

For Immediate Release

May 25, 2010

Contact: Jennifer Jones
Marketing Coordinator
jjones@starhop.com
(603) 271-7827 x110

National Grid Awards \$50,000 for Education Center at McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center

CONCORD, NH – Today, in a ribbon-cutting ceremony at the McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center in Concord, NH, Marcy L. Reed, National Grid's Senior Vice President of U.S. Corporate Affairs announced that National Grid has awarded \$50,000 to fund an Education Center filled with technology and resources on astronomy, Earth and space science, and aviation. In addition to Ms. Reed, other National Grid representatives on hand for today's ribbon cutting for the new National Grid Education Center were Loretta Smith, director of U.S. Corporate Citizenship; William Sherry, director of Employee Volunteering; and Debra Hale, director of New Hampshire Government Relations. Also participating in the event were NH State Representative William Remick; Discovery Center Commission Chair Paul Burkett, Esq.; Treasurer Bill Lambrukos; Executive Director Jeanne Gerulskis; Touch the Future President Daniel St. Hilaire, Esq.; and other state dignitaries.

With regards to this donation, NH Governor John H. Lynch said, "The Discovery Center is the premiere air and space museum in New England, giving New Hampshire children the opportunity to learn and dream about the stars and beyond. I want to thank National Grid for making this investment in the Discovery Center and in the education of our children."

Integral to the McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center's expansion, the National Grid Education Center has been designed to provide teachers and parents the resources they need to encourage and support their students' and children's educational efforts in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). In addition to funding technology that will allow Discovery Center educators to engage teachers and parents with exciting STEM content, National Grid is funding a series of programs to take place in the Education Center. These programs include ten monthly workshops on astronomy, Earth and space science and aviation; an in-depth Summer Solar Science Symposium; activity guides for key exhibits at the Discovery Center; and spectroscopy kits that will be used by teachers, parents and students alike in studying the nature of light and composition of stars.

"National Grid is extremely proud of its association with the McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center and supports its mission to educate the public in the sciences," said Ms. Reed. "The Discovery Center is a fine example of a partnership that covers the entire focus of our core citizenship program, which focuses on education, energy and the environment. We're also humbled to have our name associated with two of the great heroes of our country's space program."

"By reaching educators and parents," stated Executive Director Gerulskis, "National Grid and the Discovery Center can have a broad and lasting effect on the many thousands of students these adults will impact over a lifetime of teaching and child-rearing."

Touch the Future, Inc., is spearheading the Discovery Center's fundraising. "We are delighted," Touch the Future President Daniel St. Hilaire noted, "that National Grid shares with us a vision of inspiring young people to become our nation's future scientists and engineers, and understands how a strong partnership between teachers, parents and students can enhance student learning and achievement."



-more-

www.starhop.com 603.271.7827

National Grid is an international energy delivery company. In the U.S., National Grid delivers electricity to approximately 3.3 million customers in New Hampshire, Massachusetts, New York and Rhode Island and manages the electricity network on Long Island under an agreement with the Long Island Power Authority (LIPA). National Grid also owns over 4,000 megawatts of contracted electricity generation that provides power to over one million LIPA customers.

The McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center features 21st century interactive exhibits on astronomy, Earth and space sciences and aviation, a state-of-the-art planetarium and a variety of science, technology, engineering and math programs geared towards families, teens, seniors, students, community groups, and lifelong learners. For more information, visit www.starhop.com.

Touch the Future, Inc., is the philanthropic partner of the McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center. A not-for-profit organization with 501(c)(3) status, Touch the Future's sole purpose is to support programs and the expansion of the McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center. For more information, visit www.touchthefuturenh.org.

###