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NEWS RELEASE

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Sierra Club endorses Tom Barrett for Governor

Madison: The Sierra Club today announced the endorsement of Tom Barrett for Governor of Wisconsin. The Sierra Club is committed to electing Tom Barrett to replace Scott Walker due to the Governor's extremist policies that have gutted Wisconsin's environmental laws and conservation traditions.

The Sierra Club strongly supports Tom Barrett's plan to put Wisconsin back to work by investing in clean energy jobs. As Mayor, he has a strong record of attracting clean energy businesses like Ingeteam and Helios to Milwaukee County. His forward-thinking policies will help clean up Wisconsin's air, reduce the billions we send out-of-state each year to pay for fossil fuels, and put our state back to work.

Barrett's support for mass transit has earned him the support of the ATU Local 998. He will end Governor Walker's war on renewable energy and high speed rail that contributed to Wisconsin losing more jobs than any other state in 2011. His strong support for education will ensure that our workers have the knowledge and expertise needed to excel in the high tech careers of the future.

Tom Barrett is a strong supporter of the Great Lakes Compact and for increased water protection and habitat restoration, including banning gas and oil drilling in the Great Lakes. His record contrasts sharply with that of Governor Walker, who appointed a former lawmaker with a 29% conservation voting record as DNR Secretary. Actions to enforce laws designed to protect natural resources have dropped to the lowest levels in over a decade under Secretary Stepp, exemplified by the recent discovery that DNR failed to prosecute a campaign donor who endangered drinking water by spreading dangerous levels of human sewage on farm fields.

"As Mayor, Tom Barrett has shown that he is committed to creating family-supporting jobs that don't sacrifice Wisconsin's environment," said Shahla Werner, PhD., John Muir Chapter Director. "The Sierra Club urges voters to elect Tom Barrett to be our next Governor so that we may restore science, independence and integrity to the DNR."

"It is no exaggeration to state that Scott Walker is the worst governor in state history on environmental issues," said Dave Blouin. "Walker is leading the state in a race to the bottom by

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gutting environmental regulations, killing thousands of sustainable jobs, and wrecking important conservation programs that made Wisconsin great. Wisconsin simply cannot afford to keep Walker in office any longer.”

Gov. Walker’s policies have harmed the state’s economy by killing projects that would have brought nearly 15,000 potential jobs from new wind energy projects, high speed rail, commuter rail and other transit projects, Focus On Energy, and more. See: <http://wisconsin.sierraclub.org/GovernorWalkerKillsJobs.asp> for more information.

Mayor Barrett has earned the Sierra Club’s endorsement by virtue of his environmental platform, public service, and public statements. The Sierra Club is mobilizing members to support Tom Barrett and to finish the job of recalling Scott Walker. The Sierra Club is the nation’s largest and oldest grassroots environmental organization. The John Muir Chapter of the Sierra Club has 15,000 members in Wisconsin, including members in every legislative district.

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