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Outreach Director Joins Cambridge Energy Alliance and Offers Energy Efficiency Hotline

The Cambridge Energy Alliance (CEA) has hired a new Outreach Director to work closely with the City of Cambridge to utilize a portion of the federal stimulus-funded Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG). CEA is pleased to announce the hiring of Meghan Shaw, who will implement a community energy efficiency program that will reach substantial portions of the Cambridge community including: the residential building sector, low-income residents, and the small commercial building sector. Ms. Shaw will educate the community about energy efficiency in their homes and businesses, connect them to existing energy efficiency services, and provide additional direct services for Cambridge residents and business.

CEA is also expanding its outreach through the Energy Advisor hotline, a unique service not offered by most community-based efficiency organizations. The Energy Advisor hotline will be staffed Monday-Friday 10:00am-12:00pm to provide real-time advice on programs, services, and products available to Cambridge residents and businesses, including: energy audit programs, project financing, utility incentives and rebates, contracting services, and other support services.

Ms. Shaw comes to CEA with seven years experience in the energy and environmental sector through non-profits, government consulting and private sector businesses. Prior to joining CEA, she worked as an analyst providing market research on the wind energy industry. Previously, Ms. Shaw worked as a contractor for the Department of Energy supporting the Alternative Fuels and Advanced Vehicles Data Center and the Clean Cities program.

Ms. Shaw gained her initial grassroots outreach experience with Green Corps, the field school for environmental organizing, by working on environmental campaigns across the country from Little Rock, Arkansas to Las Vegas, Nevada. Ms. Shaw then worked with in D.C. with the Union of Concerned Scientists and the Coalition for Smarter Growth. Ms. Shaw has lived in Cambridge for two years and comes to CEA with a wealth of knowledge to serve Cambridge residents and businesses.

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About CEA: The Cambridge Energy Alliance is a city-sponsored organization working with homeowners, businesses, and institutions across the city to achieve unprecedented levels of energy savings and to expand clean energy sources.

This first-in-the nation initiative is the result of the City of Cambridge's commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 20 percent below 1990 levels. Buildings are responsible for 80 percent of the carbon emissions in Cambridge.

For more information on the Cambridge Energy Alliance, please visit CEA's website, <http://CambridgeEnergyAlliance.org>.

Also visit CEA's blog, Energy 2.0 (<http://www.EnergyTwoDotZero.org>), designed to keep the community up to speed on useful clean energy and sustainability news and information.

About the EECBG: The Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) Program, funded for the first time by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (Recovery Act) of 2009, represents a Presidential priority to deploy the cheapest, cleanest, and most reliable energy technologies we have—energy efficiency and conservation—across the country.

It is intended to assist U.S. cities, counties, states, territories, and Indian tribes to develop, promote, implement, and manage energy efficiency and conservation projects and programs designed to:

- Reduce fossil fuel emissions;
- Reduce the total energy use of the eligible entities;
- Improve energy efficiency in the transportation, building, and other appropriate sectors; and
- Create and retain jobs.

Through formula and competitive grants, the Program empowers local communities to make strategic investments to meet the nation's long-term goals for energy independence and leadership on climate change.