

# Governor Christie: THEN and NOW

Prepared by the New Jersey Environmental Federation

ISSUE	CHRISTIE as GUBERNATORIAL CANDIDATE 2009	CHRISTIE NOW - 2013
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## CLEAN ENERGY, CLEAN AIR, & CLIMATE CHANGE

<b>Energy Master Plan (EMP)/Global Warming Response Act (GWRA)</b>	"While Jon Corzine signing the GWRA and updating New Jersey's EMP and the strong goals contained therein are laudable, implementation here and a host of related issues is quite disappointing. In contrast, I am committed to aggressively pursuing these goals." (3)	Broke his pledge to do better than Corzine on the EMP & GWRA and actually reversed the direction by: (1) reducing EMP's renewable and efficiency goals; (2) diverting \$700+ million from the Clean Energy Fund; (3) withdrawing NJ unilaterally from RGGI; and (4) helping secure subsidies for new natural gas plants without corresponding pollution offsets.
<b>Coal/Renewables</b>	"I oppose the proposed coal plant in Linden." (3)	Fulfilled commitment to oppose Linden coal plant, sued individual out-of-state coal plant, and adopted a no new NJ coal plant policy, but these are more than offset by his opposition to stronger USEPA coal restrictions and support for new power lines for out-of-state coal.
	"Better focused on renewable and efficiency efforts" (3) and "Due to global warming and for our own security, we need to reduce not increase our reliance on fossil and foreign fuels" (3)	He helped secure passage of important solar and offshore wind bills, but these efforts are more than offset by his opposition to more comprehensive climate change solutions.
<b>Offshore Oil Drilling</b>	"I will oppose any attempt to drill off the coast of New Jersey" (3)	Vetoed the offshore Liquid Natural Gas (LNG) project and maintained opposition to offshore drilling.
<b>Nuclear</b>	Enacting policies in the first 100 days to stop the fish slaughter resulting from flawed cooling systems at the Salem and Oyster Creek nuclear plants." (2)	He secured an agreement to close Oyster Creek 10 years before current permit expires; however he broke his commitment to establish an effective watchdog regarding Oyster Creek and failed to do anything to fulfill his commitment to fix Salem.
<b>Diesel</b>	I will "require state contractors to retrofit their deisel engines" (2) and "I recognize too many folks get sick from diesel exhaust with all the ensuing health and economic costs" (3)	Broke this commitment and settled for a small pilot project.

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<b>CLEAN WATER &amp; LAND USE</b>		
<b>Barnegat Bay/Fertilizer</b>	Christie promised that he will "clean up Barnegat Bay with stronger laws and rules to stop the nitrogen and phosphorus poisoning the Bay." (2) "This will be a top priority of my Administration." (3)	He developed a 10 point Barnegat Bay plan, including the nation's strongest fertilizer law; however it fails to effectively address over-development, one of the greatest sources of pollution in the Bay. He also vetoed several bills, weakened rules, and delayed key elements of the Plan that would fix this.
<b>Category 1 Waters (highest level of regulatory protections for waterways)</b>	"Strengthening the C1 program, weakened by the Corzine Administration, to protect New Jersey's most important waters also in the first 100 days." (2)	Not only has he failed to do this, he has since taken steps to weaken the program, e.g., bad environmental bills such as the Permit Extension Act of 2012 and the bad amendments to the Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP).
<b>Drinking Water and Fracking</b>	"It is outrageous that the [Corzine] Administration continues to delay the required review of a water supply master plan." (1)	Continued flawed Corzine policies he previously criticized. The Water Supply Master Plan has still not been updated.
	"At the start of my administration, we will assess the state of our drinking water, both quantity and quality." (1)	Repeatedly rejected expert advice of own panel on acceptable levels of health-impairing contaminants. Effectively issued a stop work order on toxic contaminants PFOA, perchlorate, radium, chromium, et al.
	"There can be no more serious environmental issue facing our state. We must ensure a safe, adequate and sustainable supply of water." (1)	Helped secure, but now supports lifting the moratorium on drilling in the Delaware River Watershed, drinking water source for millions. Vetoed bills that would have banned fracking and the treatment of toxic fracking waste in NJ.
<b>State Strategic Plan</b>	"We need to develop in the right places and just say no in the wrong ones and my Administration will do just that." (3)	Too discretionary with emphasis on growth at the expense of protection. Signed bills and supports policies that break his promise to develop in the right places and not the wrong ones.
<b>NJ Highlands</b>	All of my appointments will be based upon the qualifications and commitment of the nominee to the advancement of the mission of the organization and to New Jersey." (1)	(1) Secured a working majority on the Council that opposes the very law they're charged with implementing; (2) Fired a competent NJ Highlands Council Executive Director resulting in the lead attorney resigning in protest; (3) Hired politically driven Executive Director and new attorney that championed efforts to repeal the Highlands Act.

New Jersey Environmental Federation

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ENVIRONMENTAL VALUES		
Environmental Justice (EJ) and Cumulative Impacts	"Too many communities bear a disproportionate share of the pollution burden." (3)	Increased staff and issue focus on EJ; however the pace is too slow.
	"I will require my Administration to develop standards and guidelines and implement them so that cumulative and disproportionate impacts will carry much greater weight in our decisions." (3)	Failed to fulfil this key commitment and his plan lacks concrete localized improvements. Needlessly placing people in harms way.
Cost/Benefit Analysis	"Require a more accurate cost/benefit analysis ... of lives saved, illnesses avoided, natural resources preserved, work and school days not lost due to sickness, and health care costs." (3)	Broken promise - unfilled commitment.
DEP Waivers / Hurricane Sandy	Committed to not weakening environmental protections.	In some ways, he provided strong leadership during/after storm. However many examples of faulty leadership also exist: (1) lack of transparency in decision making; (2) misuse of funds, overpaid friends for debris removal, cut key programs; (3) using Sandy as excuse to undermine environmental protections; and (4) not enough focus on policies to ensure long term resiliency of the Shore and communities given expected sea level rise, as well as frequency and severity of extreme weather events.
		Adopted rule that weakens dozens of if not hundreds of environmental laws and rules, thereby codifying a practice his Administration had already begun.

**Sources for direct quotes of then NJ gubernatorial candidate Chris Christie in 2009 in this document:**

- (1) Candidate Christie's reply to NJEF's questionnaire in July, 2009 aka "questionnaire"
- (2) Christie for Governor press release of October 6, 2009 aka "press release" [www.politickernj.com/chris-christie-governor/33811/chris-christie-receives-endorsement-new-jerseys-largest-environmental-](http://www.politickernj.com/chris-christie-governor/33811/chris-christie-receives-endorsement-new-jerseys-largest-environmental-)
- (3) Christie for Governor website aka "website", originally from October 2009 to mid-2010 at [www.christiefornj.com/images/environment2.pdf](http://www.christiefornj.com/images/environment2.pdf) (currently archived at <http://bit.ly/aJr7sG>)