

Environmental Policy and Advocacy Highlights
April 2018

	Issue and source	Who you can contact
1	The Shore Tourism and Ocean Protection (STOP) from Offshore Oil and Gas Act (S-258/A-839), which would ban drilling within 3 miles of the NJ shoreline, has passed the legislature and is awaiting Gov. Murphy's signature. (source: Press of Atlantic City)	Governor Phil Murphy (609-292-6000, www.state.nj.us/governor/contact/)
2	Gov. Murphy's budget proposes to divert more than \$136 million in clean-energy funds to help give more money to beleaguered NJ Transit. (source: NJ.com)	Governor Phil Murphy (609-292-6000, www.state.nj.us/governor/contact/)
3	NJ Assembly bill A3116 (Chemours/DuPont exemption bill) would allow the import of hazardous waste, including fracking waste, to the Chambers Works in Salem County along the Delaware River. UPDATE: Passed in the legislature and is awaiting Gov. Murphy's signature. (source: Sierra Club)	Governor Phil Murphy (609-292-6000, www.state.nj.us/governor/contact/)
4	The PSE&G nuclear subsidy bill has been split into 3 bills. The clean energy bill S2314 would require 50% of energy be from renewable sources by 2030, and 100% by 2050. UPDATE: Passed in the legislature and is awaiting Gov. Murphy's signature. (source: NJ Spotlight)	Governor Phil Murphy (609-292-6000, www.state.nj.us/governor/contact/)
5	EPA issued a proposed rule, titled "Strengthening Transparency in Regulatory Science." The stated aim is to increase transparency in the data that EPA uses to develop regulations. However, the rule would mean that some of the most important research of the past decades — for example, studies linking air pollution to premature deaths and measuring human exposure to pesticides — would not be available to policymakers if scientists were unwilling to break the confidentiality agreements they struck with study subjects in order to collect sensitive personal information. (source: Federal Register, NY Times)	Public comments due by May 30, 2018 Submit comments to www.regulations.gov , Docket ID No. EPA-HQ- OA-2018-0259
6	The US EPA and NHTSA has proposed rolling back fuel efficiency standards that would require automakers to improve fuel efficiency to 54.5 miles per gallon by 2025. If fully implemented, the rules would have cut oil consumption by about 12 billion barrels and reduced carbon dioxide pollution by about six billion tons over the lifetime of all the cars affected by the regulations. (source: New York Times)	EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt (scott.pruitt@epa.gov) President Donald Trump (https://www.whitehouse.gov/contact/) Senator Cory Booker (202-224-3224, https://www.booker.senate.gov/?p=contact) Senator Robert Menendez (202-224-4744, https://www.menendez.senate.gov/contact)
7	Gov. Murphy signed a Memorandum of Understanding in which New Jersey would join eight other states in a cooperative effort to bolster the sale of zero-emission vehicles, a multistate program targeted to curbing	Governor Phil Murphy (609-292-6000, www.state.nj.us/governor/contact/)

	greenhouse-gas emissions from the transportation sector. The organization, known at the Multi-State ZEV Task Force, is working to achieve a collective target of at least 3.3 million zero-emission vehicles on the road in the eight-state region by 2025. If New Jersey joins the effort, it would up the target by another 330,000 vehicles. (source: NJ Spotlight)	
8	Sen. Bob Smith, the chairman of the Senate Environment and Energy Committee, introduced a new bill (S-2382) that would have the state provide \$100 million a year for the next three years in rebates to consumers who switch to zero-emission vehicles. (source: NJ Spotlight)	<p>Senator Bob Smith, LD-17 (732-752-0770, senbsmith@njleg.org)</p> <p>Senator James Beach, LD-6 (856-429-1572, http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/members/BIO.asp?Leg=310)</p> <p>Senator Troy Singleton, LD-7 (856-234-2790, www.senatorsingleton.com/contact)</p> <p>Senator Dawn Marie Addiego, LD-8 (609-654-1498, http://addiego.senatenj.com/contact.php)</p>
9	The American Lung Association has ranked Bucks County as the second worst county in Pennsylvania for air pollution. Winds carry its air east into Burlington County, where there are no air monitoring stations. (source: Burlington County Times)	<p>NJ DEP (866-337-5669 or 609-777-3373)</p> <p>Senator Cory Booker (202-224-3224, https://www.booker.senate.gov/?p=contact)</p> <p>Senator Robert Menendez (202-224-4744, https://www.menendez.senate.gov/contact)</p>
10	The Senate confirmed Andrew Wheeler, a former coal and nuclear lobbyist to be second-in-command at the EPA. (source: Washington Post)	<p>Senator Cory Booker (202-224-3224, https://www.booker.senate.gov/?p=contact)</p> <p>Senator Robert Menendez (202-224-4744, https://www.menendez.senate.gov/contact)</p>
11	<p>The European Commission is likely to give regulatory approval to the merger of Bayer and Monsanto, which if completed would create a company that holds more than a quarter of the world's seed and pesticides market. US Justice Department approval is also required. (source: Reuters)</p> <p>UPDATE: The EU has approved a complete ban on neonicotinoids, a common pesticide that is harmful to bees. (source: NPR)</p>	<p>Antitrust division, US Department of Justice (antitrust.atr@usdoj.gov)</p>
12	EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt issued a one-page vesting him with authority to make "final determinations of geographic jurisdiction," under the Clean Water Act, also known as the Water of the United States (WOTUS) rule. The new order heavily downplays the role of local EPA experts in the field who in the past have made the final recommendations. In February, the EPA under Pruitt suspended the Obama-era	<p>EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt (scott.pruitt@epa.gov)</p> <p>Senator Cory Booker (202-224-3224, https://www.booker.senate.gov/?p=contact)</p> <p>Senator Robert Menendez (202-224-4744, https://www.menendez.senate.gov/contact)</p>

	WOTUS bill from implementation for two years. (source: The Hill)	
13	President Trump signed an executive order — titled “Promoting Domestic Manufacturing and Job Creation — Policies and Procedures Relating to Implementation of Air Quality Standards” that reverses a 2015 decision under the Clean Air Act that allowed EPA to intervene in states that fail to meet National Ambient Air Quality Standards, forcing them to adopt federal regulatory plans to reduce ozone emissions that generally come from power plants, refineries and cement factories. (source: White House, Sierra Club)	EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt (scott.pruitt@epa.gov) President Donald Trump https://www.whitehouse.gov/contact/ Senator Cory Booker (202-224-3224, https://www.booker.senate.gov/?p=contact Senator Robert Menendez (202-224-4744, https://www.menendez.senate.gov/contact)