

**Statement by Kate Burgess Rush
Evolvo Home Center, LLC
Evolvo Energy Solutions**

March 23, 2010

My name is Kate Rush and I am here today on behalf of Evolo Energy Solutions in support of the climate change and clean energy legislation that is currently being considered in the Senate. At Evolo Energy Solutions, located in Newport, we design, install and maintain solar and wind renewable energy systems for residential, commercial and municipal customers.

Throughout the formation of this bill, I've been asked many times: how would clean energy legislation impact our business? The answer is simple. A clear and long term commitment to secure and healthy sources of energy, like wind and solar power, equals growth and hiring in our industry. This commitment will lend stability to the renewable energy market, and will give towns, businesses and homeowners another compelling layer to the business case supporting renewable energy investments.

Recent studies show that Maine has the highest potential for wind power generation in New England. As a woman who was born and raised Maine, my partners and I created Evolo Energy Solutions and its sister company, Evolo Home Center, a residential construction company, as a way to return to Maine. When I left my career at an out of state fortune 50 company in 2005, I saw the potential to help provide people energy stability. I saw a chance to help towns and businesses become free of yo-yoing energy costs. We need to harness the potential that we have to produce for clean, safe and reliable electricity. This legislation will open the door for Maine to become a dominant energy player.

The climate change and clean energy legislation that is being considered will provide a long term commitment, like we have not had before in the US. As a small business, this commitment is critical as we expand our renewable energy business and create new jobs. I want to thank Rep Pingree and Rep Michaud for their support of this legislation and urge Senator Snowe and Senator Collins to continue their leadership on climate change and clean energy legislation - this is a great opportunity for Maine.