



SIERRA CLUB

Hurricane Sandy Anniversary Where are we now? Where Do We Need to Go?

Jeff Tittel, Director of the New Jersey Sierra Club

Impacts throughout the State



Photos by: CNN News

What to Expect

- ▶ Our coast will see an increase in sea level rise by 1 ft. by 2050, but really that's 1–3 ft. with ebb and flow.
- ▶ Major storm surges will increase 1 in every 25 years because of sea level rise.
- ▶ In order to combat changing climate, we must mitigate our impact and adopt resiliency planning.
- ▶ However, New Jersey is the only coastal state that does not have an adaption and mitigation plan for sea level rise!

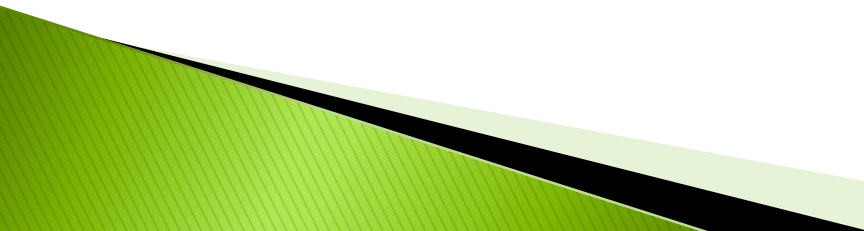
Climate Change and Energy

- ▶ We have enough wind off the Jersey Shore to supply 1 / 3 of our Energy needs!
- ▶ The Governor has blocked offshore wind financing rules and stopped the (Fisherman's Energy Project), and robbed the Clean Energy Fund.
- ▶ We have gone from 2nd to 8th in nation for solar installations. We have gone from 8th to 22th in energy efficiency.
- ▶ Christie Administration is part a lawsuit to block the Clean Power Plan



Photo by: NJ Spotlight


Climate Change and Energy

- ▶ The Governor has closed the Office of Climate Change
 - ▶ He rolled back the revised Energy Master Plan (EMP) to cut energy efficiency and renewable energy (30% to 22.5%) goals for New Jersey.
 - ▶ He removed New Jersey from the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI), costing our state \$1.25 million in revenue and more than 1,800 jobs.
 - ▶ He has tried to push a pipeline through the Pinelands, while subsidizing gas-fired plants.
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Our Renewable Energy Goals

- ▶ The New Jersey Sierra Club believes we can achieve a 30% increase in energy efficiency and 100% carbon free electricity production by 2030. By 2050, we believe all energy can come from renewable energy.

Rollbacks on Flooding and Coastal Protection

- ▶ Coastal Area Facility Review Act (CAFRA) rules
 - ▶ Rollbacks on Water Quality Master Plan and new amendments
 - ▶ Flood Hazard Area Control Act rules, Coastal Zone Management Rules, and Stormwater Management Rules
 - ▶ Rollbacks of Category 1 stream protections
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Coastal Area Facility Review Act (CAFRA) rules

- ▶ Allows development without consideration of sea level rise or climate change.
- ▶ Call for high intensity growth in low lying, flood prone areas that are vulnerable to storm surges like the Lacey Town Center, Tuckerton, Lakewood, and Manchester.
- ▶ Allows permit by rule which could mean building of sewer lines for pump outs without oversight and authorizes sediment sampling for dredging.




Flooding in Tuckerton during Hurricane Sandy,
Photo by: CNN News

Flooding in Tuckerton this Month




Flooding in Tuckerton during Joaquin, Photo by:
NJ Advance Media


What CAFRA should require

- ▶ Stronger limits on impervious cover
 - ▶ Natural systems restoration
 - ▶ Environmental standards to manage stormwater
 - ▶ Green building codes and green roofs
 - ▶ Inclusion of adaptation of climate change and sea level rise, including use of flood mapping
 - ▶ Limits on development on environmentally sensitive and flood prone areas
 - ▶ Offering buyouts
 - ▶ Regional planning
 - ▶ Closing the CAFRA loophole that allows CAFRA permit exemption for reconstruction activities in coastal area
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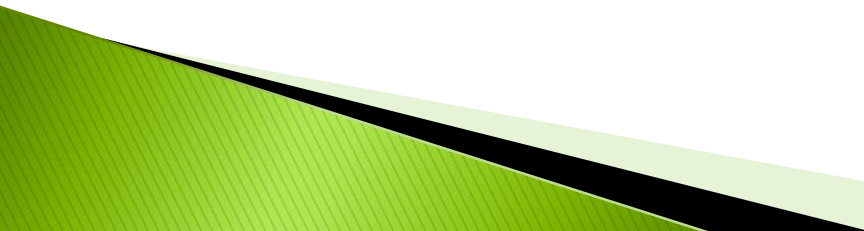
New Flood Hazard Rules

- ▶ Remove important protects for headwaters, increasing permit by rules, and letting a permit by certification process increase development in flood-prone areas.
 - ▶ Removes critical headwater protections and allow for increased drilling and power-lines in these areas.
 - ▶ Allows permit by rules, which has loopholes for more development in flood-prone areas.
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Water Quality Master Plan amendments

- ▶ Gives power to sewage authorities, other state agencies, and towns without proper reviews
 - ▶ Allows developers and others to extend sewers to environmentally sensitive areas and no longer have evaluation of environmental impacts like water supply, sprawl, and stormwater discharge.
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Rollbacks on Water Quality

- ▶ The State Plan has been gutted by the administration and calls for growth in sensitive areas.
 - ▶ Christie was the first Governor in recent history without a plan to fund open space purchases. He opposed efforts by legislators to put funding mechanisms in place.
 - ▶ DEP has not released new water discharge permits for Mercer, Salem, BL England, or Oyster Creek that require cooling towers, allowing them to continue discharging thermal pollution and killing millions of fish and aquatic organisms a year.
 - ▶ Christie opposes a Coastal Commission.
 - ▶ New Jersey is one of the worst state's for Combined Sewer Overflows in the country, which impacts the beaches.
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Beach Erosion

Ortley Beach



Photo by: NJ Advance
Media

Sea Wall Won't Work

Planned for Mantoloking Beach



Photo by: NJ Advance
Media

Failed Dunes

Long Beach Island



Photo by: 6ABC News



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Attack on Barnegat Bay

- ▶ The DEP has refused to designate portions of the Bay as impaired. He vetoed legislation that would have put in place a TMDL plan to clean up the Bay.
- ▶ Instead of addressing stormwater, the Governor vetoed two bills that would have helped towns develop storm water management plans and fund detention basin retrofits and demonstration projects.
- ▶ The Governor has allowed Oyster Creek to continue to operate without cooling towers.
- ▶ The Governor vetoed a bill to implement Ocean County commission to reduce stormwater runoff and pollution

Failed Stormwater Policies

Barnegat Bay, near Seaside Park



Photo by: Seaside Park Department of Public Works

What you Can Do

- ▶ Make Your Voice heard– locally and statewide
- ▶ Rally with us at the Statehouse and Testify at Public Hearings
- ▶ Write a Letter to Editor on an Environmental Issue
- ▶ Join the Sierra Club to support our work and get involved!



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