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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **Ware and Warren Earn Green Community Designation**

**BOSTON – Representative Todd M. Smola (R-Warren) and Senator Anne M. Gobi (D-Spencer)** are pleased to announce that Ware and Warren have been designated by the Department of Energy Resources (DOER) as Green Communities, committing to an ambitious renewable energy agenda to reduce energy consumption and emissions. DOER has awarded \$169,535 to Ware and \$157,740 to Warren for projects through the Designation Grant Program. The goal of the Designation Grant Program is to support communities' investments in energy efficiency and renewable energy projects that further the clean energy goals determined by the designated communities.

With these new designations, over half of the Commonwealth's municipalities have earned their Green Communities designation and 64 percent of residents live in a Green Community. Under the Green Communities Act, cities and towns must meet five criteria to be designated a Green Community and receive funding, including reducing municipal energy consumption by 20 percent over five years.

"I am very happy to see Ware and Warren added to list of Green Communities in Massachusetts," said Representative Smola. "This designation shows a serious commitment to energy conservation and cleaner energy alternatives that are so important for the future. Ware and Warren have taken the appropriate steps to help protect and preserve our environment."

"Congratulations to Ware and Warren for receiving the Green Communities Designation. Their commitment to energy conservation and clean energy alternatives will go a long way both for the environment and the bottom line now that they are eligible for Green Communities grants," said Senator Gobi.

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.

For additional information please contact Representative Smola at [Todd.Smola@mahouse.gov](mailto:Todd.Smola@mahouse.gov) or (617)722-2100.

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