



# PRESS RELEASE

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## For Immediate Release

### **NHA confers scholarship on student with passion for renewable energy** *Scott Schenkelberg named 2015 awardee of Past Presidents' Legacy Scholarship*

Washington, D.C. (April 28, 2015) – The National Hydropower Association awarded a promising undergraduate student a scholarship to pursue his degree in mechanical engineering this afternoon during its annual conference held in Washington, D.C.

Scott Schenkelberg was awarded \$2,500 through NHA's prestigious Past Presidents' Legacy Scholarship program, which invests in students who are pursuing educations in fields that set them up for successful careers in the hydropower industry.

Schenkelberg is a junior studying mechanical engineering at University of Nebraska – Lincoln. His passion for renewable energy and its potential to change peoples' lives was sparked during a post-high school trip to Peru. There he realized how much the United States takes its access to electricity for granted, and how applications of renewable energy can make electricity a reality for all.

"Renewable energy has always been an interest of mine," said Schenkelberg. "From wind turbines to hydroelectric dams, I have always been fascinated with how these great machines could revolutionize the world."

"Scott foresees a future where hydropower and renewable energy work together to provide us with affordable, reliable electricity while reducing our carbon emissions," said NHA Executive Director Linda Church Ciocchi. "Giving students with this type of vision the opportunity to succeed is exactly what we set out to do when we created the scholarship. I expect to see great things from Scott in his future endeavors, which I'm sure will see him as an integral member of the hydropower industry."

NHA established the Past Presidents' Legacy Scholarship in 2008 to contribute to the next generation of industry leaders by helping them complete their degrees. Through donations from NHA's previous presidents and other contributors, the scholarship serves as a legacy for the hydropower industry.

"Through this scholarship, NHA's leadership is building a bridge to the next generation of hydropower innovators," said Church Ciocchi. "The scholarship also helps the hydropower industry ensure that the country will have a pool of strong, dynamic engineers and scientists to help address the needs of the 21st century."

To qualify for the Past President's Legacy Scholarship, applicants must be full-time juniors, seniors, or grad students with a 3.0 grade-point average at an accredited college, or have the equivalent average at an accredited vocational technical school. All applicants must be U.S. citizens and legal residents.

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