

Rep. Markey to receive 2009 Climate Champion Award

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Boston, MA – Representative Edward J. Markey, Congressman from the Seventh Congressional District of Massachusetts, has been chosen to receive a Climate Champion Award from Clean Air-Cool Planet for his leadership in climate action at an awards dinner here October 15th.

Representative Markey is receiving the award in recognition that he has long led the fight for a more progressive energy strategy in the U. S. House of Representatives.

“The fact that Speaker Pelosi chose Congressman Markey to be chair of the House Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global Warming speaks volumes,” said Clean Air-Cool Planet CEO Adam Markham. “He has been a true champion of the cause of climate action, as further evidenced by his leadership in guiding to passage in the House the first federal legislation aimed at controlling greenhouse gases.”

In a short six-month period, operating from his twin chairmanships of the House Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global Warming and the Energy and Environment Subcommittee of the powerful House Energy and Commerce Committee, Markey led the effort to enact new standards for automobile efficiency, and, for the first time, won House approval of a major bill to cap carbon emissions and reduce global warming, the Waxman-Markey American Clean Energy and Security Act. Congressman Markey also worked to secure billions in funding for clean energy in the Recovery Package, and was a co-author of the Cash for Clunkers legislation that helped get more fuel efficient cars on the road.

“I am honored to receive this award, and heartened by the new, low-carbon, clean energy direction in which our country is headed,” said Markey. “We all deserve clean air, and we all deserve a cool planet, and an American-led clean energy future will provide us with both.”

This year’s winners also include

- Chewonki Foundation of Wiscasset, ME, for the quality and level of innovation of its outreach and education efforts;
- Furman University in Greenville, SC, for its innovative climate action planning model, the breadth of its campus sustainability initiatives, and the visionary leadership in the higher education community of its President, Dr. David Shi;
- Hannaford Supermarkets for opening the world’s first LEED Platinum certified supermarket in Augusta, Maine and leadership in corporate climate action;

- Sven-Olof Lindblad for his tremendous commitment to global conservation issues;
- SunEdison for its unique business model supporting the development of large scale renewable energy projects;
- Dr. Susan F. Tierney, founding board member at CA-CP, former environmental affairs commissioner for Massachusetts and assistant secretary for policy in the US Department of Energy, for her work in the energy and climate field;
- And the Town of Temple, NH for its common sense, citizen-supported efficiency projects, conservation and continuing education.

Past winners of the award for their leadership in climate action include governors John Baldacci of Maine and George Pataki of New York; Bank of America, Oakhurst Dairy, Staples and Timberland; Hull, MA, and Maplewood, NJ; Middlebury College, UNH, and Tufts University.

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About Clean Air-Cool Planet

Clean Air-Cool Planet is the leading science-based, non-partisan, non-profit organization dedicated solely to finding and promoting solutions to global warming. Through our Climate Policy Center we develop and promote economically efficient and innovative climate policies. CA-CP provides hands-on assistance to companies, campuses, communities and science centers throughout the Northeast to help them reduce their carbon emissions. We celebrate the commitment, innovation and success of our partners as they implement practical climate solutions that demonstrate the economic opportunities and environmental benefits of action on climate change.

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