

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,  
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT.

## EXECUTIVE ORDER No. 31

WHEREAS, The State of New Jersey and its citizens have a vital interest in the development and use of nuclear energy, with due consideration of its environmental impact; and

WHEREAS, In view of the continuing investigation of the long range impact of this energy source on the environment and the developing state of the art, it is necessary that thorough and comprehensive studies and planning be made in advance and that the environmental impact of the proposed locations of nuclear generating plants and other nuclear facilities be carefully analyzed to minimize adverse environmental effects, including the possibility of thermal pollution and excess radiation discharges; and

WHEREAS, The employment and use in the State of nuclear energy is subject to the jurisdiction of several agencies of State government and federal agencies; and

WHEREAS, The efforts of these agencies and private enterprises must be effectively coordinated in the effort to provide efficient and safe development of this source of power; and

WHEREAS, The public health, safety and welfare of the citizens of New Jersey requires that there be established a statewide agency with continuing responsibility for coordination and review on the State level;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, William T. Cahill, Governor of the State of New Jersey, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and by the statutes of this State, do hereby ORDER and DIRECT:

1. (a) There is hereby created a New Jersey State Nuclear Energy Council.

(b) The New Jersey State Nuclear Energy Council shall consist of the Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Protection, the Commissioner of the Department of Health, the President

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of the Board of Public Utility Commissioners, the Attorney General, and such other officers or persons as the Governor may by further order direct.

(c) The Chairman of the Council shall be the Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Protection.

(d) The Chairman and the members of the Council shall serve without compensation, but shall be entitled to reimbursement, within the limits of funds available therefor, for all necessary expenses incurred in the discharge of their duties.

(e) The Council shall meet at the call of the Chairman or of the Governor.

2. The New Jersey State Nuclear Energy Council is hereby authorized and empowered to do all things necessary to coordinate the safe and effective use of nuclear energy in this State; to inquire into the locations of nuclear power plants and their potential compatibility with the environment; and to review the sufficiency of safeguards to eliminate or minimize possible adverse effects. The Council is authorized to encourage the formulation of effective and responsible standards for engineering safeguards and operating practices in connection with the use of nuclear energy which shall assure that such usage minimizes the dangers to the citizens and environment of the State of New Jersey.

3. The New Jersey State Nuclear Energy Council created by this Order is hereby designated and appointed the State Coordinator for the State of New Jersey with the Federal Atomic Energy Commission for the use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes.

4. (a) The Council is hereby authorized to call upon any department, office, division, bureau or agency of the State to supply such assistance, statistical data, material and other information or personnel as it deems necessary to discharge its responsibilities under this Order.

(b) Each department, office, division, bureau or agency of the State is hereby authorized and directed, to the extent not inconsistent with law, to cooperate with the Council and to furnish to it such assistance, material and information as the Council may request of it as necessary in the discharge of its responsibilities under this Order.

5. The Council shall render to the Governor such reports as it may deem appropriate from time to time or as the Governor may request.

6. Executive Order No. 38, dated January 5, 1968, is hereby superseded and rescinded, but all actions taken by the New Jersey State Atomic Energy Council pursuant thereto shall remain in full force and effect until modified, amended or rescinded by the Council created under this Order.

7. This Order shall take effect immediately.

[SEAL] Given, under my hand and seal this 26th day of October, in the year of our Lord, one thousand nine hundred and seventy-one, and of the Independence of the United States, the one hundred and ninety-sixth.

/s/ WILLIAM T. CAHILL,  
*Governor.*

Attest:

/s/ JEAN E. MULFORD,  
*Acting Secretary to the Governor.*