

STATE OF DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES & ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL DIVISION OF CLIMATE, COASTAL, & ENERGY

100 W. WATER STREET, SUITE 5A DOVER, DELAWARE 19904

PHONE: (302) 735-3480

ENERGY POLICY & PROGRAMS

September 26, 2018

Dear Educator:

You and your students are invited and encouraged to participate in the 25th Annual Junior Solar Sprint State Competition, sponsored in partnership by the Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control, Division of Climate, Coastal, & Energy and the Delaware Technology Student Association (TSA).

Students 5th- 8th grade build and race their own solar-powered model cars in this statewide challenge of creativity, engineering, and speed. The 2019 contest will take place on Thursday, April 4, 2019 at the Delaware State Fairgrounds in Harrington, Delaware, as part of the National Junior Solar Sprint Competition sponsored by the US Army Educational Outreach Program.

Junior Solar Sprint (JSS) presents a hands-on, multidisciplinary exercise in renewable energy education that encourages teamwork and fosters student interest in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) fields. Students can flex their creative ingenuity and apply real-world problem-solving in a fun and educational atmosphere.

The winning team will be eligible to compete in the 2019 National JSS Competition held in National Harbor, Maryland (June 28-July 2, 2019), and awards will also be presented for design and engineering.

The Division of Climate, Coastal, & Energy will provide each participating school with two starter Junior Solar Sprint Kits, each consisting of a solar panel, an electric motor, and guidelines. All students will be required to submit a design portfolio, which helps students document their project and learn further about engineering throughout the project. Students will also create a display to accompany their model vehicle, putting its best wheel forward for the People's Choice award. Students build and test their vehicles over the course of a few months, and arrive on race day with their vehicle and display in-hand. Separately, portfolios are due to the Division of Climate, Coastal, & Energy at 100 W Water St. Suite 5A, Dover, DE 19904, and must be delivered or postmarked by March 22, 2019. This ensures that all portfolios can be reviewed carefully and fairly prior to the event.

Schools are not required to have a Technology Student Association chapter in order to participate; all are welcome! However, please note that all schools will be required to follow Technology Student Association Guidelines, which can be found on their website. Please read all guidelines carefully, as they differ from the requirements of DNREC's older Junior Solar Sprint events.

Interested teachers may submit the attached registration form to <u>Felicity.Laird@state.de.us</u> by January 4, 2019.

For questions or additional information, visit the Delaware Technology Student Association website, or contact the Division of Climate, Coastal, & Energy at 302-735-3480.

We hope you will join us for this exciting and educational event!

Sincerely,

Felicity Laird

Energy Planner IV

Division of Climate, Coastal, & Energy

Felicity Jaird

Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control

State of Delaware