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\$14.9mil Slated for Alternative Fuel Vehicles and Fueling Infrastructure

Kansas City Regional Clean Cities Coalition furthers its Mission to Deploy Alternative Fuel Vehicles and Create Clean Fuels Partnerships in the Kansas City Metro Area

Kansas City, Mo. – September 17, 2009 – Metropolitan Energy Center’s (MEC) *Midwest Region Alternative Fuels Project* was selected to receive \$14.9 mil through the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act, Energy Secretary Steven Chu and Vice President Joe Biden announced recently. The project, which is administered by MEC’s Kansas City Regional Clean Cities Coalition, will include 27 alternative fuel stations and deploy 373 alternative fuel and advance technology vehicles. The stations will provide additional compressed natural gas and biofuels access in cities and along the interstate corridors that pass through Kansas City: East to West on I-70 and North to South on Interstates 29 and 35. An extensive public awareness program will expand the interest and adoption of alternative fuels and advanced vehicle technology in the Midwest region.

In addition to establishing a solid base of alternative fuel vehicles and infrastructure throughout the Midwest, MEC estimates the project will displace nearly 1 million gallons of petroleum per year and create or retain hundreds of US manufacturing and service jobs.

“I’m delighted about our project’s selection and feel privileged to contribute to the alternative fuels movement in this time of change,” says Kelly Gilbert, coordinator of Kansas City Regional Clean Cities Coalition. “Now is the time to make ‘alternative’ fuels ordinary and everyday; as a country we can’t afford to wait any longer.”

The project is one of 25 to be funded by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Clean Cities Program, which will award nearly \$300 million to support clean vehicles, fuels, and infrastructure development. The final details and funding level for *Midwest Region Alternative Fuels Project* are subject to modification during contract negotiations between MEC and DOE.

Major participants include the cities of Kansas City and Cape Girardeau in Missouri and Wichita in Kansas; school districts in Kansas City, Kansas, and Lee’s Summit, Missouri. Private companies include Zarco 66 in Kansas, Kansas City Power & Light in Missouri and Metropolitan Utilities District and Lincoln Airport in Nebraska. Altogether, 17 public and private organizations will implement this project throughout the Midwest.

About Kansas City Regional Clean Cities Coalition

A program of Metropolitan Energy Center, Kansas City Regional Clean Cities Coalition (KCRCCC) is a public/private partnership among fleet managers and manufacturers, vendors, and service providers in the vehicle sector. Kansas City's coalition has been active since 1996 and was designated a partner with the U.S. Department of Energy's Clean Cities Program in 1998. Clean Cities' vision is energy independence and cleaner air through clean fuels and advanced vehicles adoption. KCRCCC's mission is to promote this vision in the greater Kansas City area.

About Metropolitan Energy Center

The Metropolitan Energy Center, MEC, is a Missouri not-for-profit organization. Founded in 1980, its mission is to help create resource efficiency, environmental health and economic vitality in the Kansas City Metro Area. The MEC is a catalyst for community partnerships focused on energy efficiency, environmental stewardship and economic improvement. Energy education and awareness are keystone services of the MEC. Every year the MEC provides dozens of home energy workshops to neighborhoods, service groups, churches and others throughout the area, and it generates public awareness about sustainability, energy efficiency and renewable energy through a variety of programs, including Kansas City Regional Clean Cities Coalition, Home Performance with Energy Star, Plug-In Hybrid Electric Vehicle Project, Project Living Proof and EnergyWorks. Every energy dollar conserved through the MEC's work remains available for investment in the local economy.

In 2009, MEC was awarded a \$14.9million grant through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. In 2008, it received \$1.4million in grants from the U.S. Department of Energy and the Electric Power Research Institute. In 2007, it received \$200,000 from the U.S. Department of Energy and various local and state institutions. MEC has been the recipient of many awards recognizing its contribution to energy conservation and was host of the national Affordable Comfort Conference in 2003 and 2009. For more information, please visit www.kcenergy.org.

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