

For Immediate Release

November 25, 2008

NATIONAL RENEWABLES CO-OP MAKES KEY DECISIONS AT FIRST ANNUAL MEETING ACES Power Marketing Chosen to Manage NRCO through Competitive Solicitation Process

Carmel, Indiana

The National Renewables Cooperative Organization (NRCO) – a new organization formed by power supply cooperatives located across the U.S. – has signed a service agreement to establish ACES Power Marketing, a nationally-recognized energy risk management and transaction execution services firm, as the NRCO's Energy Management Company (EMC).

Other actions taken by the NRCO's directors November 14 at its annual meeting include unveiling a web site at www.renewable.coop; selecting a Chief Executive Officer for the NRCO; formally establishing the governance structure; and re-electing officers.

Under the EMC service agreement, the NRCO board selected Amadou Fall, currently APM's Vice President of Transmission, as its Chief Executive Officer. Mr. Fall has nearly two decades of experience in the energy business and holds degrees in Electric Engineering and Engineering Management from New York Institute of Technology and Drexel University, respectively.

“Because of the possibility of a national renewables portfolio standard or carbon tax, and because of the interest of cooperative members in renewable energy, there is no question that power supply cooperatives around the country will continue to expand the amount of renewable energy in their portfolios,” said Ron Harper, CEO and General Manager of Basin Electric Power Cooperative and President of the NRCO Board of Directors. “This is why the member-owners of NRCO consider it such a crucial initiative and why we selected ACES Power Marketing and Amadou Fall to lead this effort.”

Officers elected for the NRCO board of directors include:

- Ronald R. Harper, CEO and general manager of Basin Electric, North Dakota, President;
- Bill Berg, CEO of Dairyland Power Cooperative, Wisconsin, Vice President;
- Joe Slater, CEO of Southern Maryland Electric Cooperative, Maryland, Secretary; and
- Jim Compton, CEO of South Mississippi Electric Power Association, Mississippi, Treasurer.

“I consider it a privilege that I was chosen to lead the NRCO, because I know the NRCO board looked at several highly-qualified candidates,” said Fall. “I think that the NRCO can provide a number of benefits to its cooperative owners, most importantly allowing them to incorporate cost-effective and economically viable renewable resources into their power

supply mix. Also, because renewable resources are a home-grown commodity, I see the NRCO as contributing to this country's goal of energy security and energy independence." Harper said the NRCO will help its electric co-op members participate nationally in diversified alternative energy projects. He said the "tried-and-true" co-op tradition of banding together to achieve a common goal benefiting all members is the basis of the NRCO's approach.

The NRCO has three main purposes: 1) to facilitate the cost-effective, joint development of renewable resources nationwide for its cooperative owners; 2) to help its owners meet the requirements of Renewable Portfolio Standards (RPS) and Renewable Energy Standards (RES), both mandatory and voluntary; and 3) to assist the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) with their legislative and regulatory renewable initiatives.

"APM is honored to have been selected by the NRCO Board because we understand the importance of the NRCO to its owners and to the entire cooperative program," said David J. Tudor, APM President and CEO. "We realize that we have a lot of hard work ahead of us, and we are eager to roll up our sleeves to get the NRCO established as a national renewables developer."

With the selection of APM and Fall, the NRCO will now be headquartered in Carmel, Indiana.

To qualify for NRCO membership, entities must be generation and transmission cooperatives, unaffiliated distribution cooperatives, partial requirements cooperatives, or a load serving entity that is an NRECA member with the legal right to participate in wholesale electric markets. Members located in areas that may not have renewable resources can acquire renewable energy and credits through renewable projects developed by the NRCO. For example, Harper said third-party vendors can come to the NRCO with alternative energy projects. The NRCO will review the projects and, if they are viable, open them up to participation via a subscription process with NRCO members. "It's also a great way to extend co-op participation into new alternative energy markets," he said.

ACES Power Marketing, headquartered in Carmel, Indiana, began its operations in February of 1999 and is owned by sixteen (16) power supply cooperatives. It also provides services to dozens of customers including cooperatives, municipalities, irrigation and public water agencies, financial institutions and independent power producers.

APM's business strategy is unique in the energy marketing and trading industry. It operates as an energy risk management and hedge manager, developing strategies, implementing trading controls, and managing transaction execution for multiple entities as their legal agent. APM's business process allows its customers to actively participate in the hedging strategy by collectively utilizing APM's infrastructure and resources to assess risks and execute specific, customized portfolio strategies. APM does not transact for its own account, nor does it speculate in the market for its owners or customers.

Questions for ACES Power Marketing can be directed to John Sturm, Vice President of Corporate Development, at 317-344-7034 or johnst@acespower.com.

NRCO Members:

Adams Columbia Electric Cooperative
(Wisconsin)

Arkansas Electric Power Cooperative
(Arkansas)

Associated Electric Cooperative
(Missouri)

Basin Electric Power Cooperative
(North Dakota)

Big Rivers Electric Corporation
(Kentucky)

Brazos Electric Power Cooperative
(Texas)

Buckeye Power, Inc.
(Ohio)

Dairyland Power Cooperative
(Wisconsin)

East Kentucky Power Cooperative
(Kentucky)

Hoosier Energy Rural Electric Cooperative
(Indiana)

Jo-Carroll Energy
(Illinois)

North Carolina Electric Membership
Corporation
(North Carolina)

New Hampshire Electric Cooperative
(New Hampshire)

Oglethorpe Power Corporation
(Georgia)

Old Dominion Electric Cooperative
(Virginia)

PowerSouth Energy Cooperative, formerly
Alabama Electric Cooperative
(Alabama)

Rayburn Country Electric Cooperative, Inc.
(Texas)

Seminole Electric Cooperative
(Florida)

South Mississippi Electric Power Association
(Mississippi)

Southern Illinois Power Cooperative
(Illinois)

Southern Maryland Electric Cooperative
(Maryland)

Sunflower Electric Power Corporation
(Kansas)

Tri-State G & T
(Colorado)

Wabash Valley Power Association
(Indiana)

###