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For Immediate Release

National Hydropower Association Releases U.S. Hydropower Supply Chain Snapshot

Interactive online map highlights 2,000 companies across U.S.

Washington, D.C. (April 16, 2012) – The National Hydropower Association (NHA) today released the first-ever U.S. Hydropower Supply Chain Snapshot, an interactive online map that shows the breadth and diversity of the industry’s supply chain across the United States, including in regions not traditionally associated with renewable energy. The Snapshot, based on a representative sampling of NHA’s membership, allows users to search nearly 2,000 companies that supply the hydropower industry.

The Snapshot includes detailed information on companies supplying the hydro sector, ranging from project developers, construction companies, architecture and engineering firms, electricians, biologists and manufacturers. Users of the interactive map, available at www.hydro.org/supplychainsnapshot, can view companies’ locations state-by-state, and each point on the map links to each company’s website, providing a clear sense of the businesses and products connected to the industry.

The Snapshot was officially unveiled today in the opening session of NHA’s Annual Conference in Washington, D.C. In 2010, hydropower accounted for 65.9 percent of the nation’s renewable electricity generation and 7 percent of total electricity generation, according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration. Areas of development and growth in the hydro industry include the modernization of existing facilities, converting non-powered dams, and the deployment of hydrokinetic and conduit technologies.

“The US Hydropower Supply Chain Snapshot shows a vibrant industry that benefits communities around the country,” said Linda Church Ciocci, Executive Director of the National Hydropower Association. “Not only is hydropower providing clean, affordable energy to American consumers, it is supporting jobs in a wide range of businesses from coast to coast.”

Of the 1,924 companies included in the Snapshot’s map, 415 are based in the South; 544 in the West; 505 in the Midwest; and 460 in the Northeast. The “Rust Belt” states of Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio and Pennsylvania alone account for 583 of the Snapshot’s companies, demonstrating hydro’s role in supporting America’s traditional manufacturing states.

Weschler Instruments (www.weschler.com), a Cleveland, Ohio-based manufacturer and distributor of power and process instrumentation, is one of the hydro supply chain companies included in the Snapshot. Weschler Instruments has been headquartered in Cleveland since its founding in 1941, and currently sells products to the hydro industry worldwide.

“Weschler Instruments has been involved with the hydro industry for many years, and we offer specialized products tailored to the needs of hydro facilities,” said Gerald Lucak, Vice President of Weschler Instruments. “Weschler’s digital instrumentation is used in new facilities & plant upgrades to help hydro providers increase their power output and improve efficiencies. We’re glad to be a part of the Snapshot, and we hope it helps people see just how significant a role hydropower plays for local manufacturing firms like ours.”

The U.S. hydro industry has also experienced significant growth in the last decade with the support of targeted federal policies like the federal Production Tax Credit, which have provided certainty to the industry and helped accelerate investment and project development. NHA is currently working to extend the hydropower PTC, which is set to expire at the end of 2013. That expiration date is already creating uncertainty among hydro investors and developers, who are beginning to reduce or cancel planned construction.

“The Snapshot puts a face on the companies and communities that will likely be hurt if the Production Tax Credit is not extended this year,” said Ciocci. “That’s true in the Southeastern US, where hundreds of hydro supply chain companies are based, just as it is in the Rust Belt and the Pacific Northwest. All of these companies rely on the long-term certainty provided by the PTC.”

A recent study from Navigant Consulting found that with the right policies in place, 1.4 million cumulative jobs could be created by hydropower by 2025. Navigant also found that the hydro industry has tremendous untapped potential, estimating that the U.S. could add 60,000 MW of new hydro capacity by 2025.

“Some don’t immediately think of the South as home to renewable energy, but the hydropower Snapshot clearly dispels that myth,” said Carol Goolsby, Vice President, Regulated Hydro Fleet, Duke Energy. “Duke Energy has a significant hydroelectric portfolio in the South, including capacity increases to our Jocassee and Bridgewater hydropower stations last year. We are supported by a strong network of Southern manufacturers, mechanical and electrical contractors, and other small local businesses. We’re pleased that the Snapshot can tell the story of our regional hydro industry so clearly.”

The U.S. Hydropower Supply Chain Snapshot was developed using data from a representative sampling of NHA’s 200 members, which includes project developers, generators, and major suppliers in the non-federal system. Moving forward, NHA will be working with additional members to expand the number of companies represented.

About National Hydropower Association:

The National Hydropower Association (NHA) is a nonprofit national association dedicated to promoting the growth of clean, affordable U.S. hydropower. It seeks to secure hydropower’s place as a climate-friendly, renewable and reliable energy source that serves national environmental, energy, and economic policy objectives. NHA unites the diverse North American hydropower community, representing more than 180 companies in the North American hydropower industry, from Fortune 500 corporations to family-owned small businesses. Association members include both public and investor-owned utilities, independent power producers, developers, manufacturers, environmental and engineering consultants, attorneys, and public policy, outreach, and education professionals. Learn more about hydropower and NHA at www.hydro.org; follow us on Twitter [@NatHydroAssoc](https://twitter.com/NatHydroAssoc) and find us on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/NatHydroAssoc).

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