



GE Energy

4200 Wildwood Parkway  
Atlanta, GA, 30339

## News Release

### **GE ENERGY OPENS CUSTOMER SUPPORT CENTER IN SCHENECTADY, NEW YORK TO SUPPORT RAPID GROWTH OF ITS WIND BUSINESS**

#### *Expansion to Add 150 Professional Positions*

SCHENECTADY, NY – July 26, 2007 – Reflecting the extensive growth of its wind energy business, GE Energy is expanding its Renewables Global Headquarters in Schenectady, N.Y. with the opening of a new Wind Product Management and Customer Support Center that will result in the addition of approximately 150 professional jobs by the end of this year.

As the nation's leading producer of wind turbines, GE is expected to have over 10,000 of its 1.5-megawatt wind turbines operating globally by the end of 2008. Today, GE's 1.5-megawatt unit is one of the most widely used machines in the global wind power industry.

“We are seeing tremendous global demand for renewable energy options,” said Victor Abate, Vice President of Renewables, GE Energy. “This HQ expansion demonstrates our commitment to invest in wind technology and resources needed to meet the growing demand of this dynamic energy sector, which will continue to see double digit growth. We are adding over 150 new positions including senior leadership, product line leaders and product service engineers, which will help lead a global team of 2,000 employees.”

The U.S. Senate Finance Committee recently held hearings about the future of renewable energy in the country and heard industry representatives, including John Krenicki, President and CEO of GE Energy, calling for Congress to extend the existing tax credit for the production of electricity from wind energy, as well as tax credits for solar energy.

Senator Charles E. Schumer, D-N.Y., is a member of that committee. “This is a win-win for the Capital Region,” he said. “It will further the Capital Region's long history as a center for energy innovation, while at the same time holding the promise of

addressing our dependence on foreign oil. GE has stepped up its commitment to Schenectady and I look forward to working with them on future projects.”

“Today’s announcement by GE represents a tremendous step forward for both the state’s economic development efforts and its clean energy policy,” said New York Governor Eliot Spitzer. “It represents not just an important expression of confidence in the Upstate region, but also a further commitment toward establishing New York as a leader in the wind industry. General Electric continues to be an important partner in moving both of these agendas forward.”

“This is terrific news for Schenectady County,” said Susan E. Savage, Chair of the Schenectady County Legislature. “We are very proud of the fact that GE will base its Wind Energy business in our community.”

Schenectady Mayor Brian U. Stratton said, “We have worked closely with the county to establish a partnership that is working cooperatively with GE on many fronts including the construction of the new GE Theater in downtown Schenectady. The news that GE will add 150 jobs in Schenectady is fantastic. We join county officials and Senator Schumer in thanking GE for their decision to invest and create jobs in Schenectady.”

New York has adopted one of the nation’s most aggressive renewable portfolio standards, requiring that at least 25% of the electricity sold for consumers in the state be generated from renewable sources by 2013.

According to the American Wind Energy Association (AWEA), New York was among the top five states in new wind installations in 2006, with 185 megawatts of added capacity. GE Energy recently announced it will supply 300 wind turbines to Noble Environmental Power for 2007 and 2008 projects in upstate New York that will increase the state’s wind power capacity by 450 megawatts, enough electricity for over 150,000 homes.

The expansion will continue to be the focal point for the wind business’s strategic and product development as well as a key customer support center. The product development and management group, which gathers information on customer and market demands, integrates it into product offerings and develops business strategy, is expanding significantly with over 30 new leadership positions.

More than 50 new positions also have been added for a customer support operation, which will feature a remote diagnostic facility with the capability to monitor performance of wind turbines around the world.

GE will also begin to offer hands-on wind turbine training for employees and customers at its Learning Center in Niskayuna, New York and will partner with the Global Research Center – also in Niskayuna – to develop advanced renewable technologies. “By bringing product strategy, advanced technology, customer service, and training all together in one location, GE hopes to create a world-class renewable energy showcase that will further advance its leadership position in the industry,” said Abate.

AWEA recently reported that wind power generating capacity in the United States increased by 27% in 2006 and is expected to increase an additional 26% in 2007. New wind turbine installations for 2006 equaled 2,454 megawatts, contributing to a total installed base of 11,603 megawatts, or enough energy to serve 3.2 million U.S. homes.

“Although today’s wind technology supplies less than one percent of U.S. electricity generation, the total installed base has nearly doubled over the last three years, and new unit installations are up more than 45 times from a decade ago,” said Abate. “Wind energy currently is being used to generate power in 40 states and delivers significant economic and environmental benefits.”

The AWEA says that since 1980, the cost of wind-generated electricity has been reduced by 80%, largely as the result of technology advancements in availability, efficiency and output. “The focus of GE’s continuing work in these areas is to drive further performance improvements, making wind energy an even more reliable, efficient and cost-effective power generation option,” noted Abate.

GE’s wind turbine technology is a key component of ecomagination, the company’s corporate-wide initiative to address challenges such as the need for cleaner, more efficient sources of energy, reduced emissions and abundant sources of clean water.

### **About GE Energy**

GE Energy ([www.ge.com/energy](http://www.ge.com/energy)) is one of the world's leading suppliers of power generation and energy delivery technologies, with 2006 revenue of \$19 billion. Based in Atlanta, Georgia, GE Energy works in all areas of the energy industry including coal, oil, natural gas and nuclear energy; renewable resources such as water, wind, solar and

biogas; and other alternative fuels. Numerous GE Energy products are certified under ecomagination, GE's corporate-wide initiative to aggressively bring to market new technologies that will help customers meet pressing environmental challenges.

With wind turbine design, manufacturing and assembly facilities in Germany, Spain, China, Canada and the United States, GE Energy is among the leading providers of wind energy products and support services ranging from commercial wind turbines and grid integration products to project development assistance and operation and maintenance. The company's knowledge base includes the development and/or installation of more than 7,500 wind turbines with a total rated output of more than 9,800 megawatts.

###

For more information, contact:

Kristin Schwarz  
GE Energy  
+1 518 385 7343  
[Kristin.schwarz@ge.com](mailto:Kristin.schwarz@ge.com)

Ken Darling or Howard Masto  
Masto Public Relations  
+1 518 786 6488  
[kenneth.darling@ge.com](mailto:kenneth.darling@ge.com)  
[howard.masto@ge.com](mailto:howard.masto@ge.com)