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EPA HONORS BAINBRIDGE ISLAND, WA COMMUNITY WITH AWARD FOR TOP GREEN POWER USE

BAINBRIDGE ISLAND, WA COMMUNITY RECEIVES EPA GREEN POWER COMMUNITY OF THE YEAR AWARD

Bainbridge Island, WA, (October, 2017) – The City of Bainbridge Island announced today that it has received the 2017 Green Power Community of the Year Award from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

The annual awards recognize America's leading green power users for their commitment and contribution to helping advance the development of the nation's voluntary green power market. EPA presented the Bainbridge Island Community with the award at an event held in conjunction with the 2017 Renewable Energy Markets Conference in New York, New York on October 23, 2017.

Bainbridge Island, WA was the only Green Power Community in the Partnership to receive a Leadership Award for using renewable energy in amounts that meet or exceed EPA requirements for residents' and businesses' collective green power use. Bainbridge Island is currently using more than 16 million kilowatt-hours (kWh) of green power annually, which is enough green power to meet 8 percent of the community's purchased electricity use. The City of Bainbridge Island purchases 100% of its electricity for its City facilities through the Puget Sound Energy Green Power program. Green Power Communities distinguish themselves through their green power use, leadership, citizen engagement, renewable energy strategy, and impact on the green power market.

"We are proud to receive this prestigious recognition from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency," said City Manager Doug Schulze. "Using green power helps our community become more sustainable, while also sending a message to others across the United States that supporting green power can help reduce air pollution and other emissions."

Green power is electricity that is generated from environmentally preferable renewable resources, such as wind, solar, geothermal, biogas, eligible biomass, and low-impact hydro. Using green power helps accelerate the development of those sources in the United States and advance the American green power market.

According to the EPA, Bainbridge Island's current green power use of more than 16 million kWh is equivalent to the electricity use of more than 1,600 average American homes annually.

A commitment to sustainability is thoroughly ingrained in the culture of the City of Bainbridge Island, from the City's Comprehensive Plan, to the recently formed Climate Change Action Committee, to a City Green Team that focuses on ways to reduce the impact that the internal functions of City staff have on the environment. The City is always looking for innovative ways to further this commitment, including currently considering how to support a biodigester on the island. The City of Bainbridge Island has been recognized for these efforts in the past including receiving the EPA Green Power Partner designation and the EPA Green Power Community designation, and being named the Green Power Challenge Winner/Solar.

About EPA's Green Power Partnership

The Green Power Partnership is a voluntary program that helps increase green power use among U.S. organizations to advance the American market for green power and development of those sources as a way to reduce air pollution and other environmental impacts associated with electricity use. The Partnership currently has more than 1,400 Partners voluntarily using more than 43 billion kilowatt-hours of green power annually. Partners include a wide variety of leading organizations such as Fortune 500® companies; small and medium sized businesses; local, state, and



federal governments; and colleges and universities. For additional information, please visit <http://www.epa.gov/greenpower>.

About the Green Power Leadership Awards

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) co-sponsors the annual Green Power Leadership Awards with the Center for Resource Solutions. EPA recognizes winners in the following awards categories: Green Power Partner of the Year; Sustained Excellence in Green Power; Direct Project Engagement; Excellence in Green Power Use; and Green Power Community of the Year. This program recognizes the exceptional achievement among EPA Green Power Partners who distinguish themselves through green power procurement, market leadership, overall green power strategy, and overall impact on the green power market. The ceremony takes place at the Renewable Energy Markets Conference. This year's 19 recipients are using more than 13.4 billion kWh of green power—enough to power more than 1.2 million average American homes for a year. For additional information please visit www.epa.gov/greenpower/green-power-leadership-awards.

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