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FIGHTING FOR NEW ENGLAND'S *future*



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CLF's New President, Brad Campbell, Takes the Reins.



"CLF has shown that it has a unique ability to look outside the box for solutions that benefit New England communities."

Brad Campbell points to two moments in his life that awakened his love for the natural world and his passion as an environmental activist. He grew up a city kid in Philadelphia and its suburbs, his childhood experiences limited to urban parks and creeks. But then, as an 11-year-old, he had the chance to spend a week at an environmental school on the upper eastern shore of Chesapeake Bay in Maryland.

That week of intense outdoors experiences ignited a lifelong love affair with the environment – so much so that he later returned to that same environmental school, spending much of his senior year of high school there, and going on to chair their board of trustees for 20 years. He was there, days after his 18th birthday, when the Three Mile Island nuclear station had a partial meltdown. "The plant was on the Susquehanna River, the Chesapeake's main tributary, and soon, the local waters were dotted with government vessels wielding radiation monitors," recalls Campbell. "It was a jarring moment, seeing how quickly an environmental catastrophe many miles away could threaten this relatively unspoiled part of the bay, putting both a treasured natural

resource and the livelihood of local watermen at risk."

Campbell has spent nearly his entire career since fighting for the environment. He started in the public sector, including serving as a trial attorney for the U.S. Department of Justice prosecuting environmental cases, as Regional Administrator for the Environmental Protection Agency's Mid-Atlantic Region, and as Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection. Later, he headed his own environmental firm and even co-founded an energy company, which developed some of the largest net-metered rooftop solar projects in the country.

When the opportunity came to lead CLF as its next president, it seemed like a natural progression in his long advocacy career. Campbell knew CLF from his experience working to craft the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative while at the New Jersey DEP. "I'd been highly aware of CLF's presence and sterling reputation in both the regional and national advocacy communities," he says. "CLF has extraordinary institutional credibility."

Campbell's own reputation and experience made him stand out as a candidate to



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CLF's Board of Trustees-led presidential search committee. "Brad's professional history that combines public sector, private practice, and entrepreneurial success was an ideal fit for us," says Sara Molyneaux, chair of CLF's Board of Trustees. "His broad experience and national visibility bodes well with our goal to expand our brand regionally and to showcase replicable solutions to environmental challenges beyond New England."

CLF's focus on New England is important to Campbell – both personally and professionally. "I've loved New England since my college days and I've been connected to the region in some way ever since – as a captain shuttling boats up the coast, through clients, and, later, through my wife's family," Campbell says.

Campbell also notes New England's unique vulnerabilities to our changing climate, and CLF's role in mitigating them. "New England represents in microcosm the full range of adverse effects we may see from climate change – from ocean acidification that will affect our shell fisheries, to far more intense rain and snow storms that strain our infrastructure, to extremes of temperature and weather,"

he says. "There's both a particular urgency to the climate issues here and a particular opportunity to work on those issues among communities that fundamentally understand them – because they are already seeing the impacts."

Campbell continues: "CLF has shown, and I believe will continue to show, that it has the unique ability to look outside the box for solutions that will address the threats posed by climate change in ways that benefit the health and economy of New England communities."

Thinking outside the box is not new to Campbell. He has spent his career looking beyond conventional wisdom to find solutions to the problems plaguing our environment. His innovative agreement to clean up the notorious "Mud Dump" off the ports of New York and New Jersey ended years of litigation by environmental groups and was supported by ocean advocates, shipping and labor interests, and both states. He also put in place the strongest protections on record for nearly a million acres of watershed lands in the New Jersey Highlands – protections that had been debated for more than a century without resolution. Shortly before arriving at CLF,

he brought local industry to the table to build a new water treatment plant for a low-income community threatened by unregulated contaminants.

Campbell is especially proud of bringing new and non-traditional partners to environmental protection. In his view, "for CLF and other environmental organizations to sustain and increase their level of effort, we're going to have to engage a wider range of communities than have typically been involved in the past."

Those audiences range from millennials to design professionals, health advocates to communities of color. "There's a perception that low-income communities and communities of color don't care about the environment," Campbell comments. "But, surveys show that people of color are among those most concerned about climate change. They are also, often, the most at risk. We need to do a better job of engaging these communities in developing meaningful solutions to the issues that will impact them so acutely."

Campbell acknowledges the path ahead for CLF and for New England isn't an easy one – and that there are no overnight solutions. "It's going to take all of the creativity and resources the collective environmental community can muster to meet the challenges facing New England today," he says. But if there's one thing Campbell is known for, it's not backing down because a challenge is too big. Now, he's brought that fighting spirit to CLF. "I'm here to fight for New England's future."

WINDWARD PROGRESS



These five turbines will be beautiful examples that not only did we all care enough about the world to put up a fight in the face of climate change, but also that we had the vision and thoughtfulness to do it right through ocean planning.

– Tricia K. Jedele, VP and Director, CLF Rhode Island

THE PROBLEM

Climate change threatens our communities, our economy, and our environment – and it needs an urgent response now. Developing clean energy resources is a vital part of that response – and finding practical solutions that boost our ability to generate clean energy in responsible ways is key. That means tapping into resources that are naturally replenished and permanently sustainable. Fortunately, New England has plenty of both.

CLF IN ACTION

CLF has long championed clean energy in New England, taking a multi-faceted approach. CLF works state by state to assist policymakers to develop regulations and incentives that will grow the market for clean energy, including through renewable energy portfolio standards, which require a set amount of electricity be generated from renewable sources. At the same time, by advocating for transmission upgrades so that renewable energy projects can connect to the electricity grid, CLF is making it easier for more clean energy to power our homes and businesses. CLF has also been involved in efforts to identify the best places for offshore wind development through the crafting of ocean management plans in Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

PROGRESS

This summer, CLF marked a watershed moment in U.S. history when Deepwater Wind began construction on the nation's first offshore wind farm in Rhode Island's Block Island Sound. CLF President Bradley Campbell and CLF Rhode Island Director Tricia K. Jedele toured the site alongside environmental, business, community, and state and national political leaders. Once spinning, the project's five turbines will supply almost all of the energy needs for Block Island residents, saving businesses and families an estimated 40 percent on their energy bills and reducing life-threatening pollutants associated with dirty energy.

This was a project years in the making – and CLF was there every step of the way. The organization's smart and effective advocacy during the development of Rhode Island's ocean management plan helped create a straightforward process for the offshore wind farm's permitting. What's more, CLF ensured that the drive to secure clean, renewable energy didn't come at the expense of ocean wildlife. With its partners, CLF developed an historic agreement with Deepwater Wind to minimize the impacts of its pre-construction activities on endangered North Atlantic right whales. That agreement lays a critical

foundation for how to balance the needs of our precious ocean wildlife with those of the renewable energy industry during future offshore wind projects in New England and elsewhere in the country.

NEXT STEPS

Deepwater Wind's successful kickoff shows that large-scale renewables do have a place in New England, when supported by the right policies, laws, and market initiatives – alongside a fair bit of vision, courage, and fortitude among state leaders and stakeholders. As CLF pushes ahead with efforts to bolster the region's clean energy economy and works to help shape New England's first region-wide ocean plan, the example set here in Rhode Island is one that bears replicating not only across our region, but throughout the United States.

WHY I GIVE



JUSTIN BOYAN

is a computer scientist who lives with his wife and daughters in Providence, RI. We're grateful to Justin and his family for their support of and commitment to CLF's work.

"Although I grew up in a land of malls and cul-de-sacs in suburban Baltimore, my parents raised me to love nature. As a political science professor, my dad always wanted to engage with the political process and the law in combating environmental degradation. When my parents retired to Vermont, it was a natural fit for them to join CLF. I moved from San Francisco to Providence around the same time, and Dad turned

me on to the great work CLF was doing on many issues I care about: protecting Rhode Island's coastal waterways, reducing sprawl, and leading the way toward carbon-free power generation for New England.

I'm impressed with the practical, community-oriented approach CLF takes in dealing with difficult issues, such as beach erosion in Matunuck. There is an effective combination of open discussion with all stakeholders with tough legal action to achieve environmental goals."

Hear more from Justin and other CLF supporters at www.clf.org/whyigive.

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Contact us today to learn more about giving to CLF.

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Dr. Sylvia Earle

In August, Dr. Sylvia Earle, world-renowned conservationist, oceanographer, National Geographic Explorer-in-Residence, and founder/chairman of Sylvia Earle Alliance/Mission Blue, launched a dive expedition to Cashes Ledge, the underwater mountain range 80 miles off the coasts of Portland. Dr. Earle joined the expedition to amplify the efforts of CLF and Mission Blue, as well as scientists, business leaders, environmental groups, and faith leaders, in calling for the White House to declare Cashes Ledge a Marine National Monument.

1 What was it like to dive on Cashes Ledge?

Diving on Cashes Ledge was an experience of a lifetime, in a lifetime of amazing underwater experiences. I saw for myself what scientists have been raving about for years – a miraculous mountain peak that comes close enough to sunlight to be crowned with a thriving forest of kelp and a richly diverse assemblage of coastal marine life in the open sea

2 What most surprised you about your experience?

It's so unlikely to have kelp growing out in the open ocean 80 miles from shore. Instead of blowing in the wind, the kelp blows in the currents. I felt like a dancer with these golden silken scarves surrounding me. Fish swam by, found our eyes, and just looked at us. You could almost see the wheels turning in their minds asking, "What are you doing here?" I thought I went down to look at the fish but the fish were looking at me!

3 Why have you declared Cashes Ledge one of your Hope Spots?

Cashes Ledge is the Yellowstone of the North Atlantic. It's an amazing gathering of fish and other wildlife that wasn't known outside the fishing community until recent years, when divers and scientists began exploring and documenting the

nature of this glorious, golden forest. It's a place that is a natural for permanent protection – full and enduring protection. That's what a Hope Spot is about. We look at unique areas, special places that harbor diverse forms of life, and seek to protect them for renewal and survival. Taking care of Cashes Ledge is a symbol of hope – not just hope for the fish, but for us, too.

4 What do you wish more people understood about the world's oceans?

Life itself depends on the ocean – and most of life on Earth is under the ocean's surface. Look at the Earth from outer space – it's mostly blue. There's a lot of talk these days about the green movement, but if there's no blue, there won't be any green. We have to care for the ocean as if our lives depend on it, because they in fact do.

5 What makes you optimistic about the future of our oceans?

Historically we have thought of the ocean as a place to extract things – fish, oil, gas. But now we know that all life depends on taking care of the ocean. The most important thing we extract from the sea is our very existence. Today, we have a chance with the blue United States to give back to the ocean that gives us so much. Taking positive action to protect the ocean and restore its health is an idea whose time has come.



NEW ENGLAND

More than 160,000 people have submitted public comments urging the White House to declare the Cashes Ledge Closed Area and the New England Coral Canyons and Seamounts as the Atlantic's first Marine National Monuments. This follows years of advocacy by CLF and our partners for permanent protection of these fragile ocean treasures. But our battle isn't over yet, as we continue to push the Administration to make a final decision. Stay up to date at www.clf.org/cashesledge

VERMONT

In more good news for Lake Champlain, the EPA, prompted by CLF's 2008 lawsuit, has set long-awaited new limits on phosphorus pollution – a key culprit in toxic blue-green algae blooms – in the lake. And, in September, CLF reached a landmark settlement with the state agricultural agency that will provide a blueprint for farmers to drastically reduce polluted runoff from their operations. Together, these initiatives mark major steps forward in CLF's long fight to clean up Vermont's most iconic lake.

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MASSACHUSETTS

Following Boston's public bid to host the 2024 Summer Olympic Games, CLF closely analyzed the transportation-related aspects of the project, ultimately bringing to light a number of serious flaws in the proposal. While the bid was eventually withdrawn, CLF has urged that the energy generated by the city's Olympic aspirations be refocused on a process that will help Boston finally obtain a reliable, accessible, and sustainable transportation system.

MAINE

The costs of purchasing new gas pipeline capacity far outweigh the benefits, according to consultants hired by Maine's Public Utilities Commission. Their conclusion agrees with CLF's expert testimony and months of advocacy on the issue. With the PUC expected to make a final decision late this year, CLF is closely tracking the process to ensure ratepayers aren't left holding the bag on an investment that experts agree is bad for the environment and the economy.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

In August, CLF's Great Bay-Piscataqua Waterkeeper teamed up with local businesses Seven Rivers Paddling and Timberland to patrol the bay's shores and pick up trash. The cleanup collaboration – which removed enough trash from the waterway to fill a dumpster – is just one effort CLF is leading to bring attention to the challenges facing the fragile estuary. Learn more at www.clf.org/greatbay.

RHODE ISLAND

This summer, CLF launched a special online series to shed light on the severity of the Clean Air Act violations at the Central Landfill in Johnston – from the toxic air pollution being spewed from broken gas wells to its blatant permit abuses. The organization's lawsuit is currently continuing through its discovery phase. You can read the online series by visiting www.clf.org/landfill.

In between quarterly issues of *Conservation Matters*, stay informed about what CLF is doing and how you can get involved. Doing so is easy – just find us at any one of the following websites.

- CLF's blog: clf.org/blog/
- Twitter: @thecclf
- Facebook: facebook.com/TheCLF
- LinkedIn: linkedin.com/company/Conservation-Law-Foundation

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LETTER FROM THE CHAIR



In October, CLF welcomed a watershed moment in New England's energy transformation when Entergy announced plans

to close Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station in Plymouth, Massachusetts, no later than June of 2019. The news follows close on the heels of the closure of the coal-fired Salem Harbor Station and the Vermont Yankee nuclear plant last year and the announced future shut downs of Mt. Tom Station in Holyoke and Brayton Point in Somerset.

News of Pilgrim's demise brings into stark relief the choice facing New Englanders as we wrestle with our energy future: Will we continue our region's nation-leading progress in shifting our energy platform from one based on dirty fossil fuels to one built on renewable sources? Or will we lock in our dependence on carbon-polluting fossil fuels for another generation with an overwhelming investment in natural gas infrastructure that will be obsolete by the time it is completed?

We at CLF believe that the *only* choice is to reject the natural gas gamble. Simply put, investments in big new natural gas pipelines and plants, all on the backs of ratepayers, are a bad deal for New England families and businesses.

CLF knows there's a better way – one that will keep the lights on, our homes heated, and our climate-warming emissions in check: Large-scale renewable energy combined with increased energy efficiency, small-scale solar and wind, a smarter grid, and incentives to lead customers to curb their demand. Achieving this energy future isn't necessarily an easy path, but neither was ending New England's addiction to coal – a fight with victory now in sight and which CLF was instrumental in reaching.

The fact that CLF never backs down from a challenge is one of the primary reasons I joined this organization as its new president in September. With such critical choices facing New England – and the choices we make serving as models for the nation – there has never been a more important time for CLF to be on the job, or for you, our supporters, to stand by our

side. Our fight is New England's future – and I'm honored to be leading the charge.

Sincerely,
Brad Campbell *President*

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