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NEWS RELEASE

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BELLEVILLE HYDRO PLANT WINS NATIONAL AWARD

The National Hydropower Association (NHA) this week honored the Ohio Municipal Energy Generating Agency Joint Venture 5 (OMEGA JV5) Belleville Hydroelectric Plant with an Outstanding Stewards of America's Waters (OSAW) award for operational excellence.

Linda Church Ciocci, NHA executive director, said "the OSAW awards recognize the industry's most innovative approaches to fulfilling its obligations as stewards of our rivers and natural resources. The award went to OMEGA JV5 and American Municipal Power (AMP), which serves as agent for the joint venture.

Belleville won for safety excellence. Since the day the plant began producing electricity in 1999, Belleville has never had a reportable or lost-time incident, covering a period of more than 150,000 man hours. The NHA noted Belleville's record "is especially notable as



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the employees created their safety program from scratch and no employees had previous hydro experience.”

Further, the same six employees—Charles Bailey (Parkersburg, WV), Anthony Belcher (Little Hocking, OH), George Connolly (Syracuse, OH), James Dinnen and Matthew Steele (Washington, WV), and Matthew McDaniel (Portland, OH)—have worked at Belleville from the first day of operation until now.

“These six employees have done an outstanding job from day one on this project. They’ve exhibited great teamwork and safety awareness, and have helped the Belleville plant achieve an admirable operating history,” said Marc Gerken, AMP president/CEO. “As the hydroelectric projects AMP is now developing become operational, the Belleville employee experience, safety program and forthcoming employee training program will be beneficial for those projects.”

(Photo) Lela Katzman, president of Full Spectrum Communications and chair of the OSAW Judging Panel (left) and Linda Church Ciocci, executive director of the National Hydropower Association (right), presented the Outstanding Stewards of America’s Waters award to Mike Perry, American Municipal Power vice president of generation services (2nd from left) and George Connolly, Belleville operations & maintenance supervisor.

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ABOUT OMEGA JV5: Ohio Municipal Electric Generation Agency Joint Venture 5 is a cooperative project composed of 42 American Municipal Power (AMP) member communities. Besides the Belleville Hydroelectric Plant, which began commercial operations in 1999, the joint venture consists of backup generation resources and approximately 26.5 miles of 138-kilovolt transmission facilities. AMP developed and operates the project on behalf of OMEGA JV 5 participants.



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ABOUT AMP: American Municipal Power Inc. is the wholesale power supplier and services provider for 128 member municipal electric communities in Ohio, Pennsylvania, Michigan, Virginia, Kentucky and West Virginia. Headquartered in Columbus, Ohio, the organization provides a variety of services for its members including, power supply planning, engineering, financial, environmental, generation, legal, public relations and other support services. AMP members receive their power supply from a diversified resource mix that includes: wholesale power purchases through AMP and on the open market from investor-owned utilities and marketers; and energy

produced from a variety of base load and distributed generation assets utilizing hydro, wind, landfill gas and fossil fuels. **For more information about American Municipal Power, please visit our web site: www.ampppartners.org**

