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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
**OFFICE OF
ENERGY RESOURCES**

New Report Applauds Rhode Island's Clean Energy Programs
Highlights the Success of Solarize Rhode Island

Providence, R.I. – A report by the Clean Energy States Alliances (CESA) has highlighted Rhode Island's efforts to address utility peak loads in the summer season. The report, *Clean Energy Champions: The Importance of State Programs and Policies*, details the Solarize program in Tiverton and Little Compton and the collaborative efforts of the Office of Energy Resources (OER) and National Grid to increase distributed resources, specifically photovoltaics (PV), in hopes of providing 250 kilowatts (kW) of summer peak load.

"I am pleased that Rhode Island is being recognized for its leadership in advancing clean energy initiatives," said Energy Commissioner Marion Gold. "Governor Raimondo and the General Assembly have demonstrated forward-looking leadership by fostering local and regional policies that create competitively-based processes that balance cost concerns with expansion of clean energy resources needed to diversify supply. There are wonderful opportunities in Rhode Island to create jobs and build our economy while developing a more secure, clean and affordable energy system and we look forward to continuing our great work."

The report provides a comprehensive look at the ways in which states are supporting clean energy deployment and finance and outlines how state actions and innovation will be essential for continued expansion of renewable energy in the future. In addition, it describes the many important policies and programs that states across the nation have used to build clean energy projects, develop the clean energy work force, and remove barriers to market growth. It also highlights 31 case studies from 22 states, covering a variety of state programs such as renewable portfolio standards, rebates for purchasing solar panels, and wind energy tax credits.

In examining Rhode Island's role in clean energy development, the report details the Solarize Tiverton and Little Compton program that concluded on June 14, 2015. Fifty-five photovoltaic contracts with businesses and homeowners were signed resulting in over 388kW of contracted capacity; when installed these projects may meet the goal of offsetting 250kW of peak summer load in the area. All projects installed as a result of the Solarize program will have a Data Acquisition System which will allow OER and National Grid to see both in-home energy usage

and the PV system production. That data will be analyzed over the next 1-2 years to determine if a Solarize program can help offset peak load demands.

“Over the past decade and a half, states across the country, including Rhode Island, have implemented innovative policies that have achieved significant, measurable results,” said Warren Leon, Executive Director of CESA. “This report clearly outlines how Rhode Island’s programs have helped to create a thriving clean energy sector. We must sustain this momentum by supporting various initiatives at the state level, working in tandem with federal agencies, and advancing clean energy with continued bipartisan support.”

For the complete report, please visit www.cesa.org.

About the Office of Energy Resources:

The Rhode Island Office of Energy Resources works closely with private and public stakeholders to increase the reliability and security of our energy supply, reduce energy costs and mitigate price volatility, and improve environmental quality. Its mission is to lead Rhode Island to a secure, cost-effective, and sustainable energy future. For more information, please visit www.energy.ri.gov.

About CESA:

The Clean Energy States Alliance (CESA) is a national, nonprofit coalition of public agencies and organizations working together to advance clean energy. CESA members—mostly state agencies—include many of the most innovative, successful, and influential public funders of clean energy initiatives in the country.

CESA works with state leaders, federal agencies, industry representatives, and other stakeholders to develop and promote clean energy technologies and markets. It supports effective state and local policies, programs, and innovation in the clean energy sector, with an emphasis on renewable energy generation, financing strategies, and economic development. CESA facilitates information sharing, provides technical assistance, coordinates multi-state collaborative projects, and communicates the views and achievements of its members. For more information on CESA, please visit www.cesa.org.