



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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**NIPSCO PREPARED TO MEET CUSTOMER DEMAND DURING
UPCOMING HEAT WAVE**

Encourages Customers to Use Energy Wisely

MERRILLVILLE, Ind. – Northern Indiana Public Service Company (NIPSCO) today announced it is prepared to meet customer demand for electricity during an upcoming heat wave and encourages customers to stay safe and use energy wisely.

The National Weather Service has issued an excessive heat watch for Northwest Indiana, which means a prolonged period of hot temperatures and high levels of humidity is forecast beginning Sat., July 15, through Tue., July 18, 2006. According to the National Weather Service, high temperatures will push the heat index into the range of 100 to 105 degrees each day.

NIPSCO offers the following tips for staying safe and cool:

- **Watch for the elderly.** Check on elderly or ill neighbors, who live alone, to make sure they're safe and hydrated.
- **Lower the shades.** Keep your shades pulled to block out the sunshine.
- **Supplement air conditioner use.** Supplement air conditioner use with ceiling and floor fans, which creates a wind-chill effect that increases air conditioning and cooling efficiency.
- **Stay safe and hydrated.** Limit outdoor activities to the early morning or late evening. If you must be outdoors, stay hydrated by drinking plenty of fluids such as water. Bring pets indoors.
- **Monitor the weather.** Know what weather is forecast for your area. High temperatures and humidity levels often produce sudden and dangerous storms during the evening hours.

About NIPSCO

NIPSCO, with headquarters in Merrillville, Ind., is one of the 10 energy distribution companies of NiSource Inc. (NYSE: NI). With nearly 712,000 natural gas customers and 445,000 electric customers across the northern third of Indiana, NIPSCO is the largest natural gas distribution company, and the second largest electric distribution company, in the state. NiSource distribution companies serve 3.7 million natural gas and electric customers primarily in nine states. More information about NIPSCO is available at www.nipSCO.nisource.com.