



For Immediate Release

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**MARYLAND PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION (PSC) SUPPLIERS
MEET AND GREET HIGHLIGHTS THE GROWTH OF
MARYLAND'S COMPETITIVE ENERGY MARKET, NEW RULES
TO BE IMPLEMENTED IN 2010 AND CUSTOMER BENEFITS**

Harrisburg, PA (June 19, 2009) – The Retail Energy Supply Association (RESA), a leading trade association of retail energy suppliers committed to the advocacy of vibrant and sustainable competitive retail energy markets, was pleased to have several member companies participate in the first Maryland Public Service Commission sponsored Electric and Gas Supplier Meet and Greet Conference held since 2004.

More than 150 industry stakeholders gathered in Annapolis, Maryland on June 18th to discuss a collective desire to expand a sustainable competitive market in Maryland for all customer classes and to share pertinent regulatory and statutory updates that had taken place over the last five years since the last meet and greet. The overall tone of the meeting, which included retail suppliers, utility officials responsible for choice programs, and Public Service Commission Staff, was positive and many panelists noted that Maryland is moving in the right direction to create an even more vibrant competitive marketplace.

"This was a promising forum and informational exchange," says Jay Kooper, President of RESA. "While much progress has been made, more work lies ahead and we must collectively continue to push for rules and structures that build the most sustainable competitive marketplace for the long-term while providing the best possible service, supply and price to all Maryland customers. The more consumers -- all consumers -- understand their right to choose lower cost and green energy supply options and the benefits of doing so, the better the understanding of what the competitive energy market brings to all Maryland consumers."

During the briefing PSC officials noted that more than 14,000 residential customers have made an electric switch to or between electric suppliers during the months of April and May 2009, and they expect this trend to continue. They noted that the residential competitive natural gas market in Maryland outpaces the electric markets and that both

natural gas and electric markets serving commercial and industrial customers are robust and healthy and still full of additional opportunity.

Since 2004, members of the industry have worked with the PSC to push forward and finalize new consumer protection and purchase of receivable rulings. These rule-makings, once finalized and implemented as part of the PSC's Rulemaking 17 Docket, along with a more market-reflective SOS pricing structure (which is in place in the commercial and industrial markets but not currently in place for the Maryland residential market) will do much to bring more competition to the Maryland electric supply market. Full implementation of the Rulemaking 17 mechanisms, however, are not expected before the 2nd Quarter of 2010 and no timetable has been set for the implementation of more market reflective SOS pricing for residential and small commercial customers. RESA member companies participating in the panel discussions noted that the PSC would likely see the early results of these consumer protection and POR rules by the 3rd Quarter of 2010 if they are implemented as anticipated during the 2nd Quarter of 2010.

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About RESA

RESA's members include Commerce Energy, Consolidated Edison Solutions, Inc., Direct Energy Services, LLC, Exelon Energy, Gexa Energy, Green Mountain Energy Company, Hess Corporation, Integrys Energy Services, Inc., Just Energy, Liberty Power, RRI Energy, Sempra Energy Solutions LLC, and SUEZ Energy Resources NA, Inc. For more information, contact RESA Executive Director Tracy McCormick at (717) 566-5405 or go to www.RESAUSA.org.

