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Virginia takes home Energy Stewardship Champion award

Henderson, NV—The Energy Services Coalition (ESC) recently announced its 2017 Energy Stewardship Champions given to states' in recognition of outstanding accomplishments in leveraging Guaranteed Energy Savings Performance Contracting (GESPC) to achieve energy savings, infrastructure modernization, environmental stewardship, and economic development.

Virginia was among 12 state Champions recognized for this annual award during the closing ceremonies at the ESC's Market Transformation Conference in Henderson, Nevada on Friday, August 11th.

"GESPC is a financial strategy leveraging guaranteed future energy savings to pay for energy efficiency upgrades today," said Jim Arwood, ESC Executive Director. "Virginia has achieved considerable success in support of implementing energy efficiency projects in public buildings through the use of a GESPC."

Arwood added that the example Virginia has set through executive and legislative leadership, program design and technical assistance, and private sector investment in public building energy retrofits using a GESPC financing solution, is a prime model of being a good steward taxpayer's monies and using natural resources wisely.

The Commonwealth of Virginia has put a program in place to ensure that GESPC reduces the strain on taxes and supports a healthy environment for Virginians by updating public buildings and reducing utility costs and energy and water consumption.

Since 2001, Virginia's public sector institutions have implemented more the \$761 million in GESPC projects. This investment has resulted in guaranteed utility savings to pay for energy

efficiency improvements in administration buildings, schools, courthouses, jails and correctional facilities, libraries, and other community facilities.

Virginia has several examples where the project's verified savings have significantly exceeded the guarantee. Earlier this year Fluvanna County Board of Supervisors gave the nod to an overhaul of the county's energy equipment through a GESPC. Supervisors unanimously approved a \$7.8 million GESPC. Over 15.5 years, the contract will cost \$8.8 million. Over that same time period, the savings gained from having the efficiency upgrades will exceed \$9.6 million.

For more than 40 years now performance contracting has proven over and over again to be a smart solution for public organizations -- allowing them to pay for much needed energy upgrades using avoided future energy costs.

About the Energy Services Coalition

The Energy Services Coalition is a public private partnership promoting the benefits of, providing education on, and serving as an advocate for the widespread use of guaranteed energy performance contracting in public and private facilities. The ESC provides a unique forum in which all stakeholders can work together to address and overcome any barriers which are limiting the effective use of GESPC.