

# Summary of New Jersey's Regulations on Chemicals in Cleaning Products

Website: [www.state.nj.us/cgi-bin/governor/njnewsline/view\\_article.pl?id=2883](http://www.state.nj.us/cgi-bin/governor/njnewsline/view_article.pl?id=2883)

## Summary

**1. Executive Order No. 76.** New Jersey [Governor Richard J. Codey](#) signed [Executive Order No. 76](#) on January 12, 2006 mandating that all state departments purchase and use environmentally preferable cleaning products. The following is a summary of that executive order.

**a) Overview.** According to the Executive Order, "All State departments, authorities and instrumentalities with purchasing responsibility shall procure and use cleaning products having properties that minimize potential impacts to human health and the environment consistent with maintaining the effectiveness of these products for the protection of the public health and safety."

**b) Guidelines.** The Executive Order directs the Department of the Treasury, in consultation with the Department of Health and Senior Services and the Department of Environmental Protection, to establish guidelines or regulations to provide guidance to covered State in purchasing green cleaning products.

On January 19, 2007, the NJ Department of Treasury issued a [Request for Proposal for Environmentally Preferable Cleaning Products](#). The RFP recognizes as environmentally preferable chemical based cleaners that are certified by Green Seal or Environmental Choice, or which are recognized by the U.S. EPA Design for the Environment (DfE) Formulator Program.

Suppliers may still seek environmentally preferable recognition for products that are not so certified or recognized by Green Seal, Environmental Choice or DfE by submitting an affidavit from a certified laboratory stating that the products meet or exceed the performance and health and environmental criteria set forth in the RFP.

**c) County and Municipal Governments.** County and municipal governments and school districts are not subject to the requirements of the Executive Order. However, these entities are encouraged to comply with the provisions of the Executive Order as it relates to purchasing green cleaning products.

**d) Timing.** Whenever feasible, State entities covered by the Executive order shall transition to green cleaning products "as soon as possible in a

manner that avoids wasting of existing inventories, accommodates establishment of supply chains for new products, enables the training of personnel in appropriate work practices, and allows the phase out of products and practices inconsistent with this Order.”

**e) New Purchasing Contracts.** New purchasing contracts for the purchase of green cleaning products or cleaning services shall include an “appropriate requirement consistent with this Order and the guidelines published by the Department of the Treasury.”