Construction begins on green energy facility near Whitecourt

Calgary, Alberta – July 12, 2012 – Ground has been broken at Alliance Pipeline’s Windfall Compressor Station where NRGreen Power has begun site preparation for construction of a new green energy facility. Located about 38 kilometers northwest of Whitecourt, Alberta, the innovative Whitecourt Recovered Energy Project (“WREP”) will generate clean energy by recovering the heat emitted from the compressor station turbines and converting it into electricity.

The power generation technology was developed by GE in coordination with NRGreen Power and is considered best in its class. When it’s up and running, the facility will be named Chickadee Creek Generating Station and will add 14 megawatts (MW) of baseload electricity per hour to the Alberta Interconnected Electrical System – enough power to supply about 14,000 average homes.

“Site grading is almost complete,” said Gord Johnson, Alliance’s Whitecourt Area Manager. “We plan to begin concrete work and pilings installation this month. The facility is being built within the existing boundary of the Windfall Compressor Station and we expect to complete the work by the end of May 2013.”

This facility is NRGreen’s fifth waste heat recovery unit but its first in Alberta, and marks the world’s first commercial application of GE’s ORegen™ system. This system is an Organic Rankine Cycle designed to recover lost heat from gas turbine exhaust and convert it into electric energy. The technology requires no water and creates no new emissions.

“This project is very exciting because it will not only create more energy for the area but, more importantly, the energy will be clean and environmentally preferred,” says Johnson. “It will also bring in more revenue for local businesses during construction.”

The WREP is funded in part by Alberta’s Climate Change and Emissions Management Corporation (CCEMC), which will contribute $7 million to the estimated $64 million project. The CCEMC is a not-for-profit independent corporation financed by payments from companies like Alliance Pipeline complying with the Alberta Government’s annual greenhouse gas emissions requirements. CCEMC support makes many clean energy projects, like the WREP, commercially viable.

“The CCEMC is pleased to support initiatives like the Whitecourt Recovered Energy Project that apply clean technology innovation in Alberta,” said CCEMC Chair Eric Newell.

NRGreen Power Limited Partnership is an independent power producer and an affiliate of Alliance Pipeline by virtue of a common ownership group. NRGreen is pursuing commercial development of electrical power generation along the Alliance system and at other industrial facilities. The Alliance Pipeline is a 3,700 kilometre-long pipeline that transports rich gas from northeastern British Columbia and northwestern Alberta to the Chicago market hub. The Alliance system has been in commercial service since December 2000 and delivers, on average, about 1.6 billion standard cubic feet of natural gas per day. For more information, visit www.nrgreenpower.com.

-30-

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