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Press Release

For Immediate Release

CITY OF HAMILTON GAS SYSTEM RECEIVES NATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD RECOGNITION FROM ITS PEERS

Hamilton, Ohio – August 10, 2010 - The City of Hamilton, Department of Gas & Water, announced that it has received the prestigious 2010 Public Gas System Achievement Award from the American Public Gas Association (APGA). This is one of the highest honors a public gas system can receive. Additionally, being selected for this Award from over 700 public gas systems nationally adds even greater significance to this achievement.

According to Bob Beauregard, Vice President of Marketing & Business Development for APGA, the major criteria for this Award is “outstanding achievement by an APGA public gas system member in consideration of the accomplishments of the entire utility and its contribution to the gas industry, other utilities and its community.” He further states, “It is important to APGA that its members set an example of excellence and innovation for others in the industry to emulate. Hamilton does that on a continuing basis.”

In order to meet and exceed the criteria for this year’s Public Gas System Achievement Award, APGA cited the following about the City of Hamilton Gas System:

- The City has diligently and methodically maintained and updated the gas distribution system throughout the city, to the point that today 87% of the mains in operation are plastic and less than 25 years old.
- The City is in the process of developing an operations center, which will utilize SCADA (Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition) to monitor the operations of the system.
- Hamilton offers the technology of a larger utility...while providing competitive rates along with the responsiveness and flexibility of a small utility.
- The City’s prime supply location...allows the City to consistently provide the lowest natural gas rates in Ohio and is currently more than 20% less than all of their neighboring utilities.

Previous recipients of this Award by the APGA, presented annually since 1991, include public utility systems such as Memphis (TN) Light, Gas & Water, City of Palo Alto (CA), Greenville (NC) Utilities, City of Mesa (AZ), Long Beach (CA) Gas & Oil and Oak Ridge (TN) Utility District.

Bert Kalisch, President & CEO of APGA, will officially present the Award to the City’s Gas & Water Administration and Hamilton City Council on September 8, 2010, at the regular meeting of Hamilton City Council.

This Award adds to an already stellar year for the City of Hamilton, Department of Gas & Water. In addition to this Award, in February of 2010, the City received an award as the “Best Tasting Municipal Water in the World” at the prestigious 2010 Berkeley Springs International Water Tasting Competition.

Since 1890, the City of Hamilton, Ohio has owned and operated its natural gas utility. The City is currently the largest municipal gas utility in Ohio and the 30th largest in the U.S., serving over 23,600 customers through approximately 275 miles of pipelines.

The City of Hamilton owns and operates all four of the primary utilities in the City. In addition to the gas utility, the City owns and operates the electric (generation and distribution), water (production and distribution) and wastewater (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.

For further information, contact Jim Collins, Director of Gas and Water, or Doug Childs, Manager of Energy Operations, at (513) 785-7200

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The City of Hamilton, founded in 1791, is the County Seat of Butler County, Ohio. The largest city in Butler County, with a population of approximately 61,000 people, Hamilton is the center for government, finance, and industry.