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AN ENVIRONMENTAL AND ENERGY LAW PRACTICE

Governor Christie Freezes More Than 100 Pending Proposed Rules and Regulations

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On Governor Christie's first full day in office, he signed a series of Executive Orders, including Executive Order No. 1, which froze and suspended for 90 days more than 100 pending proposed rules and regulations, and Executive Order No. 3, which created a Red-Tape Review Group to assess the suspended regulatory packages. Executive Order No. 1 also identified certain other pending packages allowed to move forward. Several environmental and energy-related rule packages were among those frozen by Executive Order No. 1, including pending rule packages related to Greenhouse Gas Monitoring and Reporting, the Safe Drinking Water Act Rules, the Water Pollution Control Act Rules, the Underground Storage Tank Rules, the Freshwater Wetlands Protection Act Rules and the Net Metering Rules.

According to the Executive Orders, during the 90 day freeze, the Red Tape Review Group will examine the proposed administrative rules and regulations, as well as all operative Executive Orders from previous administrations, to assess their effects on New Jersey's economy and determine whether the associated burdens on business and workers outweigh the intended benefits. At the completion of this review, the Red Tape Review Group is required to provide the Governor a written report with detailed recommendations concerning those contemplated rules or provisions that should be rescinded, repealed or amended.

The Executive Orders may be found [here](#). The frozen rules are listed as an attachment to Executive Order No. 1.