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## **PRESS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**  
**Wednesday, July 08, 2015**

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### **Monson and Palmer Receive Green Communities Clean Energy Grant**

**BOSTON** – Senator Anne M. Gobi (D-Spencer), Representative Brian Ashe (D-Longmeadow) and Representative Todd Smola (R-Warren) have been informed by Administration officials that local municipalities will be receiving clean energy grant funding. The Town of Monson will be receiving \$199,810 in funding and the Town of Palmer will be receiving \$211,584 in funding.

"Congratulations to the towns of Monson and Palmer for their commitment to implementing green technologies to reduce costs and provide a cleaner working and learning environment," said Senator Gobi. "I would like to thank the Baker-Polito Administration for their continued commitment to clean energy."

Monson's 2015 Competitive Grant award will be used for energy conservation measures at Quarry Hill Community School including, fiberglass wrapping of exposed pipes, a lighting retrofit with LEDs, and installation of variable frequency drives; at Granite Valley Middle School including, weatherization, fiberglass wrapping of exposed pipes, and a lighting retrofit with LEDs; at the Water & Sewer Building including, weatherization and a lighting retrofit with LEDs; and at the Town Hall/Police Station including, installation of plug load controllers; and lighting retrofits with LEDs at the Fire Station, Highway Garage, Senior Center, and Water & Sewer Building.

"I couldn't be happier for the Town of Monson, receiving just under \$200,000. This money will go a long way with the schools and town buildings that will be updated for clean energy conservation measures," said Representative Ashe. "More importantly, this will save the residents of Monson money now and in the future by being more efficient and cost effective. Kudos to the Baker-Polito Administration for making these grants available for our Green Communities."

Palmer's 2015 Competitive Grant award will be used for weatherization at the Library, DPW Garage, Converse Middle School, Old Mill Elementary School, and Palmer High School, exterior or interior lighting retrofit with LEDs at the Wastewater Treatment Plant, Converse Middle, Old Mill Elementary, and the High School, and a burner upgrade for HVAC system at the WWTP.

“The Green Communities Grant is a very competitive program and I am proud that Palmer has been chosen to receive funding” said Representative Smola. “I look forward to seeing the enhancements that the town will be able to make as a result of these added resources.”

Green Communities are municipalities that strive to find clean energy solutions that reduce long-term energy costs and strengthen local economies. The Green Communities Division of the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs provides technical assistance and financial support for municipal initiatives to improve energy efficiency and increase the use of renewable energy in public buildings, facilities and schools.

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