



For Immediate Release

Contact: Larry Chretien, Executive Director

(617) 524-3950, ext. 121

Anyone Can Support the New Holy Name Wind Turbine

Massachusetts —Anyone can support Holy Name Central Catholic High School’s new wind turbine through the Massachusetts Energy Consumers Alliance (Mass Energy), a nonprofit dedicated to sustainable energy.

According to Larry Chretien, director of Mass Energy, his organization is purchasing the “renewable energy certificates” from Holy Name’s 600 kilowatt wind turbine through a short-term contract. He said, “We are buying these certificates wholesale and selling them retail to consumers who want to support a local renewable energy project. For National Grid customers, the utility’s “GreenUp” program gives residential and small commercial customers the choice to switch to green power right on their utility bill. The Mass Energy choice in that program is called *New England GreenStart*.”

Normally, most of New England’s electricity comes from burning fossil fuels & nuclear power, but when people sign up for *New England GreenStart*, Mass Energy ensures that an amount equal to their electric usage comes onto the New England electric grid from renewable sources. From the customer’s point of view, it couldn’t be easier. They still pay one bill to National Grid for both the electricity and the extra charge to green it up—2.4 cents per kilowatthour, or about \$12 for the average residential customer. Then National Grid passes the GreenUp portion on to Mass Energy so that Mass Energy can pay that premium to renewable energy generators. Besides wind power, *New England GreenStart*’s product mix includes solar, landfill gas, and small hydroelectric power, all sited in New England and mostly in Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

To sign up for *New England GreenStart*, customers can use www.massenergy.org, or call (617)524-3950 or toll-free (800) 287-3950. Switching to green power is as easy as flipping a switch. As consumers buy green power, their payment will help projects such as the Holy Name turbine to pay off the debt they incurred to buy and install the turbine. The electricity itself will reduce the school’s electric bills as well.

According to Mary Riordan, headmaster of Holy Name, the school will be looking to Mass Energy or other potential buyers of the certificates for the long term.

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