Town of Munster generating electricity from local Centennial Park Landfill

Munster, Ind. (October 22, 2012) – Indiana Congressman Peter J. Visclosky joined Munster Town Council President David Nellans, Northern Indiana Public Service Company (NIPSCO) Public Affairs Manager Rick Calinski, and Energy Systems Group Vice President of New Market Development Lawrence Roth at a ribbon cutting ceremony today to commemorate the completion of the Town of Munster Indiana Centennial Park Landfill Gas to Energy Project.

Centennial Park is a closed landfill which has been transformed into a centerpiece for the Town’s recreational and community activities, and now includes a 9-hole golf course, water features, amphitheater, a restaurant and banquet facility, walking trails, and public art.

In partnership with Energy Systems Group (ESG) and through funding made available by the U.S. Department of Energy, the Munster Redevelopment Commission approved development of this $4.3 million beneficial-use electric generation project in 2011. The Town plans to sell the power it generates as a part of this project back to the Northern Indiana Public Service Company (NIPSCO) at their Renewable Feed-in Tariff rate for biomass projects.

This project includes a GE Jenbacher engine/generator which utilizes the landfill gas (LFG) from the municipally-owned Centennial Park Landfill site to produce approximately 1.1 MW of electricity. In addition to a new flare and blower, the project employs a heat conversion technology which will take excess heat off of a large generator at the site. This heat will then be transformed into additional electricity.

“As we worked to close the landfill to refuse, we recognized the resource that developed at the site in the form of methane gas,” said Nellans. “In fact, we captured the methane gas previously and used it to power our clubhouse and irrigation system. Utilizing this 50/50 Department of Energy grant allows us to broaden the scope of the project and increase the impact of a project that has already received LEED Silver distinction.”

By capturing these landfill gases, this sustainable project is helping provide environmental benefits equivalent to the removal of emissions from more than 1,100 cars per year or the planting of about 1,200 acres of forest annually.

“Successfully utilizing the Centennial Park Landfill’s methane as homegrown Indiana energy to power Hoosier homes and businesses is an innovative approach to energy sustainability – both from an economic and environmental perspective,” said Roth. “ESG is proud to be a part of the partnership that brought this to fruition.”

Energy Systems Group (ESG), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Vectren Corporation (NYSE:VVC), is a leading energy services provider that specializes in providing energy efficiency, sustainability, and infrastructure improvement solutions in the government, education, healthcare and commercial sectors. ESG also designs, builds and operates landfill gas processing facilities and cogeneration plants and offers a full range of waste-to-energy and renewable energy solutions. To learn more about ESG, visit www.energysystemsgroup.com. To learn more about the Town of Munster Centennial Park Landfill Gas to Energy Project, visit www.energysystemsgroup.com/munster.

###