

# NEWS



A NiSource Company

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## FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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## NIPSCO ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR NISOURCE ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGE FUND

**MERRILLVILLE, Ind.** – Northern Indiana Public Service Company (NIPSCO) today announced that community and environmental organizations in its service area can apply for grants through the NiSource Environmental Challenge Fund.

“The Environmental Challenge Fund is one of many ways that both NiSource and NIPSCO support projects that can, and do, have a positive environmental impact,” said NIPSCO President, Mark Maassel. “These investments to our natural environment help to improve the quality of life for the communities we serve and where our employees live.”

Grants can range from \$500 to \$5,000, with some special projects occasionally awarded up to \$10,000. Grant guidelines and applications are available via the NiSource Web site at [www.nisource.com](http://www.nisource.com). Applications will be accepted up until February 28, 2008, and grant awards will be announced in conjunction with Earth Day – April 22, 2008.

NiSource, the parent company of NIPSCO established the Environmental Challenge Fund in 1995 as a not-for-profit corporation to support local natural resource and wildlife improvement projects, as well as related educational and recreation efforts.

Since that time, the ECF has contributed more than \$512,000 to environmental projects in Indiana and has awarded more than \$1 million to many worthwhile environmental initiatives throughout the NiSource market area.

### 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 3.8 million natural gas and electric customers primarily in nine states. More information about NIPSCO is available at [www.nipsco.com](http://www.nipsco.com).

### About NiSource

NiSource Inc. (NYSE: NI), based in Merrillville, Ind., is a Fortune 500 company engaged in natural gas transmission, storage and distribution, as well as electric generation, transmission and distribution. NiSource operating companies deliver energy to 3.8 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](http://www.nisource.com). NI-F

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