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# Press Release

## *Site Selection's* Top Utilities in Economic Development

Atlanta, September 2, 2008: *Site Selection* magazine has selected its annual Top Utilities in Economic Development. The designation is based on calendar year 2007 performance in four categories — capital investment, job creation, capital investment per capita and jobs per 10,000 in population. It also takes into account responses from a select group of site selection consultants, and the utilities' own investment in new generation, transmission and renewable energy projects. More broadly, the designation gauges the ability of U.S. utility companies to complement power delivery with the powers of persuasion in fostering corporate investment in their territories, including Web site tools and innovative programming. Results are tallied from responses to *Site Selection's* annual survey of utilities and the magazine's own research.

The winning utilities are **American Electric Power (AEP)**, Columbus, Ohio; **Alabama Power**, Birmingham, Ala.; **CenterPoint Energy**, Houston, Texas; **Duke Energy**, Plainfield, Ind., and Charlotte, N.C.; **Entergy Corp.**, New Orleans, La.; **FirstEnergy Corp.**, Akron, Ohio; **Georgia Power**, Atlanta, Ga.; **Mississippi Power**, Gulfport, Miss.; **Progress Energy**, Raleigh, N.C.; and **Tennessee Valley Authority**, Nashville, Tenn.

Those qualifying for Honorable Mention include **Ameren Corp.**, St. Louis, Mo.; **Dominion Virginia Power**, Richmond, Va.; **DTE**, Detroit, Mich.; **Exelon**, Chicago, Ill. (**ComEd**), and Philadelphia, Pa. (**PECO**); **Hoosier Energy REC, Inc.**, Bloomington, Ind.; **National Grid**, Syracuse, N.Y.; **Nebraska Public Power District**, Columbus, Neb.; **Northeast Utilities**, Hartford, Conn.; **Oncor**, Dallas, Texas; **Portland General Electric**, Portland, Ore.; and **PPL**, Allentown, Pa.

"The top utilities in economic development have an abundance mentality," says Adam Bruns, managing editor of *Site Selection*. "The teamwork happens across internal corporate hierarchies and across regional geographic boundaries. At the same time their operations brethren respond to demand and renewable energy mandates, utility economic developers do their best to positively influence the business climates of their regions by renewing those regions' business portfolios."

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""Utilities play a key role as participants in the economic development efforts of cities, regions and all areas working to improve their local business climate," says Mark Arend, editor in chief of *Site Selection*. "This year's Top Utilities were particularly successful in this endeavor in 2007."

The entire Top Utilities article and the annual Utilities Directory appear in the September 2008 edition of *Site Selection* and will appear online at [www.siteselection.com](http://www.siteselection.com) on Sept. 11. Also featured in the issue:

- In-depth reports on **energy, water infrastructure and global logistics**;
- The first annual **Site Selection Excellence in Corporate Real Estate Awards**;
- a "SITE Visit" profile of **Volkswagen of America's site selection process** that concluded with the choice of Chattanooga, Tenn.;
- The **Canada 2008 Report**, including *Site Selection's* annual Canadian Competitiveness Award, Top Canadian Metros and Top Canadian Groups awards, as well as a Quebec Spotlight;
- Investment Profiles of **Gwangyang Bay Free Economic Zone**, South Korea; **Malaysia**; **Nuon Industry Park Management**, Germany; and **Saxony-Anhalt**, Germany;

*Site Selection* magazine, published by Conway Data Inc., delivers expansion planning information to 44,000 executives of fast-growing firms. The senior publication in the development field, *Site Selection* is also available via *Site Selection Online* ([www.siteselection.com](http://www.siteselection.com)). *SiteNet Dispatch*, a weekly e-mail newsletter, goes to more than 28,000 industry professionals.

Conway Data is an international publishing and association management company headquartered in Atlanta. The firm manages the Industrial Asset Management Council, the Development Hall of Fame and the World Development Federation (WDF), offers consulting services and awards the Conway Safe Skies Award.

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