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**CLEAN AIR TASK FORCE NAMES ALEC GIFFEN,  
FORMER DIRECTOR OF MAINE FOREST SERVICE,  
AS SENIOR SCIENCE AND POLICY FELLOW**

BOSTON, February 9, 2011 -- Clean Air Task Force, a leading non-profit environmental organization with offices throughout the United States and in China, has named Alec Giffen, former head of the Maine Forest Service, as Senior Science and Policy Fellow. Alec will head up CATF's work addressing the use of the world's forests for energy production and slowing climate change. He will begin immediately and will be based in Hallowell, Maine.

Before joining CATF, Giffen served as Director of the Maine Forest Service for the past seven years, where he oversaw an annual budget of up to \$20 million and a staff of 150 employees. Maine Forest Service activities range from protecting 18 million acres of forest from fire, insects and disease, monitoring and reporting on the condition of Maine's forests, and advising the Governor and State Legislature on policy issues. Highlights of Giffen's efforts at the Forest Service include leading successful efforts in bringing a wide range of forest constituencies, from mill and landowners to the conservation community, together to agree on a common vision for keeping Maine's forests as forests. This vision has now been brought to the attention of the U.S. Secretaries of Agriculture and Interior. These efforts to keep Maine's and the region's forests as forests provide a model for the Obama Administration's efforts for how to advance the America's Great Outdoors initiative and focus attention on these extraordinary resources.

He also worked on a number of efforts to capitalize on the potential forests have to reduce atmospheric greenhouse gases (AGHG), and how forest products could substitute for other materials and fuels which generate higher AGHG levels. Along with Dan Sosland of Environment Northeast, Giffen coauthored an extensive report on reducing atmospheric greenhouse gas emissions through improved management of Maine's forests, and modeled the impacts of different management regimes of Maine's forests on carbon storage and atmospheric greenhouse gas levels.

Giffen also worked to strengthen Maine's forest products industry and protect Maine's forests from invasive insects and diseases by banning the importation of untreated firewood.

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Prior to his tenure with the Maine Forest Service, Giffen founded and ran for 16 years, Land and Water Associates, a successful environmental consulting firm based in Maine. LWA had a broad diversity of clients, including utilities, non-utility generators, state and federal agencies from Maine to Oregon, local governments, Indian tribes and non-governmental organizations. Projects varied from conflict resolution at a variety of levels, to forest management planning, financial analysis and project design. As one example, he helped various stakeholder groups reach agreement on licensing a number of hydropower projects around the region.

Giffen also has an extensive background in working on energy issues. He was assigned by two Governors the task of modernizing the State's rules for licensing hydropower and wind power projects. Prior to his consulting career, he was Director of the Maine Land Use Regulation Commission where he was responsible for regulatory proceedings on major energy projects. He has also chaired or worked on a number of wood-to-energy task groups, and under his leadership the Maine Forest Service received \$11 million in funding to convert 15 public buildings to wood heat.

Giffen is also a licensed Professional Forester, a registered Maine Guide and on the roster of the U.S. Institute of Environmental Conflict Resolution practitioners. He graduated from the University of Maine with a B.S. in Forestry and received an M.S. in Forest and Wildlife Ecology from the University of California at Berkeley. Giffen lives in Chelsea, ME with his wife Diane and their two children, Sarah and Matthew.

“Alec brings an extraordinary background to the work of CATF,” said Armond Cohen, CATF Executive Director. “From his work in natural resource conflict resolution, to his expertise with development of renewable energy sources, to his intimate knowledge of biomass and bioenergy issues, Alec brings valuable knowledge about how to better manage Earth’s limited atmosphere and land and biological resources. We are thrilled to welcome him to the CATF team.”

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*Clean Air Task Force is a non-profit environmental organization with offices throughout the United States and in China that works to protect the earth’s atmosphere by improving air quality and reducing global climate change through scientific research, public advocacy, technological innovation and private sector collaboration. Among other projects, CATF investigates and advocates for intelligent forest management and the wise use of forest products to increase carbon sequestration and hence combat global warming. For more information, please visit [www.catf.us](http://www.catf.us).*