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Edmund Toomey, New England Aquarium  
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#### CERC Members:

Alternatives for Community and Environment  
Artery Business Committee TMA  
BlueWave Strategies  
Boston Climate Action Network  
Boston Society of Architects  
Boston Unique Events  
Cambridge Climate Calendar  
CERES  
Clean Air-Cool Planet  
Clean Water Action  
Conservation Law Foundation  
Creative Resolutions, LLC  
Drucker and Associates  
EcoLogical Solutions  
Environmental Business Council of New England  
Environmental Defense  
ERG  
Essex County Buy Local Program  
Green Decade Coalition/Newton  
greenGoat  
Greenleaf Composting  
Healthlink  
Hull Citizens for Alternative Renewable Energy  
IBEW Local 103  
Investors' Circle  
Massachusetts Climate Action Network  
Massachusetts Energy Consumers Alliance  
Massachusetts Interfaith Power and Light  
MASSPIRG  
New Ecology, Inc.  
New England Aquarium  
Northeast Sustainable Energy Association  
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PlanetTran  
Powerhouse Enterprises  
Robert A. Shatten, Inc.  
Rubel BikeMaps  
Saunders Hotel Group  
Second Nature  
SmartPower  
Solar Design Associates  
Somerville Climate Action  
Stephenson Strategies  
Strategic Energy Systems  
Sustainable Step New England  
The Greater Boston Food Bank  
The Green Roundtable  
The Stubbins Associates  
Toxics Action Center  
Union of Concerned Scientists  
WasteCap of Massachusetts  
Union of Concerned Scientists  
WalkBoston  
Wenham Lake Watershed Association

## CERC Fact Sheet

**The Coalition for Environmentally Responsible Conventions (CERC) is a non-partisan coalition** of more than 50 environmental, business, and civic groups in Boston and New York, including Union of Concerned Scientists, Conservation Law Foundation, CERES, New England Aquarium, Saunders Hotel Group, and Environmental Defense. EPA and MA DEP are also active participants.

#### **CERC's mission is to:**

- promote environmental best practices at the 2004 national conventions.
- showcase these practices to the public, political leaders and media.
- establish a legacy for future conventions of all kinds.

**CERC is working closely** with the Democratic National Convention Committee (DNCC) and Boston 2004 to make this the most environmentally responsible convention in modern history.

### **CERC Highlights & Accomplishments**

#### **A: Promoting Clean, Renewable Energy**

**Operating the Fleet Center entirely on renewable power** – specifically through the \$11,000 purchase of renewable energy certificates (RECs) that will match the anticipated electricity use at the Fleet Center. The purchase includes wind power from the Hull turbine, landfill gas and hydroelectric energy. Constellation New Energy donated additional renewable energy produced in Massachusetts.

CERC has secured greenhouse gas reduction credits that will **offset all carbon emissions stemming from convention activities**, including transportation to and from Boston by convention delegates. The carbon credits and the purchase of renewable energy for the Fleet Center means the convention will not contribute to global warming. Boston Carbon Corporation, EcoLogic Development Fund, Republic Services, Inc. and Enel North American have donated the project-related carbon credits. The projects include coal mine methane recovery, landfill gas recovery, hydroelectricity, solar photovoltaic lighting and tropical reforestation.

CERC participated in securing a **fuel cell** from Fuel Cell Energy which will help power the media pavilion outside the Fleet Center. It will very efficiently provide the equivalent energy that 50 homes use, with far less pollution.

**The “New Energy for America” event** at The State Room in Boston on Wed., July 28 will be a call to action for American-made renewable energy and energy efficiency – and well-paying American jobs. Honorary Co-Hosts are the Democratic House and Senate Leaders, Congressman Nancy Pelosi and Senator Tom Daschle. New Energy for America is co-sponsored by CERC, Apollo Alliance, CERES and Union of Concerned Scientists.

CERC is hosting a **Boston Harbor Islands National Park/Renewable Energy Cruise and Tour of Hull Wind Turbine** on Tuesday, July 27.

## **B. Green Buildings, Waste Management**

CERC collaborated with Shawmut Design & Construction on the **implementation of green building practices** at the Fleet Center. Modular design has reduced waste; there will be extensive reuse of materials such as gypsum wallboard, masonite, plywood, and homosote board; and other construction materials such as sheetrock will be recycled. Boston ReStore and Building Materials Resource Center will take most of the used construction materials and identify low-income projects that need them.

On Monday, July 26, CERC leads a **Green Building Tour** for delegates to two of the area's new and most advanced structures--Genzyme's new Cambridge headquarters and the Artists for Humanity Epicenter in Boston. Renowned architect Bill Reed will speak on the economics and aesthetics of high performance building.

CERC advised the DNCC in the recycling system plan for the Fleet Center and the media pavilion. **Paper, cardboard, bottles and cans are being recycled. Waste paper and cardboard from the first day of the convention will be recycled into commemorative posters** given to Convention attendees. Planning for this initiative has been conducted by Scanlon Associates, the DNCC, and CERC.

CERC and Jet-A-Way have worked with the **Boston Convention & Exhibition Center and Aramark to divert their food waste to a licensed composting facility**. CERC has met with other convention venues and caterers, too, as part of a MA Department of Environmental Protection contract, and we expect to secure more agreements.

## **C. Hospitality**

CERC and the Saunders Hotel Group held a **Green Hotels Workshop and Eco-Tour** on May 28 at The Lenox Hotel to educate and encourage Boston-area hotels to use environmental management practices in their operations, including energy efficiency, water conservation, recycling, food waste composting, and the use of environmentally preferable products such as low polluting cleaning products and carpet. The workshop attracted a dozen hotels and 45 participants. A certification program and quarterly meetings are planned to continue green hospitality initiatives.

## **D. Locally-Grown Food:**

**Aramark has agreed to serve food from Massachusetts farms at the 15,000-person media party** to be held at the Boston Convention & Exhibition Center. Several delegation parties, including the Massachusetts party, will also feature locally produced food. This will reduce pollution caused by shipping food over long distances and preserve irreplaceable open space in the commonwealth by supporting local farmers.

## **E. Transportation**

General Motors is sending eight **hybrid buses** to be used by the DNC and by CERC for its events.

Former Governor Michael Dukakis and other opinion leaders will lead a **“Walk to the DNC”** to encourage walking by delegates. WalkBoston volunteers will be posted along a walking route to welcome delegates and direct them to the Fleet Center.

**An anti-idling initiative** is being undertaken with MA DEP to communicate the anti-idling law to transportation companies, and to provide training for Peter Pan bus drivers.

For more information on CERC's activities, please visit [www.cerc04.org](http://www.cerc04.org) or contact Dan Ruben, CERC's Executive Director, at 617-527-7950.

