



Press Release

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NHA recognizes four hydropower producers for extraordinary achievement

WASHINGTON DC (March 19, 2007) – Four utility companies received the highest award in the hydropower industry by developing exemplary projects and programs that demonstrate the best practices in producing climate-friendly, affordable and renewable electricity.

The companies named 2007 Outstanding Stewards of America's Waters by the National Hydropower Association were presented with their awards at the association's annual conference March 15-18 in Washington, D.C.

"The Outstanding Stewards of America's Waters demonstrate to the industry and outside world the true innovation and applicability of hydropower today," said Julie Smith Galvin, chairwoman of the NHA Public Affairs Committee and corporate affairs director for Enel North America in Andover, Mass.

The following three companies received the 2007 OSAW award in Recreational and Environmental Enhancement:

Avista Utilities for its work to protect the fisheries in Lake Pend Oreille by working with stakeholders to reduce predatory species, as part of its river restoration activities at its Clark Fork Project.

New York Power Authority for its development of a unique upstream passage and delivery facility for American eel at its St. Lawrence FDR Project. In its first year of operation, more than 8,000 juvenile eel made the migration upstream.

Southern Company for its "2006 Renew Our Rivers: A New Beginning" clean-up work, which was expanded to remove more than 30 tons of debris in river areas affected by Hurricane Katrina.

One company received the 2007 OSAW award for Operational Excellence: **Duke Energy** for its cooperative basin-wide approach for improving water management in the Catawba lake system which supports nearly half the company's electric generation capacity in the Carolinas and provides drinking water to more than 1.3 million people.

The OSAW award recipients have been selected based on their project or program's challenge, innovation, results and collaboration with stakeholders. A detailed overview of each of the winning projects is available at www.outstandingwaters.org.

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NHA is a non-profit national association dedicated exclusively to advancing the interests of the U.S. hydropower industry. The association represents 61 percent of domestic, non-federal hydroelectric capacity in the U.S. Its membership consists of more than 140 organizations including public utilities, investor-owned utilities, independent power producers, equipment manufacturers, environmental and engineering consultants, and attorneys.