



Press Release

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Berkshire Gas joins EPA STAR program

Pittsfield, MA – Berkshire Gas, a subsidiary of Energy East Corporation (NYSE: EAS), has joined the Environmental Protection Agency’s Natural Gas STAR Program. The program is a partnership between EPA and the natural gas and oil industry that encourages the voluntary implementation of cost-effective technologies and practices designed to improve operational efficiencies and reduce methane emissions. Methane is a primary component of natural gas and is also a greenhouse gas.

“The STAR program provides us with the opportunity to work with EPA and with peer companies to find and share solutions to environmental issues such as global warming,” said Karen Zink, President and Chief Operating Officer for Berkshire Gas. “Our association with the STAR program will allow us to identify the best technologies and practices that can further reduce methane emissions and help us continue to analyze and develop low-carbon energy solutions.”

Initiatives undertaken by EPA STAR program partners collectively reduced methane emissions by an estimated 74.6 billion cubic feet during calendar year 2005. Those emissions reductions were the equivalent of removing approximately 5.5 million cars from the road or planting 8.2 million acres of forest. Today, the U.S. natural gas and oil industry emits approximately six percent less methane than it did in 1990, largely because of partner-company proactive methane emission reductions in collaboration with the Natural Gas STAR program.

Berkshire Gas Joins.....

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“The STAR program also provides an opportunity for Berkshire Gas to further contribute to Energy East’s commitment to building a framework for protecting the environment while creating the sustainable energy systems necessary for achieving economic growth,” Zink added.

Energy East is one of a group of more than 85 companies and organizations from around the world who have endorsed The Path to Climate Sustainability: A Joint Statement by the Global Roundtable on Climate Change.

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Berkshire Gas is a subsidiary of Energy East Corporation [NYSE:EAS], a respected super-regional energy services and delivery company serving about 3 million customers throughout upstate New York and New England. By providing outstanding customer service and meeting customers’ energy requirements in an environmentally responsible manner, Energy East will continue to be a valuable asset to the communities we serve.