## Comments by Jack Parker President & CEO, Reed & Reed Woolwich, Maine February 4, 2009

- I am pleased to be here on behalf of Reed & Reed, of Woolwich, to express our strong view that the federal government should move promptly to address the threat of climate change.
- Our company does not have expertise in the science of climate change, nor are we policy experts. But we have become involved in the construction of renewable energy projects in Maine and believe that the transition to clean energy is vital – for Maine's environment and our economy, and federal climate legislation will help spur this transition.
- Reed & Reed was the prime contractor for building a 42MW wind farm in Mars Hill, and a 57MW wind farm, the Stetson Wind Farm, in Danforth. From this experience, we have developed an understanding of the role that renewable energy projects such as these can play in reducing our dependence on fossil fuels, increasing our energy independence, and creating good jobs.
- The Stetson Wind Farm involved workers from Maine businesses across the state, and provided economic benefits to dozens of Maine firms. Nearly all of the workers on these projects were from Maine, except for a hand-full of highly specialized services for which we needed to contract with out-of-state firms.
- Reed & Reed generally has been known for its work in building bridges and other traditional, civil engineering projects. It has been interesting to see how our employees, and the others hired for these wind power projects, have responded. They see themselves on the cutting edge of building the clean energy systems that will help power our society in the future.
- And they are. And they are building projects that utilize the wind that blows across Maine.
- Federal climate legislation would help boost renewable energy projects, and energy efficiency investments, and development of new technologies to reduce our emissions of carbon dioxide.
- As a company with deep roots in Maine Reed & Reed was founded with a \$2,000 investment in 1928 we care deeply about the future of our state of our economy, our natural resources, and our way of life.
- We are pleased to join with other businesses in calling on Senator Snowe, Senator Collins, Representative Pingree and Representative Michaud to help move the ball forward on climate legislation this year. Each of these lawmakers has taken strong positions in support of action, and we are prepared to work with them to get the job done.