



UNH Honored By Environmental Business Council Of New England

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DURHAM, N.H. - The University of New Hampshire recently received the Environmental Merit Award from the Environmental Business Council of New England (EBC) in recognition of its sustainability leadership and programs. UNH's award, given at a reception in Boston June 18, 2009, was for leadership by a nonprofit organization.

"UNH is honored to receive this award for our commitment to being a model sustainable learning community," says Tom Kelly, UNH chief sustainability officer and director of the office of sustainability. "We thank our friends at the Environmental Business Council of New England for generously recognizing many years of hard work by faculty, staff, administrators, and students across departments and disciplines to advance sustainability throughout the university's curriculum, operations, research and engagement."

The award is for all of UNH's sustainability initiatives, in particular EcoLine™ (http://www.sustainableunh.unh.edu/climate_ed/cogen_landfillgas.html), the ground-breaking landfill gas-to-energy project launched in May 2009 that uses purified methane gas from a nearby landfill as the campus's main energy source. UNH will receive up to 85 percent of its electricity and heat from purified natural gas, making it the first university in the nation to use landfill gas as its primary fuel source.

Each year in June, the EBC recognizes companies, organizations and individuals for outstanding accomplishments in the promotion of a sustainable, clean environment. Its annual awards were created to encourage environmental companies, government agencies, nonprofit organizations, and environmental professionals to serve as models for others to emulate. Other award recipients were Massachusetts Governor Deval Patrick; Mary Griffin of the Mass. Department of Fish & Game; John Rendall, vice president and area manager of CH2M HILL; Jay Cashman of Jay Cashman Inc./Patriot Renewables; and Lowes Home Centers, Inc.

Accepting the award alongside Kelly were Tracey Boyle, director of finance at UNH energy and campus development; David Bowley, a UNH facilities project manager; Stephen Pesci, transportation planner at UNH energy and campus development; and Cameron Wake, associate research professor at the UNH Institute for the Study of Earth, Oceans and Space and director of Carbon Solutions New England. Robert Varney, senior vice president of Normandeau Associates and a UNH alumnus, presented the award.

EBC was formed in 1990 by environmental and energy company executives who began meeting on a regular basis to exchange ideas and share experiences. The first organization in the United States established to support and foster the development of the environmental industry, EBC's mission is to enhance business and job growth of both established and emerging environmental and energy businesses. Learn more at www.ebcne.org.

UNH is a leader in conserving energy, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and integrating sustainability throughout its curricula, operations, research, and engagement efforts. Committed to being a climate protection campus that pursues a sustainable energy future through emissions reduction policies, practices, research, and education, UNH has earned several awards for its sustainability initiatives, which range from an undergraduate dual major in EcoGastronomy and organic dairy research to having the largest transit system in the state and being the first in the nation to receive an EPA Energy Star building rating for residence halls. Discover the sustainable learning community at UNH at <http://www.sustainableunh.unh.edu> and <http://www.discoverustainability.org>.

The University of New Hampshire, founded in 1866, is a world-class public research university with the feel of a New England liberal arts college. A land, sea and space-grant and community-engaged university, UNH is the state's flagship public institution, enrolling 11,800 undergraduate and 2,400 graduate students.

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Photographs available to download:

http://www.unh.edu/news/cj_nr/2009/feb/lfgflarebig.JPG

Caption: The University of New Hampshire's EcoLine™ is a ground-breaking landfill gas-to-energy project that uses purified **methane gas** from a Waste Management landfill as the campus's main energy source.

Credit: Mike Ross, UNH Photographic Services.

http://www.unh.edu/news/img/pipeline/_L071537.jpg

A **12.7-mile pipeline** brings purified landfill gas from Waste Management's Turnkey Recycling and Environmental Enterprise (TREE) facility in Rochester to the University of New Hampshire campus in Durham, where it will provide up to 85 percent of the university's energy needs.

Credit: Perry Smith, UNH Photographic Services.

