

“Women in Conservation” Series to Feature GMP’s Mary Powell, Dartmouth Prof. Elizabeth Wilson

Presentation Scheduled for March 15th, 6:30-8:00 p.m., at Dartmouth College Silsby Hall

(HANOVER, NH) February 21, 2018 — Green Mountain Power President and CEO Mary Powell and Dartmouth College Professor Elizabeth Wilson will headline the latest “Women in Conservation” program on Thursday, March 15th from 6:30-8:00 p.m. at Dartmouth’s Silsby Hall (Room 028) in Hanover, NH. The event is sponsored by the Sierra Club Upper Valley Group, the Student Conservation Association (SCA), and the Montshire Museum of Science.

The “Women in Conservation” series spotlights women from throughout the region who demonstrate extraordinary environmental stewardship, innovation, and leadership. The programs offer an opportunity to hear these leaders’ stories and join in the conversation.

Ms. Powell is nationally recognized as an energy visionary, positioning Green Mountain Power (GMP) as a leading energy transformation company since being named chief executive ten years ago. She has implemented a strategic and comprehensive restructuring of the Vermont company and achieved a widespread cultural transformation and service quality improvement. Under Ms. Powell’s leadership, GMP became the first utility in the world to become a B Corp, displaying a commitment to use energy as a force for good. GMP was named one of the top 10 energy companies in the world by Fast Company magazine in 2017.

Dr. Wilson is a professor in Dartmouth’s Environmental Studies Department and the inaugural director of the Arthur L. Irving Institute for Energy and Society. She studies how energy systems are changing in the face of new technologies and new societal pressures, with an emphasis on how institutions support and thwart energy system transitions and on the interplays between technology innovation, policy creation, and institutional decision making. Her recent books include *Energy Law and Policy* and *Smart Grid (R)evolution: Electric Power Struggles*.

“Energy is essential to our way of life. Where we get it and how we use it are some of the most important issues facing our region and our planet,” said Judith Colla, chair of the Sierra Club’s Upper Valley Group part of the VT and NH chapters. “Ms. Powell and Professor Wilson are among the most influential figures in their fields, and we’re confident their perspectives will prove both enlightening and empowering for all who attend.”

Previous “Women in Conservation” presenters include former Vermont Governor Madeleine Kunin and SCA Founding President Liz Putnam.

The March 15th program is also sponsored by the Arthur L. Irving Institute for Energy and Society at Dartmouth College, New England Women in Energy and The Environment, and the New Hampshire and Vermont Sierra Club chapters.

“Women in Conservation” is open to the public and free of charge. Those planning to attend may pre-register for the event at www.thesca.org/wic.

About the Sierra Club Upper Valley Group

Founded by legendary conservationist John Muir in 1892, the Sierra Club is now the nation's largest and most influential grassroots environmental organization — with three million members and supporters. The Club's successes range from protecting millions of acres of wilderness to helping pass the Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act, and Endangered Species Act. More recently, the Sierra Club made history by leading the charge to move away from the dirty fossil fuels that cause climate disruption and toward a clean energy economy. The Sierra Club Upper Valley Group (SCUVG) is a bi-state organization comprising a subset of Club members in the Upper Valley region.

About the Student Conservation Association

The Student Conservation Association (SCA) is America's largest and most effective youth conservation service organization. SCA transforms lives and lands by empowering young people of all backgrounds to plan, act, and lead, while they protect and restore our natural and cultural resources. Founded in 1957, SCA's mission is to build the next generation of conservation leaders, and 70% of its 85,000 alumni are employed or studying in conservation-related fields. SCA is headquartered in Washington, D.C. and maintains regional offices across the country. For more, visit www.thesca.org.

About the Montshire Museum of Science

The Montshire Museum of Science in Norwich, Vermont, is a hands-on interactive science center with more than 125 exhibits on nature, technology, astronomy, and the physical sciences. Visiting exhibitions, educational programs, and special events are offered throughout the year.

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