealed.

This order shall take effect immediately.

Dated: March 26, 2021

  
Shawn M. LaTourette  
Acting Commissioner

