




**PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT**  
**BETWEEN**  
**NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES**  
**and**  
**NEW HAMPSHIRE SUSTAINABLE LODGING & RESTAURANT PROGRAM**

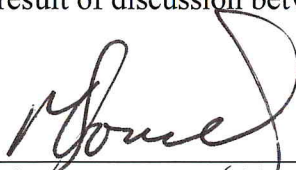
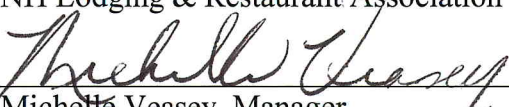
The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (DES) and the New Hampshire Lodging & Restaurant Association (NHLRA) through its Sustainable Lodging & Restaurant Program (NHSLRP) share the common goal of environmental stewardship at hospitality businesses throughout the state.

DES was established in January 1987 under the provisions of Chapter 202, Laws of 1986 and brought together programs from four previously separate state agencies that had responsibility for such matters as water and air pollution control, water supply protection, dams and flood control, and waste disposal. Currently, DES implements these and other programs through a variety of regulatory, compliance, assistance and educational efforts.

The NHLRA, formed in 1912, is a registered non-profit corporation and a voluntary association comprised of hospitality businesses throughout the state. The NHSLRP was developed in 2004 to assist hospitality operations throughout the state in identifying and implementing operational initiatives that lessen environmental impact of the business activity. The program encourages continual evaluation through educational programming, networking and sharing of efforts.

DES and NHLRA through the NHSLRP hereby enter into this Partnership Agreement. It is anticipated that this Partnership Agreement will result in enhanced communication between DES and NHLRA and improved environmental protection. The specific areas of cooperation are detailed in the attached work plan, which is the result of discussion between representatives of DES and NHLRA.

  
Thomas Burack, Commissioner  
NH Dept. of Environmental Services

  
Michael Somers, President & CEO  
NH Lodging & Restaurant Association  
  
Michelle Veasey, Manager  
NH Sustainable Lodging & Restaurant Program

Date: 4/14/09

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## PARTNERSHIP WORK PLAN

I. Timeframe: This Work Plan shall be for the period from April 14, 2009 to April 14, 2011 and may be amended from time to time by mutual written agreement of the parties.

### II. Program Areas and Tasks

#### A. Greening Lodging Operations

##### 1. DES will:

- a) Provide technical assistance in developing a metrics-based certification manual to be used by NHSLRP when accepting a facility into their sustainability program;
- b) Provide speakers and/or financial support for speakers and promotion of NHSLRP workshops, as appropriate; and
- c) Partner with NHSLRP to conduct educational programs for members on various topics, including applicable statutory and regulatory requirements, decreasing carbon footprint and implementing pollution prevention techniques. These programs shall take advantage of opportunities for distance learning, as available or needed.

##### 2. NHSLRP will:

- a) Work with DES providing input and feedback on the application process for NHSLRP;
- b) Invite DES participation in development of NHSLRP workshop topics;
- c) Invite DES participation in visits to verify whether NHSLRP applicants meet the requisite criteria, as appropriate; and
- d) Provide opportunities for DES to submit articles for quarterly electronic newsletter.

#### B. Green Meetings

##### 1. DES will:

- a) Give a preference in vendor selection for outside meetings to restaurants and hotels that meet the certification requirements of the NHLRA's Sustainable Lodging and Restaurant Program;
- b) Publicize DES's use of NHSLRP member facilities; and
- c) Refer other state agencies to NHSLRP facilities when booking meeting and conference locations.