

State Recognizes Eighteen "Summer Energy Savers" for Leadership and Commitment to Energy Conservation

On Thursday April 23, the Connecticut Summer Savers award ceremony was held at the State Capitol to honor eighteen entities, including municipalities, retailers, schools, commercial and restaurant enterprises, for their leadership and commitment to reducing energy consumption and air pollution during the critical summer months of 2008.

"Continued high demand for energy in New Haven and Fairfield counties has challenged us to try new, cost-effective ways to protect the reliability of our electricity delivery systems, particularly during the summer months," said Jack Betkoski, Vice-Chairman of the Connecticut Department of Public Utility Control. "Energy efficiency, conservation and demand response are gaining increased recognition as effective strategies to enhance electric system reliability by reducing demand."

"By taking simple steps to reduce electricity use, all of us can preserve available energy resources, which, in turn, will have a positive impact on our economy." Betkoski continued. "Through these awards we are recognizing Connecticut Energy Efficiency Fund program participants for their important contributions toward energy efficiency, enhancing system-wide electric reliability and improved air quality."

The combined efforts of these awardees resulted in energy savings of over a million kilowatt hours of electricity, lowering peak electricity demand by nearly 5,000 kilowatts and CO₂ emissions by 656 tons. To achieve their savings, the awardees utilized various incentives offered by the Connecticut Energy Efficiency Fund (CEEF) programs administered by The Connecticut Light & Power Company (CL&P) and The United Illuminating Company (UI).

In the Ceremony, State agency commissioners presented the following awards:

A Platinum Award - for the most outstanding achievement in the reduction of electricity use - achieving more than a 30% reduction - was presented to Barrett Outdoor Communications.

Peak Performer Awards - for the highest achievement during Summer 2008 in reducing electricity load as part of ISO-New England's Load Response program without the use of back-up diesel generation were presented to: Sims Metal Management, Connecticut and Suzio/York Hill Companies of Meriden for

reductions of over 3,000 kilowatts and 1,000 kilowatts, respectively.

Gold Awards - for a greater than 20% reduction in electricity consumption as well as demand were presented to: Boston Market of Greenwich, Centerville Lumber of Hamden, Norwalk Transit District, and Urstadt Biddle Properties of Greenwich.

Silver Awards - for a 10% to 20% reduction in electricity consumption as well as demand were presented to: Tile America of Stamford, McDonald's of Norwalk, the Town of East Haven - Recreation & Athletic Complex, Town of Stratford - Bunnell High School, The Rinks at Shelton, Keough's Paint & Hardware of Stamford.

Bronze Awards - for a 5% to 10% reduction in electricity consumption as well as demand were presented to: Notre Dame High School of Fairfield, Pitney Bowes of Stamford, R.D. Scinto of Fairfield, Summer Realty of Stamford, the Town of Redding, the Town of Stratford - Harry B. Flood Middle School and the Lordship and Nichols Elementary Schools.



The 2008 Connecticut Summer Savers Award recipients.

The Summer Energy Savers Awards program was instituted to encourage and reward Connecticut businesses and institutions who reduced their electricity consumption during the summer months between 5% and 20% over the previous two summers. Increased summer energy demand, driven almost exclusively by usage of air conditioners, plays a substantial role in increased consumer costs for electricity. The awards ceremony acknowledges the efforts of the awardees that reduced their consumption on peak energy days during the summer when it is critical to the state's energy infrastructure. Owners/operators of facilities that increase their energy efficiency or initiate conservation measures this summer are invited to apply for the 2009 Connecticut Summer Saver Awards. To obtain an application and to learn more about the program, please visit <http://www.summersaver.state.ct.us> or contact Ginger Teubner at the DPUC at (860) 827-2630.



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Energy and Enthusiasm Power the 61st Annual Connecticut Science Fair

Did you know that harvesting the power of vibration through piezoelectric floor tiles could generate significant amounts of electricity? In fact, if Grand Central Station were equipped with these tiles, the vibrations could produce enough energy to power 256 homes. This was the subject of Bridget Oei's Connecticut Science Fair entry in the *eesmarts*TM Sustainable Resources and Practices award category. The seventh grade home-schooled student from Hebron took first place in the annual event, winning \$500 and a travel-expense paid trip to I-SWEEP 2009, the International Sustainable World Project Olympiad held in Houston, TX in April 2009, where she went on to win the grand award in the junior energy category.

The Connecticut Science Fair is a yearly, statewide science and engineering fair open to all 7th through 12th grade students. Its mission is to interest young people in careers in science and engineering through recognition of their science achievements and by providing opportunities for them to interact with engineers and scientists. The CEEF and *eesmarts* sponsored a middle school award for projects identifying specific ways that individuals and communities can use behavior change, efficient technologies, and energy business/policies to maintain global sustainability. More than 400 middle and high school students designed and presented science projects during the weeklong event (March 10-14) held at Quinnipiac University in Hamden.

Finding a "greener" packing peanut was the challenge second place winner Marrium Qureshi set for her fair entry. The eighth grader from Windsor's Madina Academy was looking for an environmentally friendly alternative to foam packing peanuts. She experimented with several materials and concluded that potato peels, due to their starch content and other factors, could be made into a practical packing material.

The third place winner was Olivia Schultes, a seventh grade student at the E. C. Adams Middle School in Guilford. Her experiment focused on heat transfer which she illustrated by comparing the insulating effect of different thicknesses of glass and bubble wrap.

"The Connecticut Energy Efficiency Fund is proud to support Connecticut's youth in their development of sustainable design, practices and behaviors," said Jeff Gaudiosi, Energy Conservation Management Board Chairman (ECMB) and judge at the Fair. "The finalists showed ingenuity and strategic thinking

to find sustainable solutions to today's pressing energy and environmental issues."

More than 50 entries were judged in the *eesmarts* Sustainable Resources and Practices category by Jeff Gaudiosi, ECMB Chairperson, Richard Steeves, ECMB Vice-Chairperson and employees from CL&P and UI. In addition to the three winning students, seven honorable mention prizes were also presented at the March 13 awards ceremony. The entries covered a fascinating variety of topics including solar energy, solar cells, algae (an alternative to gasoline), and wind turbine blades.

eesmarts is an energy efficiency and clean energy learning initiative for Pre-K-8 Connecticut classrooms funded by the CEEF and administered by CL&P and UI. *eesmarts* Middle School curriculum is available to Connecticut school teachers



From left to right: ECMB Chairman Jeffrey Gaudiosi, Olivia Schultes, Bridget Oei and Marrium Qureshi.

at no cost and includes a series of 15 lessons (five at each grade level) that are hands-on, inquiry-based and teach the importance of efficiency, clean renewable energy and sustainability. For more information on this program and all of the valuable programs and services supported by the CEEF, visit www.CTEnergyInfo.com.

Seminars are intended for commercial and industrial customers, energy service companies and electrical service technicians who want energy-saving devices, technologies and CEEF programs.

For more information regarding these seminars, visit <http://www.cl-p.com> or <http://www.uinet.com>
Your Business > Energy Saving Tips & Tools > Seminars

May 20
Retro-Commissioning Seminar
(Scinto Building, Shelton)

For more information about Connecticut's Energy Efficiency Programs, please contact:
CL&P's Ron Araujo at (860) 832-4972 or www.ctenergyinfo.com
UI's Pat McDonnell at (203) 499-2923 www.cl-p.com
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