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## **Vermont's Energy Future and Economy Are Focus at Conference**

*Vermont's largest energy event offers something for everyone*

*Montpelier*—Energy and affordability are on the minds of many Vermonters this year. Renewable Energy Vermont's 7th Annual Conference and Trade Show, entitled "A Bright Future for Vermont's Renewables," will feature presentations and discussion on how Vermont can create a more sustainable and vibrant economy using renewable energy sources.

"In less than five years, Vermont faces the expiration of major power contracts with Vermont Yankee and Hydro Quebec," said Andrew Perchlik, executive director of Renewable Energy Vermont (REV). "We have the opportunity to redefine our energy future using clean, renewable energy sources, but we need to have these conversations now."

Nationally recognized energy policy expert and author David Morris, director of the Institute for Local Self Reliance, will present the keynote address on effective policies for advancing renewable energy while providing local benefits. Jim Marston, regional director for the Environmental Defense Fund, will close the full-day conference on a panel entitled "The Gore Goal: Can Vermont Become 100% Renewable" by sharing his experience on how Texas has been successful in ramping up renewable energy.

The conference features many renewable energy experts from Vermont as well covering topics such as community wind power and financing, electric transportation, energy policy, heating with renewable energy and the role of biofuels in Vermont.

New this year, an opening reception and exhibition offer homeowners and businesses the opportunity to learn about available renewable energy products and services. More than 50 renewable energy companies are expected to show their wares on Tuesday, October 14 from 4 to 7 p.m. in the Sheraton's Exhibition Hall and all day on October 15 (7:30 am to 4:30 pm). The trade-show-only pass to the evening opening reception is \$5. The trade-show-only pass on the day of the conference is \$25 (pass includes refreshments but not lunch or speaker sessions).

"When we hear about people buying coal to heat their homes this winter, we know there's a real need to get information out about the clean energy products and services that are available to homeowners," says Perchlik. "The trade-show-only passes allow the general public to attend the exhibition without paying the full conference registration fee."

Renewable Energy Vermont is the state's only trade association working to bring about an intelligent transformation from a fossil fuel based economy to an economy based on

renewable energy. REV has more than 300 members. For more information, visit [www.revermont.org](http://www.revermont.org).

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