



News Release

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Columbia Gas of Kentucky now accepting grant applications for the NiSource Environmental Challenge Fund

LEXINGTON, Ky. – January 24, 2008 – Community and environmental organizations located in areas served by Columbia Gas of Kentucky are encouraged to apply for grants of between \$500 and \$5,000 (with special grants occasionally awarded up to \$10,000) from the NiSource Environmental Challenge Fund (ECF).

“The Environmental Challenge Fund is one way that both NiSource and Columbia Gas of Kentucky support projects that can, and do, have a positive environmental impact,” said Herbert A. Miller, Jr., president of Columbia Gas of Kentucky. “These investments to our natural environment help to improve the quality of life for the communities we serve and where our employees live.”

Grant guidelines and applications are available on the NiSource web site at www.nisource.com. Applications will be accepted until February 28, 2008.

NiSource Inc., the parent company of Columbia Gas of Kentucky, established the ECF in 1995 as a not-for-profit corporation to support local natural resource and wildlife improvement projects and related educational and recreation efforts.

Since that time, the Environmental Challenge Fund has awarded over \$1,000,000 to many worthwhile environmental initiatives throughout its market area. Kentucky recipients have included the Clark County/Winchester Heritage Commission, the UK/LFUCG Arboretum, Georgetown College, McConnell Springs, and Midway Renaissance, Inc.

About NiSource

NiSource Inc. (NYSE:NI), based in Merrillville, Ind., is a Fortune 500 company engaged in natural gas transmission, storage and distribution, as well as electric generation, transmission and distribution. NiSource operating companies deliver energy to 3.8 million customers located within the high-demand energy corridor stretching from the Gulf Coast through the Midwest to New England. Information about NiSource and its subsidiaries is available via the Internet at www.nisource.com.

About Columbia Gas of Kentucky

Columbia Gas of Kentucky, headquartered in Lexington, is one of the 10 energy distribution companies of NiSource Inc. Columbia Gas of Kentucky serves approximately 140,000 customers in 31 Kentucky counties. More information about Columbia Gas of Kentucky is available at www.columbiagasky.com.

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