



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 20, 2008

## FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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## **NIPSCO PARTNERS WITH THE STATE OF INDIANA TO ATTRACT NEW BUSINESSES AND JOBS TO NORTHERN INDIANA *Indiana Commerce Secretary to be Featured at Midwest Conference***

**MERRILLVILLE, Ind.** – In an ongoing effort to attract new businesses and high-quality jobs to northern Indiana, Northern Indiana Public Service Company (NIPSCO) today announced a joint effort with Indiana Commerce Secretary, Nathan J. Feltman, and other economic development organizations across northern Indiana to take part in the 2008 Midwest Transportation & Logistics Conference taking place in Chicago, Ill.

The theme of the one-day event – produced by Chicago Industrial Properties® and Midwest Real Estate News® - is entitled *Fuel and Freight in 2008*. Over 600 developers, brokers, investors, planners and construction firms will focus on critical issues affecting transportation, logistics and real estate in the Midwest.

“This conference provides a great opportunity for us to showcase a number of Indiana’s competitive benefits and advantages that help draw quality jobs and businesses to our state,” said Don Babcock, director of economic development for NIPSCO. “NIPSCO’s partnership with the state has been a collaborative effort that has already produced positive results.”

Secretary Feltman will keynote the event and highlight how Indiana's nationally acclaimed improved business environment has allowed the state to score four years of record-breaking successes in attracting new job-creating investment.

"From Chief Executive Magazine to CNBC, publications and businesses around the globe consistently rate Indiana's business environment among the best in the nation," Feltman said. "With our low cost of doing business, a fully-funded 10-year road improvement and construction plan and a balanced state budget with a true surplus, Indiana is leading the nation in building the best possible environment to encourage business growth and attraction."

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Fuel and Freight in 2008 will take place from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. CST, on Wednesday, October 22, 2008, at the Donald E. Stephens Convention Center in Rosemont, Ill.

More information on the conference can be found at <http://conferences.recg.com>.

NIPSCO, with headquarters in Merrillville, Ind., is one of the 10 energy distribution companies of NiSource Inc. (NYSE: NI). With over 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 3.8 million natural gas and electric customers primarily in nine states. More information about NIPSCO is available at [www.nipsco.com](http://www.nipsco.com).

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