



The Northeast Utilities System

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**YANKEE GAS AWARDS \$15,000 GRANT TO WATERBURY LITTER CONTROL & BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION**

*Funds to focus on reducing litter, blight in the community*

**BERLIN, Conn., January 27, 2005 (NYSE: NU)** – Yankee Gas Services Company announced the award of a three year, \$15,000 grant to Waterbury’s Litter Control and Beautification Commission today during groundbreaking ceremonies for a new liquefied natural gas (LNG) plant in the city’s south end. The funds will be used to support the Commission’s work to fight litter and blight, including Earth Day events.

“This grant award is a win-win for the community and the local environment. We are very pleased to support the ongoing work of this Commission to improve the quality of life for all who live and work in the city of Waterbury,” said Dennis E. Welch, president and chief operating officer of Yankee Gas.

“We are all stewards of the environment and as such we have a responsibility to do all we can to protect and preserve our natural resources for future generations. As a neighbor and a corporate citizen, we have a stake in what happens here. After all, this is our community, too, where more than 100 of our employees come to work each day to serve our customers,” he said.

“This generous donation will make it possible for us to better focus our efforts on two issues that Waterbury residents consistently rank as their top two concerns – litter and blight in our neighborhoods,” said Waterbury Mayor Michael Jarjura. “This is a good example of business partnering with the city to improve the quality of life for all who live and work here. Yankee Gas has demonstrated its leadership in this effort time and time again and we are deeply grateful.”

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Michael Ptak, chairman of the Litter Control & Beautification Commission, agrees. “Yankee’s support of the Commission, as well as funding for other initiatives to protect the environment and beautify our parks and neighborhoods, is making a difference in our community. This kind of support and partnership is so important to helping us achieve our goals to rid the city of litter and blight. We look forward to continuing to work with Yankee and hope this serves as the model for others from the business community to join us.”

The Waterbury Litter Control & Beautification Commission was formed to improve the quality of life in the city by reducing litter and blight through stricter enforcement and education.

*Yankee Gas Services Company (Yankee Gas) is Connecticut’s largest natural gas distribution company, delivering safe, reliable natural gas service to approximately 194,000 customers in 71 cities and towns. Yankee Gas is expanding Connecticut’s energy options and increasing customer choice by extending the availability of clean, efficient natural gas throughout the state. Yankee Gas is part of the Northeast Utilities System (NYSE: NU). For more information, please visit [www.yankeegas.com](http://www.yankeegas.com).*

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