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NATIONAL RENEWABLES COOPERATIVE REACHES MAJOR MILESTONE

First Deal Negotiated for Purchase of Renewable Energy

Carmel, IN – The National Renewables Cooperative Organization (NRCO) – a recently-formed entity owned by 24 power supply and distribution cooperatives – announced today that it has reached a major milestone by facilitating and negotiating agreements between two of its member cooperatives and E.ON Climate & Renewables North America (EC&RNA). This transaction represents the first of many planned renewable energy projects for NRCO and its member cooperatives.

Under separate purchased power agreements (PPAs), Southern Maryland Electric Cooperative Inc. (SMECO), a customer-owned electric utility based in Hughesville, MD, and Old Dominion Electric Cooperative (ODEC), a Glen Allen, VA-based cooperative that supplies wholesale power to 11 member distribution cooperatives in Virginia, Maryland and Delaware, have agreed to purchase the energy and associated environmental attributes for the next 18 years from the Stony Creek Wind Project. The project – which began commercial operation in the fall of 2009 and has a nameplate capacity of 52.5 MWs – is owned and operated by a subsidiary of EC&RNA, and is located near Somerset, Pennsylvania within the PJM market. NRCO and its member cooperatives, which include G&T and distribution cooperatives with over 39,000 MWs of generation and serving 11 million electric customers in the United States, are pioneers in the concept of bringing together power supply and distribution cooperatives from different regions of the country to access large-scale renewables projects located throughout the continental United States.

“These inaugural agreements represent the execution of NRCO’s mission to evaluate, deliver and facilitate the negotiation of promising renewables opportunities for its member cooperatives that will help them achieve meaningful participation in renewable energy projects at the most affordable cost. We look forward to continuing success helping other member cooperatives meet their renewable energy goals” said Amadou Fall, CEO of NRCO. NRCO functions as a clearinghouse for renewable development opportunities while aggregating its members renewable energy needs.

Austin J. Slater, Jr., SMECO president and CEO, said “We are very excited about the Stony Creek project and working with NRCO. They worked with the developer to bring this project to the table and assisted with the contract negotiations. We are always working to be good stewards of the environment and to keep our electric rates competitive.”

“We are pleased that ODEC had the opportunity to partner with SMECO to add the Stony Creek Wind Project to our respective portfolios of purchased power resources,” said Jackson E. Reasor, ODEC president and CEO. “We also greatly appreciate the efforts of NRCO in helping to facilitate this agreement. NRCO was established to assist electric cooperatives across the U.S. in finding and securing economically-viable renewable energy resources. This project is another successful example of how cooperatives can work together for the betterment of their consumer-members.”

“These PPAs play an important role in making our projects economically viable.” said Steve Trenholm, CEO of EC&RNA. “We are particularly excited about playing a leading role in helping these Cooperatives meet America’s fast-growing renewable energy needs.”

About NRCO:

Cooperatives across the country formed the National Renewables Cooperative Organization (NRCO) to promote and facilitate the development of renewable energy resources for its members. NRCO’s main purpose is to facilitate the cost-effective, joint development of renewable resources nationwide for its cooperative owners, helping its owners meet the requirements of voluntary and mandatory Renewable Energy Standards (RES).

Membership in the NRCO is open to generation and transmission cooperatives (G&Ts) and distribution cooperatives that have the legal ability to buy power in the wholesale market. Members located in areas that may not have renewable resources can participate in projects across the United States through renewable projects originated and/or developed by NRCO. For more information, please visit www.nrco.coop.

About ODEC:

Old Dominion Electric Cooperative (ODEC) is a generation-and-transmission cooperative that provides wholesale power to 11 member electric distribution cooperatives in Virginia, Maryland and Delaware. ODEC and its member systems are not-for-profit electric cooperative that are owned by the consumer-members they serve. For more information, please visit www.odec.com

About SMECO:

SMECO is a customer-owned electric distribution cooperative based in Hughesville, MD and serving 148,000 customers. SMECO serves southern Prince George's County, Charles County, St. Mary's County, and all but the northeast portion of Calvert County. SMECO contracts with wholesale power providers to meet the energy needs of its members. For more information on SMECO visit www.smeco.coop

About EC&RNA:

E.ON is one of the world's largest investor-owned power and gas companies. Our more than 88,000 employees generated just under €82 billion in sales in 2009. With leading market positions in power and gas and nearly 30 million customers we operate in more than 30 countries. Headquartered in Düsseldorf, E.ON Climate & Renewables is responsible for E.ON Group's global renewables and climate protection activities. E.ON will be investing €8 billion in renewable energy and environmental protection projects from 2007 – 2012 to expand the share of renewable energy in E.ON's portfolio for the long term. For more information, please visit www.eon.com/renewables.

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