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NEWS RELEASE

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White House Names Dubuque a ‘Climate Action Champion’

DUBUQUE, Iowa – The White House has named Dubuque one of 16 Climate Action Champions, a diverse group of communities defining the frontier of ambitious climate action whose approaches can serve as a model for other communities to follow.

Today’s announcement cited Dubuque’s greenhouse gas emission reduction targets of 50 percent below 2003 levels by 2030. Additionally, Dubuque is focused on flood risk reduction and resilience, especially as it relates to development and redevelopment of community infrastructure.

From deep droughts to fierce wildfires, severe storms to rising seas, communities across the United States are already grappling with the impacts of extreme weather and climate change. Faced with these new challenges, many cities, towns, counties, and tribes in every region of the country are stepping up to cut carbon pollution, deploy more clean energy, boost energy efficiency, and build resilience to climate impacts in their communities.

The White House launched the Climate Action Champions competition earlier this fall to identify and recognize local climate leaders and to provide targeted federal support to help those communities further raise their ambitions. Following a competitive process led by the Department of Energy (DOE), the Obama Administration today announced 16 communities from around the country as the first cohort of Climate Action Champions.

From creating climate-smart building codes to installing green infrastructure to setting targets for reducing energy consumption, the 16 local and tribal communities selected as Climate Action Champions have considered their climate vulnerabilities and taken decisive action to cut carbon pollution and build resilience. In addition to being designated the first cohort of Climate Action Champions, Dubuque and the other selected communities will benefit from facilitated peer-to-peer learning and mentorship and targeted support from a range of federal programs. Furthermore, a coordinator will

be provided to each Climate Action Champion to foster coordination and communication across the federal agencies, national organizations, and foundations in support of the Champions. The coordinator will also assist efforts to raise awareness of funding and technical assistance opportunities that are available specifically for Climate Action Champions.

Climate Action Champions:

- Blue Lake Rancheria Tribe, Calif.
- Boston, Mass.
- Broward County, Flor.
- **Dubuque, Iowa**
- Knoxville, Tenn.
- Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (D.C., Md., and Va.)
- Mid-America Regional Council (Kan. and Mo.)
- Minneapolis, Minn.
- Montpelier, Vt.
- Oberlin, Ohio
- Portland, Oreg.
- Salt Lake City, Utah
- San Francisco, Calif.
- Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians (Mich.)
- Seattle, Wash.
- Sonoma County Regional Climate Protection Authority (Calif.)

View the full announcement from the White House Office of the Press Secretary at:
<http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2014/12/03/fact-sheet-16-us-communities-recognized-climate-action-champions-leaders>

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