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## EPA RECOGNIZES DC SEU AND NORTHEAST ENERGY EFFICIENCY INITIATIVE WITH 2013 ENERGY STAR® SUSTAINED EXCELLENCE AWARD

The DC Sustainable Energy Utility in partnership with Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnerships earns award for protecting the environment through energy efficiency

March 5, 2013 (Washington, DC) – The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has awarded the <u>DC Sustainable Energy Utility</u> (DC SEU) a 2013 ENERGY STAR Sustained Excellence Award as part of the Northeast Retail Products Initiative in recognition of its continued leadership in protecting our environment through energy efficiency. The Initiative, facilitated <u>by Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnerships</u> (NEEP) and made up of utilities and energy efficiency program administrators in New England, New York, and Washington D.C., will be recognized at an awards ceremony in Washington, D.C. on March 26, 2013.

In 2012, the DC SEU sold more than 43,000 compact florescent light bulbs (CFLs). This year, the DC SEU has already sold more than 80,000 CFLs and now offers rebates for ENERGY STAR qualified <u>light-emitting diodes (LEDs)</u>, <u>clothes washers</u>, <u>and refrigerators</u>. "Working with local retailers, the DC SEU is committed to ensuring energy-efficient products are available to all District residents throughout the city," said Ted Trabue, Managing Director of the DC SEU.

An ENERGY STAR Partner since 2000, the Northeast Retail Products Initiative will be honored for its long-term commitment to energy efficiency. During the last thirteen years, the Initiative has won 14 awards including six Excellence Awards.

"Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnerships is committed to speeding the adoption of high efficiency products in the region through our partnership with the DC SEU in the Retail Products Initiative," said Sue Coakley, Executive Director of NEEP. "By leveraging our resources, our initiative, which collectively serves over fifteen million households, is able to yield more energy and cost savings for families and businesses than through individual program efforts. We are very proud of the DC SEU for their tremendous efforts in helping to make the Northeast a sustained leader in energy efficiency. Our success for the region is a direct result of the commitment they dedicate to accelerating energy efficiency for our environment, our economy, and our communities."

For over 20 years, with help from ENERGY STAR, American families and businesses have saved more than \$230 billion on utility bills and prevented more than 1.8 billion metric tons of greenhouse gas emissions.

The 2013 Sustained Excellence Awards are given to a select group of organizations that have exhibited outstanding leadership year after year. These winners have reduced greenhouse gas emissions by setting and achieving aggressive goals, employing innovative approaches, and showing others what can be achieved through energy efficiency. Award winners are selected from about 20,000 organizations that participate in the ENERGY STAR program.

## **ABOUT the DC SEU**

Created by the City Council as part of the Clean and Affordable Energy Act of 2008 (CAEA), the DC SEU is managed by the Sustainable Energy Partnership under contract to the District Department of the Environment (DDOE). For more information on the DC SEU, visit <a href="www.dcseu.com">www.dcseu.com</a>, or contact Hanna Grene at 309-3839 or hgrene@dcseu.com.

## **ABOUT NEEP**

NEEP is a regional non-profit whose mission is to serve the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic to accelerate energy efficiency in the building sector through public policy, program strategies and education. NEEP's Market Strategies team supports the collaboration of energy efficiency program administrators and other key stakeholders in the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic states to achieve long-term cost-effective energy savings by broadening the market availability and consumer demand for high quality, energy efficient products and services. Visit <a href="https://www.neep.org">www.neep.org</a> for more details.