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Renewable Energy Vermont (REV)
Honors Representative Joseph Krawczyk
***Led the passage of the nation's first state-wide Renewable Energy Bill
with a standard offer component***

Burlington, VT— Renewable Energy Vermont (REV) honored Representative Joseph Krawczyk (R-Bennington) today at its Eighth Annual Conference and Expo. Rep. Krawczyk is the recipient of the Renewable Energy Champion Award, annually bestowed to individuals who demonstrate exceptional leadership and commitment to advancing renewable energy initiatives to better Vermont's overall energy, environmental, and economic well-being. REV also honored Green Mountain Power for demonstrating leadership in the advancement of solar power, and Tim Maker for his long-term commitment to the use of biomass energy.

“This year, Representative Krawczyk was a legislative champion and lead the Vermont legislature in the first of its kind policy,” said Lawrence Mott, Chair of REV's Board of Directors. “The Renewable Energy bill and the standard offer component are accelerating the growth of this sector in Vermont bringing the state back as a leader in energy policy.”

Vermont's Renewable Energy Bill was passed in May, making the state the first in the nation to pass a “feed in tariff” (FIT) program, also known as a standard offer, as a means of encouraging development of renewable energy systems such as solar, wind, and biomass. The new program yielded a tremendous response from potential renewable energy developers, and exceeded the standard offer limit of 50MW. The bill also establishes clean energy districts, which allows small towns and rural incorporated villages to use bonds to finance residential renewable energy or energy efficiency projects.

“Joe was a real champion of this bill. He focused on working to ensure that the best policies and practices were incorporated. These policies are now in place and we are seeing real action from Joe's insistence on specific language in the law,” said Mott.

Rep. Krawczyk is a Vermont native, born and raised in Bennington. He served in the U.S. Army for 28 years, including 14 years in Germany, where he witnessed that country's renewable energy programs first hand. “I don't believe that Vermont should rely on only two large generators to provide 2/3 of our base load of energy,” stated Krawczyk. In his eighth year as a legislator, Rep. Krawczyk is the current vice-chair of the Natural Resource and Energy Committee, enabling him to help pass the Energy Act of 2009, develop the clean energy fund, and facilitate wind tower siting and cow power programs. He has also worked successfully to open state lands for development of renewable energy.

REV is the only organization dedicated solely to working toward increased renewable energy use in Vermont. REV is continually working to see that Vermont enacts policies and legislation that promotes renewable energy. The organization also provides renewable energy education to the schools and communities of Vermont, raising consciousness about the many benefits of hydropower, wind, biomass, solar, and geothermal energy. REV is comprised of renewable energy companies, institutional and academic partners, and concerned citizens of Vermont. www.revermont.org

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