

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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Northern Indiana Public Service Company declares preferred dividends

MERRILLVILLE, Ind. – The directors of Northern Indiana Public Service Company (NIPSCO), a subsidiary of NiSource Inc. (NYSE: NI), have declared dividends on the following NIPSCO preferred stocks:

- \$1.0625 per share on 4-1/4 percent cumulative preferred stock;
- \$1.12 per share on 4-1/2 percent cumulative preferred stock;
- \$1.05 per share on 4.22 percent cumulative preferred stock;
- \$1.22 per share on 4.88 percent cumulative preferred stock;
- \$1.86 per share on 7.44 percent cumulative preferred stock;
- \$1.88 per share on 7.50 percent cumulative preferred stock; and
- 75 cents per share on the adjustable rate cumulative preferred stock, series A.

All of the above are payable on Jan. 13, 2006, to shareholders of record at the close of business on Dec. 16, 2005.

About NIPSCO

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 3.7 million natural gas and electric customers primarily in nine states. More information about NIPSCO is available at www.nipsco.com

About NiSource

NiSource Inc. (NYSE: NI), based in Merrillville, Ind., is a Fortune 500 holding company engaged in natural gas transmission, storage and distribution, as well as electric generation, transmission and distribution. NiSource operating companies deliver energy to 3.7 million customers located within the high-demand energy corridor stretching from the Gulf Coast through the Midwest to New England. Information about NiSource and its subsidiaries is available via the Internet at www.nisource.com