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Press Release

Next Step Living, Inc. Secures \$2.6 Million first close on Series B financing

Round led by local environmental entrepreneur; proceeds to be used for new hires to support multiple recently-won contracts

Boston, MA August 16, 2010: Next Step Living, Inc, (www.nextsteplivinginc.com) a pioneering energy efficiency and renewable energy company based in Boston, Massachusetts, today announced a \$2.6 million first close of their Series B financing round. The financing was led by local green entrepreneur John McQuillan, President & CEO of Triumvirate Environmental, who was joined by other new investors and returning Series A investors including Black Coral Capital and the Clean Energy Venture Group.

NSL will be using proceeds from the round to expand the company's workforce, including the recent recruitment of eight more Home Energy Advisors, in order to fulfill the significant customer demand and recently-won long-term contracts the company has seen over the past 12 months. These contracts include work with the cities of Boston and Brookline, and work in Western Massachusetts communities sponsored in part by a grant from the Massachusetts Clean Energy Center (www.masscec.com).

"We see Next Step Living as a tremendous growth opportunity," stated McQuillan, who also joined the company's Board of Directors. "There's no cheaper and cleaner source of clean energy than energy efficiency – NSL's services make compelling economic sense for customers, and they've established a strong position in the region." Along with deep domain operating experience, McQuillan brings to the Board his extensive experience advising institutions, pre-IPO companies, and Fortune 500 companies. McQuillan serves as a member of the Environmental League of Massachusetts' Corporate Council and a past director of the New England Environmental Business Council. Joining him as an Independent Director is John DeVillars, a veteran environmental leader at both the state and federal levels, Lecturer at MIT, Founder and Partner of BlueWave Strategies, and Managing Partner of BlueWave Capital.

In addition to the above contracts, NSL has launched employee/membership programs with Staples and The Massachusetts Audubon Society, and the Renew Boston program has contracted NSL to assess over 6,000 homes by 2012 and assist middle-income residents in accessing both the 75%

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subsidy from utilities and a 25% subsidy from the City of Boston. “We’re excited to see the growth at Next Step Living here in New England,” stated Galen Nelson of the City of Boston. “The company’s progress is a great sign for the local cleantech community, and it underscores our commitment to building a green business cluster and helping Boston homeowners reduce their energy bills.”

As part of this financing, NSL is pursuing several new business lines, including sustainable custom retrofit and remodeling, and has broken ground on its first new home project, a passive solar home designed by NSL’s own Tom Pittsley. “Many homeowners want to do something to make their homes more efficient and comfortable, and they may not know about all the options available to them, or about the significant rebates provided by their local utility and governments,” stated Geoff Chapin, NSL’s CEO. “That’s what we bring to the table, helping them take that next step.”

About Next Step Living, Inc

Founded in 2008, Next Step Living, Inc is a residential energy efficiency and renewable energy company, providing home energy diagnostics and improvements to the greater New England area. As a socially-conscious, environmentally focused, results-driven organization, Next Step Living, Inc. is dedicated to helping customers lower their energy bills, increase the comfort of their homes, and reduce their dependence on fossil fuels.

Next Step Living, Inc. is committed to providing the personal attention clients seek from a home service organization while ensuring lasting change through large scale impact. Through collaborative efforts with major utilities, communities, and employers, Next Step Living, Inc. strives to help bring social, economic, and environmental change to cities and towns across the country, one home at a time.

For information on Next Step Living, Inc. and its services please visit www.nextsteplivinginc.com.

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