Dairyland Power Cooperative Buys 30% Stake in Weston 4 Power Plant from Wisconsin Public Service Corporation

Wisconsin Public Service Corporation, a subsidiary of WPS Resources Corporation (NYSE: WPS) and Dairyland Power Cooperative (Dairyland) closed a transaction, originally announced late in 2004, in which Dairyland acquired a 30 percent ownership share of the Weston 4 power plant currently under construction near Wausau, Wisconsin. The agreement gives Dairyland a 150-megawatt share of the $752 million 500-megawatt plant. Under terms of the agreement, Wisconsin Public Service Corporation received $95 million in cash from Dairyland for its share of the construction costs to date. Dairyland will also provide 30 percent of all remaining costs to complete the construction of the Weston 4 power plant, as well as its share of all operating costs when the plant is completed in 2008.

“We’re pleased to have Dairyland as a partner in the Weston 4 plant,” said Charlie Severance, Manager - Supply and Wholesale Services at Wisconsin Public Service. “The companies have worked together successfully in the past and this agreement will serve both our needs very well. Wisconsin Public Service has spread the financial and operational risks of owning a large facility, while Dairyland addresses the energy supply needs of its members.”

“The members of our cooperative system have shown a steadily increasing requirement for electric energy,” adds William Berg, Dairyland President and CEO. “While we will continue to expand our renewable energy portfolio, ownership in Weston 4 will help satisfy a significant portion of our members’ growing energy needs.

“We are pleased to move forward in this partnership with Wisconsin Public Service. Investing in our region’s energy infrastructure is essential to providing our members with reliable, competitively priced power in the future.”

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About Weston 4
Wisconsin Public Service obtained regulatory approval and began construction of the $752 million plant in October 2004. Construction of the 500-megawatt facility, sited at Wisconsin Public Service’s existing Weston Plant near Wausau, is on schedule to begin operations in 2008. The new plant will use state-of-the-art technology to maximize energy production from low-sulfur coal.

About Dairyland Power Cooperative
Headquartered in La Crosse, WI, Dairyland provides wholesale electricity or other services to 25 member distribution cooperatives and 20 municipal utilities in its service territory encompassing 62 counties in four states (Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa and Illinois). Dairyland has provided low-cost, reliable electrical energy and related services to its members for nearly 64 years.

About Wisconsin Public Service
Wisconsin Public Service Corporation, a wholly owned subsidiary of WPS Resources Corporation (NYSE: WPS), is an investor-owned electric and natural gas utility headquartered in Green Bay, WI. It serves approximately 420,000 electric customers and 305,000 retail natural gas customers in residential, agricultural, industrial, and commercial markets, as well as wholesale customers. The company’s service area includes northeastern and central Wisconsin, as well as an adjacent portion of Upper Michigan.

About WPS Resources Corporation
WPS Resources is a holding company based in Green Bay, WI. Its principal subsidiary is Wisconsin Public Service Corporation, a regulated electric and natural gas utility that generates and distributes energy in northeastern Wisconsin and an adjacent portion of Upper Michigan. Other major subsidiaries include Upper Peninsula Power Company, a regulated electric utility operating in the northern half of Michigan's Upper Peninsula, and two non-regulated subsidiaries, WPS Energy Services, Inc., and WPS Power Development, LLC. WPS Energy Services provides energy and related products and services in the non-regulated energy market in the northeast quadrant of the United States and adjacent portions of Canada. WPS Power Development owns and/or operates non-regulated electric generation facilities, a portion of a synthetic fuel processing facility, and steam production facilities in various locations in the United States.

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