U.S. Department of Energy Issues Final Environmental Assessment Approval for OSGC Renewable Energy Facility

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(Oneida, WI) The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has issued a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for Oneida Seven Generation Corporation’s proposed waste to energy facility in Green Bay, WI. It is the last ruling needed to move forward with the plant. The DOE conducted an environmental assessment earlier this year, considered public input and, in August, issued a preliminary determination that the project will not cause significant adverse environmental effects. The final ruling (FONSI) was issued on Thursday, November 10, 2011.

In late September, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources issued final air and waste permits after determining the project will meet air and waste pollution control requirements and will not cause significant adverse environmental impacts. This followed a nine month application process, which included public meetings and comment periods.

“We are obviously very happy with the DOE and WDNR findings,” stated Seven Generation’s C.E.O. Kevin Cornelius. “We have said all along that this facility will be in compliance with all applicable state and federal regulations, or we would not build it. We take our commitment to the environment and future generations very seriously, so we are pleased the very agencies entrusted with protecting public health and safety have confirmed we are doing things the right way.”

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The waste to energy facility, to be located in an industrial area of Green Bay’s west side, will take municipal solid waste that would otherwise be placed into a landfill, sort it, and put non-hazardous, non-recyclable materials through a Pyrolysis / gasification process; generating five megawatts of power hourly, which will be sold to Wisconsin Public Service.

Site preparation work for the facility was completed in October under a WDNR early start permit. It is anticipated that full construction will begin in 30 to 60 days, with the plant operational by December 2012.

“We are excited about what this will do to help the environment as well as the community,” said Cornelius. “We’ll reduce the volume of garbage going into landfills, increase recycling, create jobs and provide electricity,” said Cornelius. “It really is a model for the future.”

“Seven Generations would like to thank the Oneida Nation, the City of Green Bay, their elected leaders and staff, and the Perkins Park Neighborhood Association, for their support and assistance during this process,” said Cornelius. “We value the positive working relationship with them and look forward to working with them in the future.”

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