Rep. Peter Welch (D-Vt.) issued the below statement following President Obama's announcement today of nearly $4 billion in energy efficiency investments over the next two years.

Welch is the House leader on energy efficiency. His Home Star Energy Retrofit Act passed the House last year with bipartisan support. The legislation would help three million families retrofit, renovate and insulate their homes, putting 170,000 Americans to work in the process. Welch plans to reintroduce bipartisan energy efficiency legislation early next year.

"I applaud the President for his leadership. Energy efficiency is the low hanging fruit of a green energy economy. The investments in public and private buildings announced today create a win-win-win: good jobs will be created; taxpayer dollars will be saved; and carbon emissions will be reduced. Congress should follow the President's lead and provide incentives for American businesses and homeowners to make smart investments that will help revive the economy and protect the environment for future generations."