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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

City of Whitehall, Village of Cardington, Etna, Washington, Clinton and Franklin Townships Agree to Sign the Central Ohio Green Pact

(Columbus- October 1, 2009) As climate change legislation becomes a priority for Congress, six central Ohio communities are not waiting for federal solutions but rather joining regional effort to address global warming and protect the quality of life and economic prosperity of the area. The Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) will sign six communities to the Central Ohio Green Pact bringing the total number of members to 27. The Village of Cardington and Etna Township along with the City of Whitehall and Washington, Clinton and Franklin Townships have each passed a resolution agreeing to join the Green Pact.

MORPC Executive Director Chester R. Jourdan, Jr. and Erin Miller, City of Columbus Environmental Steward will give remarks at the signing ceremony to be held at the Reception of the [2009 Summit on Sustainability and the Environment](#) . The Summit, held at central Ohio's creative learning space, the COSI science museum in Columbus, will start at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, October 6 and will take on a global theme, catering to professionals and activists as they learn about the best practices available to resolve environmental challenges. To register for the Summit visit www.greenregion.org.

Jerry Tinianow, MORPC Center for Energy and Environment Director, admires the commitments made by the new member communities. "By joining the Green Pact, these communities have embraced the vision that enhancing sustainability will allow central Ohio to be more competitive in retaining and attracting the businesses and talented workers that our region needs," states Tinianow.

The Central Ohio Green Pact was developed in 2007. The community leaders in creating the Pact provided a vehicle for communities to commit to enhancing and protecting the quality of life and economic vibrancy of the region. The Green Pact affirms that it is in the best interest of residents, the business community and our natural environment to take practical steps to protect our air and water, preserve natural resources, increase green space, reduce consumption of raw materials and increase recycling. Participating communities commit to lead by example, through a series of common sense steps that will lead to greener growth, management and living. MORPC will guide the communities through the implementation of the Green Pact. For more information on how your community can become a Green Pact member, contact Leslie Strader, lstrader@morpc.org or 614-233-4124.

Working to Build a Better Region

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Designated as central Ohio's metropolitan planning agency, MORPC is a voluntary association of 47 local governments. The Center for Energy & Environment at MORPC serves as a community resource in the region by offering a variety of services including: daily air quality forecasts, trail coordination, educational presentations, watershed planning, home weatherization, government carbon footprint analysis and more.