



Press Release

May 3, 2004

Ryegate Associates Recognized For Outstanding Safety Record

Ryegate Power Station, a 20-megawatt wood-fired electricity generating plant owned and operated by Ryegate Associates and located in Ryegate, Vermont, has become the first business in the State of Vermont to be certified under the Safety and Health Achievement Recognition Program (SHARP) by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA).

The SHARP certification recognizes Ryegate's superlative safety record of 12 years of operation with only one lost-time accident and the power station's long-term commitment to safety. In March, Vermont Governor Jim Douglas attended a recognition dinner for the facility and told attendees that the plant's longtime safety record is "remarkable indeed, especially in a business that is considered a high-risk industry."

Ryegate Plant Manager Tom O'Reilly added, "This type of achievement does not happen without the total teamwork and total focus of everyone who has been a part of Ryegate the last 12 years. Obviously, we're very proud of our team and of this recognition."

Ryegate Power Station began generating electricity in November 1992, and has been purchasing and burning an average of 250,000 tons of wood fuel annually. Ryegate Power Station employs 21 people and generates enough power to supply approximately 15,000 households and businesses in the central Vermont area. The majority of the plant's wood fuel originates from forestry-based operations in Vermont and New Hampshire, enabling landowners to improve the quality of their woodlands by providing a market for locally produced low-grade wood.

Ryegate Associates is a partnership between a subsidiary of Tractebel Power, Inc. and Equinox Vermont Corporation. Tractebel Power is the majority owner and a wholly owned subsidiary of Tractebel North America, Inc.

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The logo for Suez, featuring the word "SUEZ" in a stylized, lowercase, sans-serif font. The letters are bold and have a slight shadow effect.

About Tractebel North America, Inc.

Based in Houston, TNA is a business unit of Tractebel Electricity & Gas International (“Tractebel EGI”) and is responsible for managing EGI’s positions within the energy value chain in the US, Mexico, and Canada, including electricity generation and cogeneration, natural gas and LNG, asset-based trading and origination, and energy sales and related services.

TNA owns and/or operates a total of 59 power, cogeneration, steam, and chilled-water facilities, including those in construction or development, representing a capacity of more than 5,717 MW of electricity generation, 12 million pounds per hour of steam, and 147,000 tons per hour of chilled water.

TNA’s wholly owned subsidiary, Tractebel LNG North America LLC (“TLNGNA”), owns and operates a liquefied natural gas (“LNG”) receiving terminal in Everett, Massachusetts, which commenced operations in 1971 and currently serves most of the gas utilities in New England and key power producers, meeting approximately 20% of New England’s annual gas demand.

In Mexico, TNA affiliates operate three natural gas distribution companies, located in Guadalajara, Querétaro and Tampico, which serve more than 90,000 customers with clean and reliable energy. TNA affiliates also operate cogeneration plants in Tampico and Monterrey, which produce 280 MW of power. TNA and its affiliates are the only companies in Mexico with the capacity to offer integrated solutions regarding natural gas, electricity and energy-related services.

About Tractebel Electricity & Gas International

Tractebel Electricity & Gas International (“Tractebel EGI”)* is one of the business divisions of SUEZ (NYSE:SZE), an international industrial and services Group that provides businesses, public authorities and individuals with innovative solutions in Energy and the Environment.

Tractebel EGI, with headquarters in Brussels, offers global solutions in energy and services to customers in North America, the southern cone of Latin America, Asia and the Middle East. It develops, builds and operates energy facilities both in electricity and gas, including LNG. It transports and distributes natural gas and LNG in several countries outside Europe. Tractebel EGI is also active as a trader around its assets and as a marketer in electricity and gas, and offers energy related services to industrial and commercial customers.

Tractebel EGI has a strong presence in its markets with a total power capacity (in operation, under construction or under development) of nearly 26,000 MW. In the LNG business, Tractebel EGI has a vaporization capacity of 27.8 million m³ of natural gas per day and owns or has secured long-term shipping capacity of 766,100 m³ of LNG.



In 2003, Tractebel EGI sold nearly 81.4 million MWh of power, 16.594 billion m³ of gas, and more than 29 million tons of steam to industrial and residential customers worldwide.

In 2003, Tractebel EGI booked a turnover of 4,491 million euros.

** Tractebel EGI operates under the global brand name Tractebel Electricity & Gas International (or Tractebel EGI) and under local brand names such as Tractebel Energia, Tractebel Energy Services, Inc., Glow, Litoral Gas, etc. Tractebel Electricity & Gas International (Tractebel EGI) is not a legal entity. It is a division of SUEZ-TRACTEBEL S.A., which is the official name of the legal entity created on October 31, 2003 as a result of the merger of Tractebel S.A. and Société Générale de Belgique S.A. Therefore, as a legal matter, Tractebel EGI is represented and acts through SUEZ-TRACTEBEL S.A. and/or certain affiliates thereof.*

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