

## **Northeast Climate Action Project**

August 21, 2002

Dear New England Governors and Eastern Canadian Premiers,

As organizations concerned about the local and global impacts of climate change, we applaud your adoption of the Climate Change Action Plan at the NEG/ECP's conference last summer. We appreciate the leadership you have exhibited by taking this step. Your Climate Change Action Plan agreement was an important recognition that we must begin to act here in the Northeast, regardless of national or global government action.

The agreement was also important because it reaffirmed the belief of the scientific community that we will ultimately need 75 to 85 percent reductions of greenhouse gas emissions to achieve sustainability. Reducing these emissions means improving energy efficiency and using more locally-based energy sources, which in turn will improve our local air quality and boost our state and provincial economies.

Many states and provinces are now busy developing plans for achieving the short-term emission reduction targets laid out in last August's agreement. We recognize Quebec's leadership in releasing a climate action plan even prior to the regional agreement and are pleased to see that Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Rhode Island have released preliminary plans for public review. We look forward to seeing the plans from the other states and provinces soon.

We have been pleased with the progress outlined in a number of the draft proposals. We are particularly impressed with the "lead-by-example" provisions in the state plans. By committing to specific greenhouse gas reduction targets and by increasing their energy efficiency and renewable energy use and availability, the state plans set the appropriate tone for the other sectors.

However, we are concerned that the regional agreement does not seek the shorter-term 10 percent reductions soon enough. And, we are concerned that most of the plans lack sufficient specificity to enable assessment of their potential for actually achieving verifiable reductions. We feel that it is important to establish percentage reduction goals within each sector and in each province and state. To that end, we have attached a set of principles that we believe will ensure that each state and provincial climate change plan continues to further the objectives of the agreement and will position the Northeast as global leaders in reducing greenhouse gases across all sectors.

We look forward to working with you toward continued progress in implementing this agreement. Together, we can create a vision for realistically reducing CO<sub>2</sub> and other greenhouse gases in the Northeast within a reasonable timeframe. Please do not hesitate to contact Rob Sargent, project coordinator 617-747-4317 or Cindy Luppi at 617-338-8131 with questions. We look forward to a productive and continuing dialogue.

Sincerely,

**Rhode Island:**

American Lung Association of RI; Margaret Kane  
 CHISPA; Dina Lopez  
 Childhood Lead Action Project; Roberta Hazen-Aaronson  
 Environment Council of Rhode Island; Alicia Karpick  
 Environment Committee of the Episcopal Diocese of Rhode Island; Mary Hitt  
 Friends of the Moshassuck; Greg Gerritt  
 Ocean State Action; Marti Rosenberg  
 Ocean State Fisherman's Association; Russ Wallis  
 People's Power and Light; Erich Stephens  
 Rhode Island Peace Action; Karina Wood  
 Rhode Island Medical Society; Steve Detoy  
 RI Peace and Justice Education Foundation; Phil Edmonds  
 RIPIRG; Kate Canada  
 Sierra Club RI Chapter; Brad Marsten

**Maine:**

American Lands Alliance; John Demos  
 Appalachian Mountain Club; Gabrielle Kissinger  
 Chewonki Foundation; Don Hudson  
 Conservation Law Foundation Maine Advocacy Center; Peter Shelley  
 Friends of Acadia; W. Kent Olson  
 HORIZON- Residential Energy Services; Wes Riley  
 League of Women Voters-Brunswick Area; Simone Utley  
 Maine Center for Economic Policy; Lisa Pohlmann  
 Maine Interfaith Climate Change Initiative; Anne D. Burt  
 Maine Solar Energy Association; Richard Komp, President  
 Natural Resources Council of Maine; Sue Jones  
 Peace and Justice Center of Eastern Maine; Ilze Petersons  
 Physicians for Social Responsibility; Raina Rippel

**Connecticut:**

American Lung Association of CT; Michael Lauzier  
 Bridgeport Health Improvement Project; Dr. Conrad Barzaga  
 Citizen's Awareness Network; Deb Katz  
 Clean Water Action; Brooke Suter  
 Coalition to Strengthen the Sheldon/Charter Oak Neighborhood; Carol Coburn  
 Collaborative Center for Justice; Sister Mary Alice  
 The Committee on the Environment; Episcopal Diocese of CT, Lynn Fulkerson  
 Connecticut Citizen Action Group; Tom Swan  
 Connecticut Coalition for Environmental Justice; Dr. Mark Mitchell  
 Connecticut Fund for the Environment; Dana Young  
 Connecticut Green Party; Tom Sevigny  
 ConnPIRG; Kelly Benkert  
 Don't Waste Connecticut; Mitzi & Pete Bowman  
 Ecological Health Organization; Elaine Tomko  
 Fairfield Friends of Open Space; Jane Talamini  
 Friends in Unity with Nature, Hartford Religious Society of Friends; David Holdt  
 Greater Bridgeport Property Owners; Richard DeParle  
 Greencorps of Yale University; Duncan Hinkle  
 Health Systems Consultants; Karen Schneider  
 Interreligions Eco-Justice Network; Tom Carr  
 Mansfield Common Sense; Richard Sherman.  
 Middlesex Clean Air Association; Rebecca McLaughlin  
 New Haven Ecology Project; Oliver Barton  
 People's Action for Clean Energy, Inc.; Judi Friedman  
 Residents Against Creating Environmental Turmoil; Dorie Poeta  
 Regional Plan Association; Linda Hoza  
 Sierra Club Connecticut; Steve Colangelo  
 Southwest Community Health Center; Katherine Yacavone  
 Southeast Connecticut Community Center of the Blind, Inc.; Barbara Bostwick

**Massachusetts:**

American Lung Association of MA; Carlos Alvaros  
Boston Climate Action Network; John Anderson  
Campaign to Clean Up Brayton Point; Dave Dionne  
Cape Clean Air; Dr. Anna Manatis-Lornell  
Cape and Island Self Reliance; Megan Amsler  
Climate Action Brookline; Werner Lohe  
Coalition on Jewish Life and the Environment; Judy Lehrer  
Concord Green Team ; Marj Needham  
EnviroCitizen; Laura Inkeles  
Environmental League of Massachusetts; Jim Gomes  
Episcopal Power And Light; Steve MacAusland  
Forest Lake Association; Bill Patenaude  
Greater Boston Physicians for Social Responsibility; Maria Valenti  
Green Decade Coalition-Newton; Katherine Gekas  
Green Futures; Al Lima  
Haverhill Environmental League; Brent Baeslack  
Health Care Without Harm; Bill Ravanese  
HealthLink; Jane Bright  
Hilltown Anti-Herbicide Coalition; Ken Kipen  
Lawrence Environmental Action Group; Kathy Moyes  
Massachusetts Climate Action Network; Marc Breslow  
Mass Energy Consumer Alliance; Nicole Wobus  
MASSPIRG; Derek Haskew  
Merrimack Valley Residents for the Environment; Sheryl Poole  
MPAC-Marblehead Pesticide Awareness Committee; Pat Beckett  
People for the Environment; Joan Kulash  
Regional Environmental Council; Peggy Middaugh  
Religious Witness for the Earth; Fred Small  
Safer Water for Massachusetts; Jim Walsh  
Stop the Stop; Marybeth Palmigiano

**New Hampshire:**

Citizens for a Future NH; Carolyn Snyder  
League of Women Voters of NH; Sally Davis  
NH Citizens Alliance; Abigail Abrash-Walton  
NHPIRG; Josh Irwin  
NH Sierra Club; Bridget Sullivan-Stevens  
Seacoast Anti-Pollution League; Jen Hicks

**Vermont:**

Audubon Vermont; Jim Shallow  
Forest Watch; Jim Northup  
National Wildlife Federation; Sarah D. O'Brien  
Northern Forest Alliance; Michael Giammusso  
Northeast Organic Foods Association; Enid Wannacott  
Vermont Businesses for Social Responsibility; Megan Dishman  
Vermont Family Forest Foundation; Sandra Murphy  
Vermont Natural Resources Council; Steve Holmes  
Vermont Public Health Association, Bob Costitino  
VPIRG; Curt McCormack  
The Wilderness Society NE Office; Julie Wormser

**Regional:**

Appalachian Mountain Club; Georgia Murray  
Clean Water Action; Cindy Luppi  
Conservation Law Foundation; Seth Kaplan  
Environmental Network of Province One  
Episcopal Church New England; Jane Doherty  
NESEA; Warren Leon  
Toxics Action Center; Matt Wilson  
Union of Concerned Scientists; Deborah Donovan  
US Sky Trust; Adam Werbach

**Canadian/Provincial:**

Conservation Council of New Brunswick; David Coon, Policy Director  
Clean Nova Scotia; Angela Griffiths, Executive Director  
Environmental Coalition of PEI; David McKay  
Sierra Club of Canada; John Bennett  
L'Association quebecoise de lutte contre la pollution atmospherique (AQLPA); Andre Belisle