



**For immediate release**  
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**PATRICK ADMINISTRATION CELEBRATES INSTALLATION  
OF RENEWABLE ENERGY HEATING SYSTEM  
AT QUABBIN RESERVOIR**

The Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) today celebrated the installation of a fully automated wood chip heating system in the administration building at DCR's Quabbin Reservoir, an example of Governor Patrick's commitment to clean energy and environmental stewardship.

With funding last year from the Department of Energy Resources, DCR has created a 60-horsepower boiler that will burn about 350 tons of wood chips per year, displacing 22,000 gallons (85 percent) of the fuel oil used by the facility for heating. The system is expected to save about \$50,000 in fuel costs during its first year of operation.

To reduce pollution, the system includes a particulate multicyclone and advanced computer combustion controls. New England has an abundant supply of biomass produced by forestry, lumber, woodworking, and landscaping industries. By using locally produced renewable wood fuel, the new biomass system will save millions of dollars, help combat global climate change, and support the local rural economy.

"This new heating system is a perfect example of how the Commonwealth can make good on Governor Patrick's commitment to developing clean energy systems," said DCR Commissioner Richard K. Sullivan Jr. "I cannot think of a more appropriate location for this heating system than here at the Quabbin Reservoir, which is surrounded by watershed lands, internationally recognized for their sustainable forest management and the first public agency lands in the country to become 'Green Certified'."

"The Department of Energy Resources is pleased to partner with the DCR on this exciting clean energy project that utilizes the Commonwealth's native resources and helps to reduce our reliance on costly and polluting imported oil," DOER Commissioner Philip Giudice said.

The system was developed and installed by Messersmith Manufacturing Inc. of Bark River, Michigan; BG Mechanical of Chicopee; and Better World Energy of Marshfield, Vermont. Funding for the \$480,000 project came from the Department of Energy Resources.

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*The Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), an agency of the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, oversees 450,000 acres of parks and forests, beaches, bike trails, watersheds, and dams, in addition to 278 bridges and miles of roadways. Led by Commissioner Richard K. Sullivan Jr., the agency's mission is to protect, promote, and enhance our common wealth of natural, cultural, and recreational resources. To learn more about DCR, our facilities, and our programs, please visit [www.mass.gov/dcr](http://www.mass.gov/dcr). Contact us at [mass.parks@state.ma.us](mailto:mass.parks@state.ma.us).*