BOROUGH OF STATE COLLEGE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE   **Contact: Hillary Pasch**

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National Program Awards Regional Technology Program - State College Gold Recognition for its Environmental Accomplishments

The Regional Technology Program, State College, Pennsylvania, has been awarded Gold recognition from the State Electronics Challenge—a national environmental stewardship program—for its accomplishments in 2012 in decreasing the environmental footprint of its computer equipment. "The Regional Technology Program is one of only five organizations nationally being recognized at the gold level, and this is the second year in a row that the Program has achieved this distinction," commented Lynn Rubinstein, State Electronics Challenge Program Manager.

"Through a demonstrated commitment to "green" purchasing, energy conservation, and responsible reuse and recycling of computer equipment, the Regional Technology Program achieved measurable results, and in recognition of these achievements it is receiving a Gold award," Rubinstein added.

This is the Program's fourth year participating in the State Electronics Challenge, and the Program has earned an award each year; a record for the program. In 2009, the Regional Technology Program earned Bronze, 2010 – Silver, 2011 – Gold, and 2012 – Gold again.

"Being an SEC partner these past few years has assisted us with our continued effort towards sustainability. We are fortunate to have found a program such as the SEC to continue our work towards lessening our carbon footprint and to have our organization be involved with such a worthwhile cause," remarked Hillary Pasch, IT Project Manager.

In its four years in the Challenge through its green procurement, power management, and responsible reuse and recycling, the Program saved enough energy to power 172 households per year, avoided greenhouse gas emissions equivalent to removing 225 cars from the road, avoided more than 5,500 pounds of hazardous waste from being created, as well as avoiding the generation of almost 30,000 pounds of trash.

The Regional Technology Program achieved these results by only purchasing computer equipment that is qualified by the Electronic Procurement Environmental Assessment Tool (EPEAT®) standard, ensuring that power management tools were being used on almost all of its computers, monitors and printers, and by using a recycler that has achieved environmental certification through the R2 Standard. EPEAT is an internationally recognized system that identifies office equipment that meets specified environmental performance criteria.

The State Electronics Challenge assists state, regional, tribal, and local governments to reduce the environmental impact of their office equipment. It annually recognizes the accomplishments of Partner organizations. The Challenge is administered by the Northeast Recycling Council. Currently, 115 state, regional, and local government agencies, in 36 states, collectively employing more than 141,000 people, have joined the SEC as Partners. For more information on the SEC, including a list of current Partner organizations, visit www.stateelectronicschallenge.net.

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If you would like more information about this topic, or to schedule an interview with the Regional Technology Program staff, please contact Hillary Pasch by phone at 814-234-7110 or by e-mail at engage@statecollegepa.us.

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