



**PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 9, 2008**

**Governor Tim Kaine Presents Opening Remarks at
VSBN's 13th Annual Meeting**

Governor Tim Kaine honored Virginia Sustainable Building Network with an appearance and opening remarks at the organization's 13th Annual Meeting, which took place June 25, 2008 at the Jepson Alumni Center, University of Richmond, in Richmond, Virginia. The Governor acknowledged that a passion for the environment was evident at the VSBN gathering, given the filled-to-capacity room and the array of sponsors and exhibitors. Governor Kaine expounded on four themes of his administration which are relevant to the Green building and sustainable development mission of VSBN and its network of partners. The Governor spoke of the need to produce clean, secure energy; to make state and private buildings, as well as homes, more energy efficient; to develop long term solutions to transportation problems caused by congestion; and the need to include sustainability principles and an environmental focus in land use planning. Significantly, Governor Kaine encouraged the audience of Green building and energy professionals to help his administration set priorities during his final year in office, which will emphasize energy and the environment.

VSBN was pleased to feature at the 13th Annual Meeting two outstanding keynote speakers who reflected the theme of One Planet Living® or how to build zero energy/zero waste communities that use only one planet's worth of resources.

The speakers were: **Greg Searle**, Executive Director of BioRegional North America, who brings the Zero Energy/Zero Waste community development idea to Virginia from the BioRegional projects in London, Africa, China, Australia, and North America, including several potential projects in Washington, DC. He has presented his program at the U.S. Green Building Council's GreenBuild 2006 and at numerous international conferences. **Daniel K. Slone**, Partner, Environmental Solutions Group, McGuire Woods LLP, represents developers and communities seeking to build New Urban and sustainable projects around the country. He provided a commentary on what local and state governments and private developers can do to adopt One Planet Living principles for community development projects in Virginia.

The VSBN Annual Meeting also provided the forum to introduce the 2008-2009 VSBN Board of Directors and to announce the fourth annual Virginia Green Innovation Awards. Each year, VSBN members are asked to nominate Green businesses, organizations, design firms, and community programs that represent "the best Green projects or programs in Virginia."

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The 2008 Virginia Green Innovation Awards winners are:

Green Business – Innovation

Virginia Tech and the Energy Efficiency Partnership of Greater Washington, www.vtnews.vt.edu
Contact: Dr. Charles Steger, President, VA Tech, president@vt.edu and Daryl Bishop, Pepco Energy Services, dbishop@pepcoenergy.com

Green Business- Small Business

Blue Ridge Eco Store, www.blueridgeecoshop.com
Contact: Paige and Hakon Mattson, hmattson2002@yahoo.com

Green Organization

Habitat for Humanity Virginia, www.habitatvirginia.org
Contact: Sylvia Hallock, shallock@habitatvirginia.org

Green Designer

The Gaines Group, PLC, www.thegainesgroup.com
Contact: Raymond Gaines, RA, CSI, CCS, rgtect@thegainesgroup.com

Residential Project

ecoMOD3, www.virginia.edu
Contact: John Quales, School of Architecture, University of Virginia, quale@virginia.edu

Residential Project – Honorable Mention

Madison Field Project, www.hillstudio.com
Contact: Greg Webster, gwebster@hillstudio.com

Institutional Project

Longwood University Health & Fitness Center, www.longwood.edu
Contact: Richard Bratcher, bratcherrw@longwood.edu

Institutional Project – Honorable Mention

York County School Division, www.ycsd.york.va.us
Contact: Douglas Meade, dmeade@ycsd.york.va.us

Commercial Project

National Audio & Visual Conservation Project for the Library of Congress, www.dprinc.com
Contact: David Clark, davidclark9@cox.net and Chris Gorthy, DPR Construction Inc., christopherg@dprinc.com

Most Sustainable Community Program

Henrico County, Virginia, www.co.henrico.va.us
Contact: Jerry Walker, Henrico County Energy Manager, wal03@co.henrico.va.us

Special Recognition - For Commitment to Promoting Sustainable Building Practices in Virginia
Eric Oliver, P.E., LEED AP, President, EMO Energy Solutions and Chairman, VSBN (2004-2008)
emo@emoenergy.com

Virginia Sustainable Building Network, founded in 1995, is a non-profit statewide organization that promotes Green Building and Sustainable Development for Virginia. VSBN's educational activities include specialized conferences for various building sectors, technical training for building managers and the design and construction communities, and a Green Building product and service directory for the mid-Atlantic region. In 2008 VSBN is also leading the development of the 2008 Commonwealth of Virginia Energy and Sustainability (COVES) Conference, in partnership with the Virginia Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy and other state and private sponsors. Visit the VSBN website for more information: www.vsbnet.org.