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Contact: *Jason Butkowski*
(609) 292-5215

SMITH COMMENDS NOMINATION OF LISA JACKSON TO HEAD DEP

TRENTON - Senator Bob Smith, D-Middlesex and Somerset, the Chair of the Senate Environment Committee and a member of the Senate Judiciary Committee, issued the following statement regarding the Judiciary Committee's approval today of Governor Corzine's nominee for Commissioner of Environmental Protection, Lisa Jackson:

"Governor Corzine's nominee to head the DEP (Department of Environmental Protection), Lisa Jackson, has proved to be more than capable of steering New Jersey's future towards a greener tomorrow.

"Ms. Jackson has a strong technical background, coupled with her environmental bonafides, to hit the ground running. I am confident that she will push for a higher environmental standard and that she will be a tenacious advocate for every breath of fresh air, every drop of clean water, every square foot of untainted land in the Garden State.

"I look forward to working with Ms. Jackson to realize a brighter future for New Jersey's environment, and am proud to have voted for her confirmation in the Judiciary Committee today. Ms. Jackson has the skills, the foresight and the talent to serve as an excellent caretaker to New Jersey's environment, and I wish her all the best in her new career."