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For Immediate Release

NHA Reacts to Kerry-Lieberman Proposal

Legislation advances the debate on the nation's energy policy

Washington, D.C. (May 12, 2010) – The following is a statement from National Hydropower Association Executive Director Linda Church Ciocci on the release of draft climate legislation by Senator John Kerry (D-MA) and Sen. Joe Lieberman (I-CT):

"Today's introduction of climate legislation by Senators Kerry and Lieberman advances the debate on the nation's energy policy. With the right policies, America can move closer to a secure energy future where millions of new jobs are created by renewable, domestic energy resources, such as hydropower.

"Accounting for two-thirds of the country's current renewable electricity generation, hydropower must continue to play a central role in creating a clean energy economy. As the process moves forward, it is essential that any comprehensive energy legislation includes a strong renewable electricity standard coupled with important hydropower tax incentives and other measures that support project development and bring more clean energy, jobs, and environmental benefits to all Americans.

"The U.S. hydropower industry generates clean, reliable, affordable, and domestic energy for millions of American homes and businesses. NHA stands ready to work with policymakers and stakeholders to ensure that hydropower's contributions grow and American consumers continue to enjoy its benefits for generations to come."