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PRESS RELEASE

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Gobi, Zlotnik Announce Agricultural Energy Grant for Winchendon Farm

BOSTON –**Senator Anne M. Gobi (D-Spencer)** and **Representative Jonathan D. Zlotnik (D-Gardner)** are happy to announce that Smith’s Country Cheese in Winchendon has been awarded \$25,000 through Agricultural Energy Grant Program administered by the Massachusetts Department of Agriculture. These grant funds will be used to install a solar hot water system used to capture heat from sunlight and circulate the thermal energy directly to their water tank.

“I want to congratulate Smith’s Country Cheese for receiving these grant funds for this important project,” said Senator Gobi. “Their commitment to green energy is unrivaled. I would also like to thank Governor Baker, Lt. Governor Polito and Commissioner Lebeaux for their continued commitment to renewable energy.”

“Congratulations to Smith’s Country Cheese,” said Representative Zlotnik. “This solar water system will add to their already diverse renewable energy portfolio.”

Smith’s Country Cheese is an award winning Dairy located in Winchendon, MA. They have made a commitment to reduce their carbon footprint, with a goal of cutting power consumption by 50% through a combination of photovoltaics and conservation.

The Agricultural Energy Grant Program is one of several within DAR’s Division of Agricultural Conservation and Technical Assistance (DACTA). The division provides technical assistance, training, conservation, and funding to promote economically viable and environmentally sound agricultural practices in Massachusetts.

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