



*Building the Business of the Environment*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**NEIA Announces Appointment of New Executive Director**

St. John's, NL, Canada – May 16, 2006 – The Newfoundland and Labrador Environmental Industry Association (NEIA) is pleased to announce the appointment of Ms. Bonnie Andrews to the position of Executive Director, effective May 15, 2006.

“On behalf of NEIA, the Board of Directors and all members, I extend a warm welcome to Bonnie, and wish her the best as she assumes this challenge,” says Bill Butler, President of NEIA’s Board of Directors. “Through her past work with NEIA, in addition to her subsequent projects with the Greater Avalon Regional Waste Management Committee, she has demonstrated the qualities essential to providing leadership to a fast-growing, member-based organization – strong advocacy and relationship management skills, combined with an acute understanding of the issues affecting our industry,” adds Mr. Butler.

Ms. Andrews has extensive experience in the not-for-profit environment sector, having previously served as NEIA’s Program Coordinator and more recently as Regional Coordinator with the Greater Avalon Regional Waste Management Committee. Prior to her involvement with the environment sector, her career encompassed adult education as well as restaurant and food service operations management.

Ms. Andrews currently sits on the Board of Directors of St. John’s Clean and Beautiful, and holds undergraduate degrees in Biochemistry and Education, in addition to a Master’s degree in Environmental Science.

As Executive Director, Ms. Andrews will be responsible for the leadership and development of NEIA, which includes providing strategic planning and direction; managing daily operations; and maintaining strong relationships with current and prospective members, government bodies, the media, and other industry associations. In dealing with stakeholders in the province’s environment sector, Ms. Andrews will act as key spokesperson for members’ interests.

“This is a high-energy Industry Association whose members provide solutions across multiple sectors and industries, including oil and gas, utilities, heavy industrial, manufacturing, residential and all levels of government,” remarks Mr. Butler. “Gone are the days when environmental solutions were implemented solely for the purpose of regulatory compliance; today our members help businesses and government achieve environmental, health and safety objectives, while creating efficiencies that allow them to operate more competitively.”

“Given her strong background in stakeholder management, we are confident Bonnie will be a superior advocate for this diverse and burgeoning industry, working with members, industry and government to encourage environmental sustainability within the context of business-focused public policy,” adds Mr. Butler.

“I am delighted to be returning to NEIA at this stage in its history,” says Ms. Andrews. “I look forward to building on the recent successes of the organization, as well as leading new policy and trade initiatives that will continue to add value for NEIA members specifically, and the province’s business and economic environment in general.”

**About NEIA** – With more than 120 members, the Newfoundland and Labrador Environmental Industry Association (NEIA) is a high-energy organization whose mandate is to promote the growth and development of the province’s environment sector through strong leadership, advocacy, educational and training opportunities, and business development initiatives. In its interactions with government bodies, research and educational institutions, and private enterprise, NEIA acts as a common voice for member companies and organizations. Visit [www.neia.org](http://www.neia.org) for more information.

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