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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **City of Hamilton Named 2013 Green Business Awards Finalist**

**Hamilton, Ohio** – On Thursday, January 17, 2013, the City of Hamilton was informed that the City has been selected as one of the Finalists for the Cincinnati Business Courier's **2013 Green Business Awards**. Finalists will be honored at an awards reception on Thursday, March 7, 2013 at the Cintas Center, on the campus of Xavier University, Cincinnati, Ohio. At the reception, Finalists will receive on-stage recognition and a Finalist Award. Additionally, one winner will be announced from the Finalists in each of four categories – advocacy, building, practice and product/service.

Begun in 2010, the Business Courier, in partnership with the U.S. Green Building Council, Cincinnati Regional Chapter, created the Green Business Awards, to honor and recognize people, companies and organizations that are demonstrating leadership in sustainable practices in a variety of facilities and projects.

Tim Werdmann, Deputy City Manager/Operations, stated "This is exciting news for the City as a whole and our utility operations in particular. The City is proud of its long-standing record of being excellent stewards of the environment, and we are honored to be recognized as a Finalist for the 2013 Green Business Awards by the Cincinnati Business Courier and the Cincinnati Regional Chapter of the U.S. Green Building Council."

The City's nomination focused on two primary areas: the City's hydroelectric power portfolio and investments and the City's investment in a Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) fueling station, adjacent to the municipal garage.

1. The City has owned and operated the Greenup Hydroelectric Plant, on the Ohio River, since the late 1980's. Due to this hydroelectric investment, the City currently generates approximately 45% of its electric energy needs through green, zero pollution hydropower. In 2014, once the City's second hydroelectric plant on the Ohio River (Meldahl Hydroelectric Plant) is completed and on-line, approximately 70% of the City's electric energy needs will be served by green hydropower.
2. As a fuel for motor vehicles, CNG is a cleaner, more environmentally-friendly alternative to gasoline and diesel. The City is building the first CNG fueling station, which will be open to the public, in the City. The City has several vehicles that currently run on natural gas, and will be



converting or purchasing additional natural gas vehicles in the future. Additionally, the City is hopeful that other businesses, government units and individuals will take advantage of this cost-effective, green alternative to traditional fuels.

The City has received several awards in the past, due to its focus on the environment. For example, in October 2012, the City received the “Environmental Stewardship Award” at the American Municipal Power (AMP) 2012 Annual Conference. This Award was created to recognize utilities that have made significant efforts with environmental, conservation, renewable generation and/or recycling projects. The Hamilton Electric System was recognized for its positive impact on the environment, including the substantial benefit derived from the City’s acquisition of two plug-in “hybrid” bucket trucks. These trucks have lower fuel consumption, lower emissions, more power, and quieter operation, while requiring less maintenance than conventional bucket trucks.

The City of Hamilton owns and operates all four of the primary utilities in the City, including electric (generation, transmission and distribution), natural gas (distribution), water (treatment and distribution) and water reclamation (collection and treatment) systems. The City continues to be one of the lowest cost providers of all utility services in the Region and the State.

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**About Hamilton, Ohio.** *Located on the Great Miami River in the heart of the Cincinnati-Dayton metroplex, Hamilton is a historically-significant city with approximately 63,000 residents. Home to Miami University Hamilton and the County Seat of Butler County, Hamilton is the area center for government, finance and industry. Known for its unparalleled art, cultural & recreational activities, Hamilton is continually expanding its quality of life offerings. An award winning community, Hamilton was the recipient of the 2012 “Best of the Best” award, by the Ohio Section of the American Water Works Association, for the best tasting tap water in Ohio, the 2010 Berkeley Springs International Water Tasting “Best Water in the World” award, the prestigious 2010 Public Gas System Achievement Award, and four consecutive Reliable Public Power Provider (RP<sub>3</sub>) Platinum level awards. Additionally, the Hamilton City School District was named The National School District of Character for 2012. For more information, please visit [www.hamilton-city.org](http://www.hamilton-city.org).*