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May 24, 2001

DURHAM, N.H. -- U.S. Senator Bob Smith (R-N.H.) and the University of New Hampshire's Office of Sustainability Programs today released the witness list for a Wednesday, May 30, hearing of the U.S. Senate Environment and Public Works Committee to explore innovative environmental and energy technologies.

The hearing will take place at 2 p.m. in the Strafford Room of the Memorial Union Building on the UNH campus in Durham. During the hearing, there will be numerous experts and industry leaders testifying about recent advances in technology that are environmentally friendly.

Exhibits of alternative energy hybrid and fuel cell vehicles will be located in the parking lot behind Huddleston Hall and available for test rides prior to the hearing at 1 p.m., and following the hearing.

The event is open to the public.

Two panels of invited witnesses will present testimony at the hearing regarding innovative environmental technology. All testimony and exhibits become part of the Congressional Record. Members of the public may submit testimony in writing per rules of the committee that also becomes part of the record.

First Panel

- Frank Alix of Power Span in New Durham will testify about technology that reduces emissions of
power plants by more than 50 percent.

- Judith Bayer of United Technologies will discuss fuel cells.

- Richard Taylor of Ocean Power Technologies will discuss its technology that converts ocean waves into energy.

- Richard Eidlin of Solar Works in Wilton will discuss solar panels and related issues.

Second Panel

- David Goldstein with the Natural Resources Defense Council will testify about the effects to the environment.

- Tom Kelly, director of UNH's Office of Sustainability Programs, will discuss innovative education approaches that develop competencies in students across disciplines to balance economic viability with ecological health and human well-being.

- Casimer Andary, director of regulatory programs with the Auto Alliance, will testify about advancements that the alliance is working on and what is expected in the future.

The Committee on Environment and Public Works oversees programs in five cabinet-level departments and seven agencies of the federal government in areas including the Capitol building and grounds, the nation's interstate highway system, flood control and navigation projects, endangered species and non-military nuclear power.

Some recent committee activities include passage of the landmark Everglades restoration legislation, investigation of the environmental effects of bioengineering, global climate change, and oversight of the Superfund program.

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