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Contacts:

Jonathan Edwards, SmartPower | Phone: (800) 874-9897

Jamie Serino, Brown Lloyd James | Phone: (212) 486-7070 | E-mail: JamieS@BrownLloydJames.com

SmartPower and the Connecticut Clean Energy Fund Receive 2006 Green Power Pilot Award from the United States Department of Environmental Protection (EPA) & Department of Energy (DOE)

Award presented on December 4 in conjunction with the 11th National Renewable Energy Conference

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 5, 2006 – The Connecticut Clean Energy Fund and SmartPower were announced last night as the joint recipients of the U.S. EPA and U.S. DOE 2006 Green Power Pilot Award for their cutting-edge outreach for clean energy in Connecticut. This award recognizes the collaborative efforts of both organizations for their ground breaking marketing program, *the Connecticut Clean Energy Communities Program*. The Communities program is widely credited with the rapid growth of the Connecticut Clean Energy Options Program, considered one of the fastest growing programs of its kind in the nation.

The Green Power Pilot Award is considered by many to be one of the nation’s premier awards to acknowledge innovative initiatives intended to foster the growth of the clean energy industry.

“The Connecticut Clean Energy Communities Program is helping local leaders recognize the important role of clean energy in providing solutions to our growing energy concerns,” said Frank A. Dinucci, president and executive director of Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated. “An award that distinguishes the Connecticut Clean Energy Fund as a premier organization in this country confirms that we have made some remarkable contributions in advancing innovative programs and bringing them to the market in an effective way.”

SmartPower and the Clean Energy Fund have been working to build awareness and demand for renewable energy in Connecticut and nationally through the 20% by 2010SM program and the Clean Energy Communities Program. The 20% by 2010 program encourages cities, towns and businesses to commit to purchasing 20% of their energy from clean energy sources – such as wind power, solar power, bio-mass, and others. The Communities program is a marketing project to increase demand for and use of clean energy through the creation of marketing partnerships between city/town officials and civic leaders.

“SmartPower is honored to receive the EPA’s 2006 Green Power Pilot Award for our work promoting clean energy throughout the US,” said Brian F. Keane, president of SmartPower. “We applaud the decisions and actions of the communities and businesses that we’ve worked with to commit to 20% clean energy by 2010, which results in more efficiency, less pollution, more jobs and great leaps towards energy independence. Their bold actions show us that clean energy is real, it’s here and it’s working.”

The Connecticut Clean Energy Communities Program is a partnership involving the Connecticut Clean Energy Fund, SmartPower, clean energy suppliers, and government agencies. The program provides Connecticut communities an opportunity to support clean energy alongside its local residents, businesses, and institutions. Connecticut’s two public utilities, The Connecticut Light and Power Company and The United Illuminating Company provide assistance to the partnership through the administration of the CTCleanEnergyOptionssm Program.

The Green Power Pilot Award was presented to SmartPower and the Connecticut Clean Energy Fund on the evening of Monday December 4, 2006 in conjunction with the 11th National Renewable Energy Conference. The conference runs from December 4 – 6, 2006.

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About the Connecticut Clean Energy Fund

The Connecticut Clean Energy Fund invests in renewable technologies in order to strengthen Connecticut’s economy, protect community health, improve the environment, and promote a secure energy supply. The Fund is administered by Connecticut Innovations. For more information visit www.ctcleanenergy.com.

About SmartPower

SmartPower is a non-profit marketing campaign dedicated to promoting clean energy. SmartPower’s 20% by 2010 campaign encourages institutions, municipalities and individuals to make a commitment to obtain 20% of their electricity from clean sources by 2010. For more information please visit www.smartpower.org or www.gocleanenergy.com.

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