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NHA Congratulates DOE Clean Tech Water Power Project Winners

Washington, DC (September 19, 2008) – The National Hydropower Association congratulates the winners of the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Research & Development Clean Technology Water Power Project awards. Five of the 14 winning projects DOE selected involve NHA member organizations.

"We're pleased to congratulate all the winners, including those that are members of the National Hydropower Association," said NHA executive director Linda Church Ciocci. "We also salute DOE's efforts to further the Advanced Energy Initiative, which provides crucial funding for the development of new water power technologies, as well as other renewable energy resources. Public-private partnerships like these are critical to the R&D we need as an industry to grow."

Winning NHA members included:

- Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) – (1) fish-friendly turbine development & deployment and (2) Wave Energy Resource Assessment and GIS database
- Lockheed Martin – Advanced Composite Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion cold water pipe project
- Pacific Gas & Electric Company – WaveConnect Wave Energy in-water testing and demonstration
- Snohomish (WA) Public Utility District #1 – tidal energy in-water testing in Puget Sound
- Verdant Power – Improved structure and fabrication of large, high-power kinetic hydropower rotors

"We're proud to see our members winning these awards and taking part in DOE's waterpower R&D program," said Church Ciocci. "NHA is a strong supporter of DOE's hydropower initiatives, from advocating for funding on Capitol Hill to encouraging public-private cooperation. We believe expanding water power resources is not only a great service to the country's energy future, but it supports our economic and environmental goals, too."

Hydropower is America's largest renewable energy resource, providing 8 percent of all electricity generated in the United States each year. Through better efficiency, by installing hydropower on non-hydro dams, and by deploying new technologies, both the federal government and industry sources project that the U.S. hydropower industry could double in this generation.

“Through this awards program and through other efforts, DOE is responding to the mandate Congress has provided in appropriating funds for water power research and development,” Church Ciocci said. “This support, along with other public and private partnerships, will be the key to ensuring that the industry meets its potential for doubling in the next two decades.”

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