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**2006 NATIONAL GREEN POWER AWARD WINNERS ANNOUNCED**

*Starbuck's, Whole Food Market, Staples, IBM, Johnson & Johnson, Aspen Skiing Company among award recipients*

SAN FRANCISCO – The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and the Center for Resource Solutions (CRS) honored a group of organizations committed to advancing the development of the nation's green power market. The annual Green Power Leadership Awards, recognizing leading national green power purchasers and suppliers, were presented at an awards event, Monday evening, December 4, in conjunction with the Eleventh National Renewable Energy Marketing Conference taking place in San Francisco.

EPA and DOE presented awards for green power purchasing to 22 organizations that have demonstrated leadership by voluntarily purchasing green power or creating innovative supply options for consumers. CRS presented six awards to organizations and individuals that have shown outstanding leadership in building and shaping the market for renewable energy.

**Purchaser Awards - the highest honors went to:**

**Partner of the Year**

- Aspen Skiing Company
- HSBC-North America
- Johnson & Johnson
- Starbucks
- Whole Foods Market

**On Site Generation:**

- Chena Hot Springs Resort
- San Diego Unified School District
- County of Butte Government Center (Calif.)

**Green Power Purchase:**

- Coldwater Creek
- Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
- IBM
- PrAna
- Staples, Inc.
- Stonyfield Farm
- The Holland, Inc.
- The Tower Companies

- Vail Resorts
- WhiteWave Foods Company

"We applaud this year's winners of EPA's Green Power Leadership Awards" said Bill Wehrum, EPA's acting assistant administrator of Air and Radiation. "Their commitment to green power purchasing proves that an organization can make a real environmental difference."

**Suppliers** – The highest honors went to:

- **New Green Power Program:** Silicon Valley Power, City of Santa Clara, Calif.
- **Renewable Energy Technology Supplier:** Community Energy
- **Green Power Program of the Year:** Portland General Electric (PGE)
- **Green Power Program of the Year Honorable Mention:** We Energies

"Every year more energy suppliers are providing their customers the option of buying green power. We are proud to recognize the efforts of the suppliers that are leading the way in promoting the use of renewable energy," said Andy Karsner, Assistant Secretary for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy.

**Market Development** – The highest honors went to:

- **Green Power Pioneer Award:** Jim Burke of the Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD) in northern California and Brent Alderfer & Eric Blank of Community Energy
- **Green Power Beacon Award:** We Energies – Energy for Tomorrow Program; Whole Foods Market and Renewable Choice Energy
- **Green Power Pilot Award:** Smart Power and the Connecticut Clean Energy Fund; honorable mention to: Energy for Keeps

"Undoubtedly, Americans believe in a renewable energy future. More than ever, consumers are taking responsibility for their impact on the environment and major U.S. corporations and product manufacturers are actualizing corporate sustainability goals by using certified renewable energy in their operations," said Jan Hamrin, president of the Center for Resource Solutions. "We are proud to honor these leaders whose efforts to move the market for renewable energy forward are making a positive impact on thousands across the country."

Descriptions of each award recipient's efforts and additional information regarding the 2006 Green Power Leadership Awards can be found in the 2006 Awards Ceremony program at [www.epa.gov/greenpower/winners/index.htm](http://www.epa.gov/greenpower/winners/index.htm).

According to a new report released this week by the U.S. Department of Energy's National Renewable Energy Laboratory, at the end of 2005, more than 2,000 megawatts (MW) of new renewables capacity was being used to supply green power markets. This represents a 10-fold increase from the year 2000.

The U.S. EPA this week announced the Fortune 500 Green Power Challenge. The goal of EPA's 13-month campaign is to roughly double the existing green power purchases among Fortune 500 Green Power Partners in order to exceed 5 billion kilowatt hours (kWh) of green power purchasing annually. The Challenge concludes at the end of December 2007 and will focus on the collective green power purchases of participating Fortune 500 companies. All Fortune 500 companies must meet or exceed EPA's standard Partnership requirements to participate. EPA will track the progress of all participating Fortune 500 companies toward the overall goal. Fortune 500 companies will receive EPA recognition for their purchases and will participate in the final recognition event. For more information visit <http://www.epa.gov/greenpower/partners/fortune500.htm>.

**About the U.S. EPA's Green Power Partnership**

*EPA's Green Power Partnership encourages organizations to purchase green power as a way to reduce the environmental impacts associated with conventional electricity use. The Green Power Partnership currently has hundreds of Partners voluntarily purchasing billions of kilowatt hours of green power annually. Partners include a wide variety of leading organizations such as Fortune 500 companies, small and medium sized businesses local, state, and federal governments, trade associations, as well as colleges and universities. For a full listing of EPA Green Power Partners and information about buying green power, visit the Partnership's Web site at <http://www.epa.gov/greenpower/>*

**About the Center for Resource Solutions**

*The Center for Resource Solutions (CRS) is a national nonprofit organization that works to make it easier for people and organizations to use renewable energy as a tool for mitigating climate change. CRS designs and operates national and international programs that support the increased supply and use of renewable energy resources such as wind, solar, biomass, geothermal, low-impact hydroelectric power and other clean energy sources. To learn more about CRS, please visit: [www.resourcesolutions.org](http://www.resourcesolutions.org).*

**About the U.S. Department of Energy Green Power Network**

*The Green Power Network is the nation's premier Web site providing green power market information. The Network's Web site provides up-to-date information on green power providers, product offerings, consumer protection issues, and policies affecting green power markets. It also includes a reference library of relevant papers, articles and reports. The Green Power Network is operated and maintained by the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) for the U.S. Department of Energy. Additional information is available at <http://www.eere.energy.gov/greenpower>.*