

# NEWS



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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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## NIPSCO announces new leadership appointments

*Guy H. Ausmus named senior vice president, Customer Engagement;  
Tricia K. Geno to become vice president, Communications*

**MERRILLVILLE, Ind. – Eileen O’Neill Odum**, Group CEO for Northern Indiana Public Service Co. (NIPSCO), Northern Indiana Fuel & Light (NIFL) and Kokomo Gas, today announced that **Guy H. Ausmus** will become senior vice president, Customer Engagement, and **Tricia K. Geno** will assume the new role of vice president, Communications, for the companies, effective Jan. 1, 2009.

As senior vice president, Customer Engagement, Ausmus will be responsible for a variety of functions that serve the companies’ residential, commercial and industrial customers, including the customer contact center, customer programs, major account sales, gas transportation customer operations, new business, and customer transactions departments.

In the new role of vice president, Communications, Geno will be responsible for all internal and external communications programs, including company branding, customer communications, advertising and employee communications. Her responsibilities also will include community relations, public affairs and charitable giving programs.

“I am very pleased to announce the addition of Guy and Tricia to our Indiana leadership team,” Odum said. “Their skills, background and commitment to building a strong, customer-focused company make them ideally suited to these roles. I look forward to working with them and our entire Indiana team as we provide safe and reliable service, enhanced convenience and continued energy value to our customers.”

Ausmus joins NIPSCO after working in a variety of energy-related positions in the petroleum and steel industries. After graduating from Montana State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering, he worked as a production engineer, operations manager and consulting petroleum engineer for several oil and gas production companies. He joined Inland Steel in 1989 as a project Engineer, Energy Management & Planning, progressing through a number of roles in the areas of Energy Supply, Purchasing, Project Management and Corporate Development. While at Inland Steel, Ausmus received a Master of Business Administration degree from the Kellogg School at Northwestern University. He also worked as vice president of U.S. Sales and Marketing for Metique, Inc. Ausmus joins NiSource after serving as manager, Energy & Base Metal Procurement, for ArcelorMittal USA.

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**Ausmus, Geno Join NIPSCO**  
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Geno's background includes experience in a variety of communications and general business fields. After graduating from the University of Southern Mississippi with a Bachelor's degree in English, she worked in senior editing roles with several New York publishing houses, including McGraw-Hill Book Co. She served as chief technical editor at Bell Aerospace Textron, before joining the utility industry in 1984 as Benefits Communications specialist for Entergy Corporation, an integrated energy company headquartered in New Orleans, La. At Entergy, she worked in a variety of business and communications related functions, including Risk Management, Human Resources, Administration and Corporate Communications. Prior to joining NiSource, she served as director of Employee Communications and Special Services for Entergy.

In conjunction with today's announcement, Odum noted that **Peter T. Disser**, who had been serving as interim senior vice president of Customer Engagement for NIPSCO, will be transitioning to a senior role within the NiSource finance organization in January 2009.

"Pete stepped in and helped us define this important new leadership role and shape our vision for enhancing customer engagement across our Indiana operations," Odum said. "I greatly appreciate his contributions, and look forward to continuing to work with him as a NiSource colleague."

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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