



New England Governors Seek an Executive Order for Land Conservation

GOVERNORS INVITE PRESIDENT OBAMA TO JOIN THEM IN CREATING AN EXECUTIVE ORDER TO PRESERVE THE WORKING LANDSCAPE

At their meeting in Halifax, Nova Scotia on July 12, 2011, the New England Governors offered a bold partnership to President Obama to preserve our region's working landscape in NEGC Resolution #203, "A Resolution Supporting an Executive Order Establishing

a Federal-State Partnership in New England to Support Job Creation, Land Conservation and the Working Landscape in New England". The purpose of this initiative is to create a regional Executive Order in our region similar to the one that exists in the Chesapeake Bay area. This EO would allow the New England states to work with the federal government agencies to incorporate New England's conservation and developmental priorities, as well as its regional uniqueness, into federal programs.

working landscape in the six states. The Executive Order would support this goal by establishing a new partnership model to maintain and strengthen our largely privately-owned agrarian landscape through a continuing collaboration among

federal agencies and the state, local and non-governmental organizations in our region. This would be accomplished by focusing our regional efforts and federal funding on a number of inter-connected objectives, including making our work-

ing landscapes more profitable and creating jobs in our resource-related industries by enhancing markets for their products, and by strengthening the daily connections between the people of (sub)urban New England, and the land.

About the NEGC ...

The New England Governors' Conference, Inc. was established in 1937 to promote economic development and foster policy cooperation between the six New England states. Since that time, the Conference has been actively engaged in implementing successful economic, energy, environmental, transportation, conservation, trade and other programs on behalf of the Governors.

In recent decades, the NEGC has become an internationally-recognized leader in regional policy development. As the New England Secretariat for the Conference of New England Governors and Eastern Canadian Premiers (NEG/ECP), the NEGC and its Governors are also building on a historic partnership between the states and provinces.



A LOOK BACK

The 35th NEG/ECP - Halifax, Nova Scotia - July 11, 2011

The 35th Meeting of the Conference of New England Governors and Eastern Canadian Premiers (NEG/ECP) took place in Halifax, Nova Scotia on July 10-12, 2011. Hosted by Nova Scotia Premier Darrell Dexter and Co-Chaired by Governor Peter Shumlin of Vermont, the discussions between the region's leaders focused on economic growth, enhancing the trade relationship between New England and Eastern Canada, shipping and transportation opportunities, maximizing the potential for clean, cost-effective renewable power in the region, and confronting the environmental challenges in the northeast.

The Governors and Premiers addressed the new fiscal realities facing states and provinces, as well as our federal governments, considering ways the region can enhance revenues and achieve greater efficiencies in state and provincial operations through collaborative actions. They also discussed the root causes of the current economic and revenue challenges facing our nations and federal/jurisdictional

governments, and the hard fiscal decisions that are being made to respond to the economic environment and create jobs.

The Governors and Premiers acted on a broad array of other issues in their one-day meeting. On energy, NEG/ECP Resolution #35-3 calls upon state and provincial officials to develop recommendations to expand renewable power

and passenger rail networks.

On climate change the significant progress made in reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in the region since the initiation of the NEG/ECP Climate Change Action Plan (2001) was noted. This historic accord was the first agreement of its type in the world and has served as the catalyst to numerous similar initiatives throughout the United States,

Canada and many other international regions and countries.

Mercury, an area in which the NEG/ECP has been engaged since the development of the regional mercury program in

1998, was also discussed, with

the NEG/ECP directing its state/provincial agencies to continue to engage the international community on ways to reduce the health and environmental threats posed by mercury by sharing the policy and program successes achieved in our region.

Governor Shumlin of Vermont concluded the meeting by announcing that he would host the 36th NEG/ECP Meeting in Vermont in 2012.



The 35th NEG/ECP (July 11, 2011), l-r: Premier Dunderdale (NL), Governor Chafee (RI), Premier Alward (NB), Governor Shumlin (VT), Premier Dexter (NS), Minister Arcand (PQ), Governor Malloy (CT), Premier Ghiz (PE), Secretary Sullivan (MA), Commissioner Fletcher (ME)

generation in the region and further diversify our resource mix. It also asks government policy-makers to work with private sector entities to facilitate and optimize the planning of natural gas transmission systems in the northeast.

On transportation, the Governors and Premiers provided direction on enhancing alternative-fuel vehicle infrastructure in the region, increasing multi-modal transportation options, and improving freight

New Staffers Join the Conference

THE NEGC WELCOMES JOHN KERRY AND ANN BOWES



John Kerry joined the New England Governors' Conference, Inc. as Program Coordinator / Grants Manager in April 2011. In his position, John will be responsible for grant management at the NEGC as well as the coordination of a number of NEGC and NEG/ECP committees and projects. John is currently involved with environment issues, emergency management, energy efficiency, and the NEG/ECP mercury and acid rain programs, and will also engage on a number of other issues.

Prior to joining the NEGC John served as the Energy Director for the State of Maine under Governor John Baldacci. He also worked with Catholic Charities and held a number of elected and appointed offices in Maine over the years. John owns a family business in Saco, Maine, where he currently resides.



The NEGC is also pleased to announce the hiring of **Ann Bowes** as Administrative Officer. Ann will be responsible for the overall management of the NEGC's offices in Boston as well as providing support for the NEGC's managerial and project work. As time permits, Ann will also engage in NEGC and NEG/ECP programmatic initiatives and a number of other responsibilities.

Ann has a diverse background in non-profit administration and programmatic development, serving most recently as the Program Manager for the Southern New Hampshire Resource Conservation & Development Council. She also served as the Chief of Staff for Representative Timilty of the Massachusetts State Legislature. Ann, who currently resides in New Hampshire, assumed her post at the NEGC in August 2011.

NEGC Meets in Halifax

In conjunction with the 35th NEG/ECP in Halifax, Nova Scotia on July 11, 2011, the New England Governors conducted a short meeting as the NEGC to resolve a number of regional issues. Specifically, the Governors declared their interest in developing an Executive Order on Land Conservation with President Obama and the appropriate federal agencies (see page 1), and reiterated their support for the ongoing regional electricity procurement process underway through the New England States Committee on Electricity (NESCOE). Learn more about these initiatives on the NEGC's website (www.negc.org).

Program Focus

NEGC COMMISSION FOR LAND CONSERVATION

In September 2008, the New England Governors' Conference, Inc. created the Commission for Land Conservation (CLC) to assess the state of land conservation initiatives in New England and recommend options to the Governors for increasing cooperation and coordination in the region on conservation programs and policies.

The CLC submitted its report, 'A Lasting Legacy', to the New England Governors in September 2009. The report contained recom-



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mendations in five major policy areas: farmlands, forests, coastal zones, wildlife and connecting (sub)urban populations to the outdoors.

Since submitting its initial report, the Governors have asked the Commission to continue its work in refining regional initiatives in the identified policy areas. The CLC was engaged in drafting some of the original definitions for an Executive Order on New England Land Conservation with the federal government, an initiative that is currently being pursued by our regions Governors and their staffs.

NEG/ECP DIALOGUES ON RENEWABLE POWER AND ELECTRIC/GAS VEHICLE INFRASTRUCTURE

Among the many outcomes of the 35th NEG/ECP meeting Halifax on July 11, 2011 were directives from the Governors and Premiers to their energy and transportation committees to bring together policy-makers, regulators, industry officials, NGO leaders and others in high-level dialogues to inform regional policy development on renewable energy markets and alternative-fueled vehicle infrastructure.

The Northeast International Committee on Energy (NICE) was asked to conduct an Energy Dialogue to develop recommendations on expanding clean, cost-effective renewable energy production and trade between and within New England and Eastern Canada. This Dialogue will be conducted in the December '11 / January '12 timeframe and the NICE will report on outcomes at the 36th NEG/ECP meeting in Summer '12.

Similarly, the NEG/ECP Transportation and Air Quality Committee (TAQC) was tasked with conducting a similar Dialogue on policies to promote the development of alternative-fuel vehicle infrastructure (principally gas/electric) in New England and Eastern Canada, with a focus on interstate and transboundary transportation corridors and creating a larger 'common market' in our eleven-jurisdiction region for these technologies. This event is planned for early-2012.

Canadian Corner ... News from Up North

The **New England-Canada Business Council** held its 19th Annual Energy Trade & Technology Conference November 3-4, 2011 in Boston, MA. Among the notable speakers at the Nov. 2011 event were the Hon. Kathy Dunderdale, Premier of Newfoundland and Labrador and Jon Wellinghoff, Chairman of the U.S. Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC).

Canada was the largest export market for New England (and U.S.) merchandise products in 2010. New England merchandise exports to Canada rose from 1.96 billion in 2009 to 2.2 billion in 2010.

Gaz Métro Won its Bid for Central Vermont Public Service - on July 12, the leaders of Central Vermont Public Service Corporation (NYSE-CV) (CVPS) and Gaz Métro Limited Partnership (Gaz Métro) announced that a definitive agreement for the sale of CVPS had been signed.

Newfoundland and Labrador's governing Tories were given a third consecutive majority on October 11 in the provincial election. **Kathy Dunderdale** won a full term as Premier as leader of the Progressive Conservatives.

On October 3, the Liberal Party, led by **Premier Robert Ghiz**, won the majority of seats (22 of the province's 27) in the Prince Edward Island provincial election. Robert Ghiz was first elected as premier in 2007.

The Governors on the New England - Eastern Canadian Relationship

Quotes from the 35th NEG/ECP

"We are a region - we rise and fall together. Our working together is more important than ever."

- Governor Peter Shumlin, Vermont



"We have to get to the point of having a real dialogue on what the cost is [for delivered power from Canadian energy projects]"

- Governor Dannell Malloy, Connecticut

"Lower energy costs will bolster Rhode Island's economy and help us foster a climate of job creation and growth"

- Governor Lincoln Chafee, Rhode Island

