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**PUBLIC FUNDS IN TWELVE STATES CREATE NEW JOINT
EFFORT TO PROMOTE CLEAN ENERGY**

Montpelier, Vermont – In the first effort of its kind in the United States, seventeen public funds from twelve states have banded together to promote clean energy projects and companies. The funds have agreed to support a new non-profit organization – the Clean Energy States Alliance (CESA) - to help them work together.

CESA’s members include the clean energy funds from the following twelve states: California, Connecticut, Illinois, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island and Wisconsin. They all fund clean energy and expect to have about \$3.5 billion collectively for these efforts over the next decade.

“States see clean energy as a way to improve the environment but also as a powerful economic development tool,” according to Lewis Milford, Executive Director of CESA, this new organization. “By working together rather than going it alone, these states can build even bigger clean energy markets, spur technology innovation, create more jobs in 21st century clean energy industries, and more quickly clean up the environment. They can do all that and save money by leveraging each other’s funding.”

CESA will advance new, multi-state efforts to promote solar, wind, fuel cells and other clean energy projects and investments. The initiative shows how states have become the key “laboratories of experimentation” for economically and environmentally sound clean energy programs. Joint initiatives also can reduce the costs of individual state programs, while combining the power of many states for more effective strategies.

In the twelve states, seventeen different funding groups have agreed to work together through CESA, and fund the organization. They range from public agencies, to state governments, to nonprofits and other entities that manage public funding in clean energy. The organizations fund clean energy projects, promote markets for these technologies and some invest in renewable and clean energy companies.

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The states and organizations that are working through CESA are:

California:	California Energy Commission – PIER Program
Connecticut:	Connecticut Clean Energy Fund
Illinois:	Illinois Clean Energy Community Foundation
Massachusetts:	Massachusetts Technology Collaborative Renewable Energy Trust
Minnesota:	Xcel Energy Renewable Development Fund
New Jersey:	New Jersey Clean Energy Program
New York:	New York State Energy Research and Development Authority Long Island Power Authority Clean Energy Initiative
Ohio:	Ohio Department of Development, Energy Loan Fund
Oregon:	Energy Trust of Oregon
Pennsylvania:	Sustainable Development Fund Sustainable Energy Fund of Central Eastern Pennsylvania Pennsylvania Electric Company Sustainable Energy Fund of The Community Foundation for the Alleghenies Metropolitan Edison Company Sustainable Energy Fund of The Berks County Community Foundation West Penn Power Sustainable Energy Fund
Rhode Island:	Rhode Island Renewable Energy Fund
Wisconsin:	Wisconsin Focus on Energy Renewable Energy Program

Various fund managers have made statements in support of the Alliance, which are attached.

Through CESA, the state funds already have established several joint projects to build larger clean energy markets:

- Several states are working on a multi-state public education campaign.
- Several states are working on fuel cell and hydrogen programs.
- They are sharing “best practices” on various funding strategies.
- They are working with the solar industry on collaborative issues.
- They are developing better monitoring and evaluation efforts.

For the CESA Funds, “clean energy” is defined to include energy production from solar, wind, hydro, biomass, ocean thermal, tidal and wave, geothermal, fuel cells, and related energy storage and conversion technologies.

More about CESA and its activities can be found at its website: www.cleanenergystates.org.

For the last three years, various foundations supported the funds’ collaboration through a nonprofit project called the Clean Energy Funds Network. The supporting foundations have included The Energy Foundation; Surdna Foundation; Rockefeller Brothers Fund; The Emily Hall Tremain Foundation; and the Turner Foundation. Many of these foundations are expected to continue to support various specific projects of the Alliance.

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Clean Energy States Alliance Quotes from State Fund Managers

California – “CESA provides an ideal forum for the renewables states to share experiences and learn from each other. We’re gaining momentum, and one day will represent the prevailing energy policy in this country.” – John Geesman, Commissioner, California Energy Commission. (Phone: 916-654-4001)

Connecticut – “We view this collaboration as a tremendous opportunity to join forces in order to leverage both our resources and expertise for the advancement of clean energy throughout all of our states.” – Richard Barredo, President, Connecticut Clean Energy Fund. (Phone: 860-563-0015)

Illinois – “By developing and sharing best practices for clean energy program design and evaluation through CESA, we expect our resources to go further and have greater impact in advancing renewable energy and energy efficiency in Illinois.” - James Mann, Executive Director, Illinois Clean Energy Community Foundation. (Phone: 312-372-5191)

Massachusetts – “This new multi-state coalition is already moving fast to advance innovative clean energy solutions that create new jobs and lead to increased energy security for America. These dynamic partnerships support cutting edge renewable energy companies, foster shared learning among states and carry the message that clean energy can deliver substantial economic and environmental benefits right now.” - Rob Pratt, Director, Massachusetts Renewable Energy Trust. (Phone: 508-870-0312)

Minnesota – "A network of clean energy funds like we have in CESA shows what can be accomplished when we work together effectively." - Michelle Swanson, on behalf of the Xcel Energy Renewable Development Fund Advisory Board. (Phone: 612-965-7975)

New Jersey – “We believe cooperation among states is necessary to meet goals of affordable, reliable energy delivery which fosters environmental improvement, as our program demands.” - Michael Winka, Fund Manager, New Jersey Clean Energy Program. (Phone: 609-777-3312)

New York – "For more than 27 years, NYSERDA has placed great value on creating partnerships to help move technology forward. Technological information transfer—among our R&D partners, as well as among our professional associations--remains a prime reason for our being," - Peter Smith, President of NYSERDA. (Phone: 518-862-1090)

Ohio – “Sharing research and development efforts with other states makes sense when it comes to clean energy innovation. By working together, we expect to achieve solid results without duplicating efforts and expense. We want clean energy to be a key jobs sector in our state.” – Sara Ward, Chief, Office of Energy Efficiency, Ohio Department of Development, Energy Loan Fund. (Phone: 614-466-8396)

Oregon – “Our energy sources are interconnected, our issues are shared. To make the system cleaner, more stable and keep our energy dollars home we need to work together to lower the barriers for renewables and increase their integration into everyday life.” - Peter West, Director of Renewable Resources, Energy Trust of Oregon. (Phone: 503-493-8888)

Pennsylvania –

“As a smaller fund, we improve our effectiveness to the extent we can learn from the other funds and leverage their resources in building a successful program.” - Rob Sanders, Fund Manager, Sustainable Development Fund. (Phone: 215-574-5850)

“Our fund utilizes an enterprise model that is lean, efficient, and highly dependent on alliances. Our key alliances are with our fellow clean energy funds through CESA. The ability to capitalize on the networks and expertise provided by CESA is invaluable to promoting our mission.” – Tom Tuffey, Executive Director, Sustainable Energy Fund of Central Eastern Pennsylvania. (Phone: 610-740-3182)

Rhode Island – “The challenge to bring clean energy into the mainstream is great; we can’t do it alone and with CESA, we can advance our goals.” – Janice M. McClanaghan, Chief of Energy and Community Service, Rhode Island State Energy Office. (Phone: 401-222-3370)

Wisconsin – “In tough budget times, we need to find more efficient ways to stretch our public dollars. Working together is one important way to leverage our resources and to enhance both regional and national markets for renewable energy.” - Don Wichert, Director, Focus on Energy Renewable Energy Program. (Phone: 608-249-0339)

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