



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

South Texas Project Expansion Engineering, Procurement and Construction Agreement Negotiations Completed with Toshiba Additional partners sought for expansion

PRINCETON, NJ– February 12, 2009 – Nuclear Innovation North America LLC (NINA) has completed negotiations for the Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) agreement with Toshiba America Nuclear Energy, Inc. (TANE) to build the South Texas Project (STP) expansion. The EPC agreement is structured so as to assure that the new plant is constructed on time, on budget and to exacting standards. NINA is the Advanced Boiling Water Reactor (ABWR) nuclear development company jointly owned by NRG Energy, Inc. (NYSE:NRG) and Toshiba Corporation.

“This EPC agreement is written to bring certainty to the cost and schedule for the STP 3&4 expansion and to set the standard for project development in the nuclear renaissance,” said David Crane, NRG President and CEO. “Our EPC partner helped develop the ABWR technology, has been prime contractor for two ABWR units that were brought in on time and on budget, and has the confidence in the strength of the STP expansion to become an equity investor in the project.”

In accordance with the EPC agreement, TANE will provide engineering and development services prior to Full Notice to Proceed (FNTF) on a time and materials basis. Upon the Nuclear Regulatory Commission’s (NRC) approval of the STP 3&4 combined license and the owners decision to issue the FNTF, the EPC converts to a lump-sum turnkey contract with customary warranties, performance and schedule guarantees, and liquidated damage provisions. TANE’s obligations are backed by a guaranty from its ultimate parent, the Toshiba Corporation.

Concurrent with the execution of the EPC agreement, NINA will enter into a \$500 million credit facility with Toshiba to finance the cost of material and equipment commitments prior to FNTF for STP 3&4.

Under the terms of the multi-unit agreement with Toshiba announced on March 25, 2008, NINA has the right to develop two more two-unit ABWR plants with the same EPC terms as the STP 3&4 EPC agreement.

NINA Initiate Sell Down Process

In light of the progress made by the project in terms of regulatory schedule, the Department of Energy loan guarantee process and the conclusion of the EPC agreement, NINA has initiated a partial sell down process in the STP expansion.

“Bringing in additional equity investors will enhance the project’s capabilities and advance NINA’s strategic goal of developing and promoting ABWR facilities in North America,” said Steve Winn, NINA President and CEO. “This equity sell down diversifies ownership and provides potential investors strategic benefits such as partnerships on new ABWR development projects as well as other financial arrangements that enhance the project’s execution capabilities and adds value for all participants.”

Currently NINA and CPS Energy each own 50% of the 2,700 megawatt planned expansion of the South Texas Project nuclear facility. After the sell down, it is expected that each would own 40% and a new owner(s) would have a 20% equity interest although other ownership outcomes may arise. The ownership interests of STP 1&2, (NRG 44%, CPS Energy 40% and Austin Energy 16%) are not affected by this proposed sale.

Loan Guarantees

The STP Expansion received a very favorable preliminary ranking in the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Loan Guarantee program and NINA submitted its part II application in mid-October, well ahead of the scheduled deadline of December 19, 2008. While very comfortable with our position in the DOE loan guarantee system, NINA is also actively pursuing additional loan guarantee options through the Japanese government. Due diligence by Japanese financing agencies is in progress and represents an important step in Japanese loan support.

ABWR Recertification

NINA has informed the NRC that it intends to submit an application for renewal of the ABWR Design Certification by mid 2010. The current ABWR design certification expires in 2012 and by renewing NINA will preserve the ability to submit applications after 2012 using the proven ABWR design. The design certification renewal application will include the updates and revisions used in the South Texas Project Units 3 & 4 Combined License Application and will be developed with the support of our team at Toshiba and the STP Nuclear Operating Company.

Workforce Development

STP Nuclear Operating Company's partnership with local academic institutions around the plant to develop the workforce necessary to maintain and operate STP 1&2 as well as commence operations of STP 3&4 following startup received a major boost when four local colleges received a \$1.9 million U.S. Department of Labor Grant aimed at funding programs that train future nuclear plant operators and technicians.

STP 3&4 License Review Schedule

The NRC issued the STP 3&4 combined license (COL) review schedule on Feb 11. Issuing the schedule marks the continuation of NRC's review based on a revision to the STP expansion application filed September 2008. The revision incorporated a limited number of changes to enhance safety and increase the ability to complete the units on time and on budget. NINA anticipates receiving the COL for the new units in 2012. With this permitting schedule established, we can now move to complete the detailed design and construction schedules from pouring first concrete to fuel load and startup.

PPAs

NINA has Memorandums of Understanding with a mix of investment grade rated load serving entities and industrial customers for all offtake from NINA's anticipated 40% ownership interest in STP 3&4's generation.

About NRG

NRG Energy, Inc., a Fortune 500 company, owns and operates one of the country's largest and most diverse power generation portfolios. NRG's 50 plants provide approximately 24,000 megawatts of generation capacity—enough to power nearly 20 million homes. In November 2007, NRG won two of the industry's highest honors—Platts Industry Leadership and Energy Company of the Year awards. Headquartered in Princeton, NJ, NRG is a member of the U.S. Climate Action Partnership (USCAP), a

group of business and environmental organizations calling for mandatory legislation to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. More information is available at www.nrgenergy.com.

About Nuclear Innovation North America

Nuclear Innovation North America (NINA) is a partnership between NRG (88%) and Toshiba (12%) focused on developing new nuclear expansion projects using Advanced Boiling Water Reactor (ABWR) technology—the only advanced nuclear technology certified by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission that has been built on time and on budget. NINA is currently developing the 2,700 megawatt South Texas Project expansion with San Antonio’s CPS Energy and the South Texas Project Nuclear Operating Company. NINA is also exploring other development opportunities to employ ABWR in additional projects across North America.

Safe Harbor Disclosure

This news release contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933 and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Such forward-looking statements are subject to certain risks, uncertainties and assumptions and include NRG’s expectations regarding the South Texas Project expansion and forward-looking statements typically can be identified by the use of words such as “will,” “expect,” “believe,” and similar terms. Although NRG believes that its expectations are reasonable, it can give no assurance that these expectations will prove to have been correct, and actual results may vary materially. Factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those contemplated above include, among others, general economic conditions, hazards customary in the power industry, weather conditions, competition in wholesale power markets, the volatility of energy and fuel prices, failure of customers to perform under contracts, changes in the wholesale power markets, changes in government regulation of markets and of environmental emissions, unanticipated outages at our generation facilities, the inability to implement value enhancing improvements to plant operations and companywide processes, and our ability to achieve the expected benefits and timing of our *Repowering* NRG projects. NRG undertakes no obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise. The foregoing review of factors that could cause NRG’s actual results to differ materially from those contemplated in the forward-looking statements included in this news release should be considered in connection with information regarding risks and uncertainties that may affect NRG’s future results included in NRG’s filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission at www.sec.gov.

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