

## **Seven Hunterdon County Towns Join County In Choosing Renewable Energy Option**

Seven Hunterdon County municipal governments participating in the County's electric power shared service cooperative purchasing program have elected to follow the County's lead in choosing the renewable energy option, while still saving budget dollars, Freeholder Board Director Suzanne Lagay reported at the October 15<sup>th</sup>, meeting.

Lagay reported, "In August the Freeholder Board, following an online reverse auction for the purchase of basic generation service for electricity, approved a contract that included the so called green option. The option will see 48% of the basic generation power supplied to the County coming from renewable sources, while still saving \$123,000 over the two-year period of the contract.

Now, seven communities have joined the County in contracting for their power purchases with the renewable option, at a cost savings."

The towns participating in the renewable option include; Califon, Delaware Township, East Amwell, Flemington, Kingwood, and Raritan Township. Frenchtown will also select the green alternative at the time that their present electric power contract concludes next year.

Hunterdon County's online reverse auction, conducted by the energy consulting firm Concord Energy Services, is part of the shared service co-operative purchasing program with the municipalities.

Through the online reverse auction bid process, the contract was awarded to MidAmerican Energy Services, LLC, headquartered in Iowa.

Lagay noted the new contract took effect October 1st, "so the County and all the municipal participants' government facilities are now paying the lower rate for electricity."