

For Immediate Release

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**Vermont Business Team Awarded \$34 Million Contract by the U.S.
Environmental Protection Agency**

Three Vermont businesses selected by the EPA to improve energy efficiency in the U.S. commercial, industrial, and institutional sectors.

(Montpelier, VT) The Clark Group, a national environmental consulting and government affairs firm, with offices in Montpelier, VT and Washington, DC, announced today that it has been awarded a \$34 million blanket purchase agreement to provide the EPA with technical, analytical and outreach assistance to the national ENERGY STAR[®] program in the Commercial, Institutional, and Industrial (CI&I) sectors.

The Clark Group's partners on this contract are two Vermont-based, non-profit organizations with unparalleled experience in energy efficiency program design, analytics, and implementation: the Vermont Energy Investment Corporation (VEIC) located in Burlington, VT, and the Institute for Energy and the Environment (IEE), located at the Vermont Law School in South Royalton, VT. VEIC is widely known for its management of Efficiency Vermont, the nation's first energy efficiency utility.

"This team brings together unparalleled energy efficiency and national environmental expertise," said Lisa Mahoney, a Partner in The Clark Group's Vermont office. "We are pleased to be supporting the ENERGY STAR program and look forward to the good work we'll be producing in partnership with VEIC and IEE."

The ENERGY STAR program seeks to improve energy efficiency in homes and businesses throughout the United States. In 2010 alone, ENERGY STAR programs reduced greenhouse gas emissions equivalent to 33 million vehicles and saved Americans nearly \$18 billion in utility payments.

"This contract is great for the global environment and also good news for the economy," said Michael Dworkin, Director of the IEE and a member of the Board of Directors for VEIC. "Projects that improve energy efficiency will save money and help put people back to work."

Christine Donovan, a Managing Consultant at VEIC, further noted that, "one of the great benefits of this project is that it combines energy solutions with profitability — it's been proven time and again that capitalizing on energy efficiency is good for a company's environmental performance as well as its bottom line."

The contract provides that EPA may acquire up to \$34 million in services from The Clark Group, VEIC and IEE over a 5-year period. The total ceiling of \$34 million represents

the cap that the EPA can spend in retaining services from the TCG, VEIC and IEE Team, and actual fees will depend upon the specific tasks ordered by the EPA. The Clark Group LLC advises governments, businesses and others on environmental improvements and proactive solutions to energy and environmental challenges.

The Clark Group (TCG) is a woman-owned, small business with headquarters in Washington D.C. and offices in Montpelier, VT, Petersburg, VA and Sheridan, WY. The Clark Group is nationally recognized for helping governments and businesses improve their environmental performance. Staff of The Clark Group include senior-level policy, communications and science professionals who have worked at the highest levels of government, including the White House and Capitol Hill. For more information: <http://www.clarkgroupllc.com/>.

The Vermont Energy Investment Corporation (VEIC) is a mission-driven nonprofit organization, founded in 1986, dedicated to reducing the economic, social, and environmental costs of energy consumption through cost-effective energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies. VEIC has consulted in 25 states, 6 Canadian Provinces and 7 countries outside North America to design programs that reduce energy use through energy efficiency and renewable energy. In addition, VEIC operates Efficiency Vermont – the nation's first statewide energy efficiency utility – as well as other implementation services across the country. For more information: www.veic.org.

The Institute for Energy and the Environment (IEE) is nonprofit educational research institute based at the Vermont Law School and led by Michael Dworkin, former Chair of the Vermont Public Service Board. IEE's work builds off its significant depth of knowledge on contemporary energy law and policy. The Institute distributes scholarly, technical and practical publications; provides forums and conferences for professional education and issue development on energy matters; and serves as a center for both professional and graduate research on energy issues with a particular emphasis on energy efficiency and demand-side management. For more information: www.vermontlaw.edu/energy.

