



## New Leadership for the Center for Small Business and the Environment

WASHINGTON, DC (February 23, 2012) -- The Center for Small Business and Environment (CSBE), a non-profit organization that promotes green entrepreneurship, announced today that Scott Sklar will become Executive Director on March 1st succeeding CSBE founder Byron Kennard who is retiring.

For 14 years, CSBE has been the leader in advocating the idea that entrepreneurial small businesses are the engine not only of economic growth but of sustainable development as well.

CSBE's landmark report, *Small Wonders* (2009) was the first comprehensive assessment of the vital but overlooked connection between small business and environmental protection. The report richly documented the burgeoning and pervasive world of green entrepreneurship, a phenomenon that continues today, even in a bad economy. Amazingly, US small clean tech industries have grown at double digits over the last five years. See [http://smallwondersreport.org/docs/SWR\\_Final.pdf](http://smallwondersreport.org/docs/SWR_Final.pdf)

Scott Sklar, President of The Stella Group, Ltd., is a 35-year veteran of renewable energy. For the past 12 years he has led The Stella Group, Ltd., a firm that optimizes high-value energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies for facilities or buildings, tailors energy supply to the needs of client companies, blends financing, and insures applications are standardized, modular, and web-enabled. Sklar also teaches a unique interdisciplinary course on sustainable energy at The George Washington University and co-teaches an International Energy Security course at The American University. He was appointed in November 2010 to the US Department of Commerce Advisory Committee on Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy.

Byron Kennard, founder of CSBE, will become Chairman of the organization's Steering Committee. Working as a community organizer for The Conservation Foundation in the late 1960s, Kennard helped lay groundwork for the environmental movement and Earth Day. In the 1970s, he collaborated closely with the late E. F. Schumacher, author of *Small Is Beautiful*, to realize the book's vision of small-scale enterprise as a principal protector and restorer of the environment. His recent work may be seen on [www.byronkennard.com](http://www.byronkennard.com).

A number of seasoned professionals have just joined to contribute their time and energies to CSBE, including Todd Burns (attorney formerly with EPA) John Frenkil (attorney), and Mark Newberg (formerly with SBA).

"Scott Sklar and I have been close collaborators for years," Kennard stated. "He is one of the nation's most knowledgeable and respected clean technology advocates, and green entrepreneurship is his passion. His deep business experience will take CSBE to the next level of development."

Scott Sklar stated, "Years ago Byron was one of the first environmentalists to recognize that entrepreneurial small businesses are the economic driver in today's world and to see the immense environmental benefits to be derived from small business's vast capacity for increased efficiency and innovation."

CSBE is a project of the Tides Foundation, a 501(c) (3) organization headquartered in San Francisco, California. Tides provides fiscal sponsorship for more than 250 social change organizations.

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Visit CSBE's website: [www.aboutcsbe.org](http://www.aboutcsbe.org)

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