

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**NEWIEE HONORS FEDERAL, STATE, & PRIVATE SECTOR LEADERS IN THEIR  
PROFESSIONAL SUCCESS IN ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL FIELDS**

Biden-Harris Energy Administration Official & Former MA State Lawmaker Maria Robinson to Keynote

BOSTON, MA (April 20, 2023) – – [New England Women in Energy and the Environment \(NEWIEE\)](#), a powerful force of professional women, will host its 12<sup>th</sup> Awards Gala on April 27, 2023 from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM at the Westin Copley Place Boston. This annual event brings together over 500 to celebrate the leadership and achievements of professionals who are traditionally underrepresented in the energy and environmental fields.

This year's honorees include:

Leadership Awardee

- **Tracy Babbidge** – Acting Deputy Commissioner, Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection

Achievement Awardees

- **Jennifer Cullen** – Sr Manager of Labor Relations & Workforce Development Vineyard Wind
- **Shalaya Morissette** – Chief, Minority Business and Workforce Division, Office of Economic Impact and Diversity, U.S. Department of Energy

Rising Star Awardee

- **Cristina Mendoza** – Senior ESG Consultant, Sustainserv

**Maria Duaine Robinson** the first Korean-American elected to the Massachusetts General Court where she served in the House of Representatives from 2019-2022, will provide the Keynote Address for the 2023 Gala. She is currently the Director of the Grid Deployment Office at the U.S. Department of Energy.

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Founded in 2008, NEWIEE is a professional organization working to drive greater diversity, equity, and inclusion in the energy and environmental fields by fueling career exploration, entry, and advancement among underrepresented communities; taking a leadership role addressing energy and environmental issues in our region; and highlighting the expertise contributions and achievements of those traditionally underrepresented in our fields.

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