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PRESS RELEASE

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Gobi: Local Communities Awarded Clean Energy Grants

BOSTON – **Senator Anne M. Gobi (D-Spencer)** is pleased to announce that multiple communities in the Worcester, Hampden, Hampshire, & Middlesex district were awarded grant funding through the Green Communities Competitive Grant Program administered by the Department of Energy Resources (DOER). This funding will allow the towns to make clean energy upgrades to municipal facilities, reduce carbon emissions, and provide cost savings for the town.

“Congratulations to these seven communities on being awarded grant funding through the Green Communities program,” said Senator Gobi. “It takes hard work on the part of municipalities to be eligible for these awards and these communities all did their part for the greater good of the Commonwealth and the environment.”

In total, seven communities were awarded funding:

- Ashburnham: \$217,300
- Ashby: \$100,981
- Barre: \$116,199
- Hardwick: \$116,592
- Holland: \$150,085
- Monson: \$249,886
- Palmer: \$113,395

Under the Green Communities Act, DOER’s Green Communities Designation and Grant Program can provide up to \$20 million annually to qualified cities and towns. The goal of the Designation Grant Program is support communities’ investments in energy efficiency and renewable energy projects that further the clean energy goals determined by the designated communities. Initial Designation Grants are based on a \$125,000 base for each designated Green Community, plus additional amounts tied to per capita income and population, and for municipalities that provide as-of-right siting for renewable energy generation.

Funding for these grants is available through proceeds from carbon allowance auctions under the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) and Alternative Compliance Payments (ACP) paid by retail electric suppliers that do not meet their Renewable Portfolio Standard compliance obligations through the purchase of Renewable Energy Certificates.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Senator Gobi's office at 617-722-1540.

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