

24-Hour: 800.559.3853

Oct. 5, 2017

### **Duke Energy recognizes AREVA NP, Guidant Group and Locke-Lane Construction with 2017 Supplier Excellence Awards**

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – In 2016, Duke Energy procured over \$10 billion with more than 16,000 suppliers of goods and/or services while powering the lives of its customers and the vitality of its communities. For the second consecutive year, more than \$1 billion was spent with minority-, women-, veteran-, service-disabled veteran-owned and HUBZone businesses either directly or through subcontracting.

On Oct. 4, Duke Energy recognized three suppliers for contributions to its corporate responsibility sourcing strategy, which focuses on safe work practices, local economic impact, supplier diversity and environmental stewardship. Supplier excellence awards were presented for Corporate Responsibility, Supplier Diversity and Safety.

Recipients of Duke Energy's 2017 Supplier Excellence Awards included:

#### **2017 Supplier Excellence Award for Diverse Supplier of the Year – Locke-Lane Construction**

Locke-Lane Construction Inc., headquartered in Stony Point, N.C., serves as general contractor for projects ranging from site maintenance to full scale design/builds. Specific services include site grading, concrete forming and flatwork, and water, sewer and storm drainage improvements. Working predominantly in the Southeast, Locke-Lane is a certified service-disabled veteran-owned small business (SDVOSB).

Duke Energy has utilized Locke-Lane services on over 100 Duke Energy projects since 2008. Locke-Lane consistently excels in safety and creates positive local economic benefits while operating in a manner that protects the environment.

#### **2017 Corporate Responsibility Supplier of the Year – Guidant Group**

Duke Energy encourages our large prime suppliers to identify opportunities to subcontract to local and diverse subcontractors. Guidant Group has created a network of local suppliers that operate and employ workers within the Duke Energy service territory. Headquartered in Detroit, Mich., Guidant Group has significantly increased

investments with local suppliers, resulting in an impact exceeding \$120 million in local communities.

Guidant Group has successfully worked with Duke Energy to increase its investment in diverse businesses. Guidant Group has developed a program, Diversity Delivers, that serves to mentor strong diverse-owned staffing firms toward growth in the U.S. and abroad.

### **2017 Safety Supplier of the Year – AREVA NP**

Charlotte-based AREVA NP was recognized for achieving approximately 110,000 on-site work hours without a recordable or potential injury in 2016 while performing nuclear plant maintenance and services at Duke Energy. AREVA NP provides a wide variety of plant services and other work for Duke Energy's nuclear fleet.

This achievement demonstrates AREVA NP's safety culture and the accountability it holds its employees to for their personal safety as well as the safety of their co-workers and colleagues. AREVA NP's robust safety programs closely mirror Duke Energy's focus on prevention and personal accountability.

"Duke Energy's corporate responsibility strategy focuses on strengthening the vitality of our local communities, diversity and the environment where we live and work," said Swati Daji, Duke Energy's senior vice president and chief procurement officer. "We are pleased to congratulate and thank AREVA NP, Guidant Group and Locke-Lane Construction for their valuable contributions to Duke Energy."

### **About Duke Energy**

Headquartered in Charlotte, N.C., Duke Energy is one of the largest energy holding companies in the United States. Its Electric Utilities and Infrastructure business unit serves approximately 7.5 million customers located in six states in the Southeast and Midwest. The company's Gas Utilities and Infrastructure business unit distributes natural gas to approximately 1.6 million customers in the Carolinas, Ohio, Kentucky and Tennessee. Its Commercial Renewables business unit operates a growing renewable energy portfolio across the United States.

Duke Energy is a Fortune 125 company traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol DUK. More information about the company is available at [duke-energy.com](http://duke-energy.com).

The [Duke Energy News Center](#) serves as a multimedia resource for journalists and features news releases, helpful links, photos and videos. Hosted by Duke Energy,

[illumination](#) is an online destination for stories about people, innovations, and community and environmental topics. It also offers glimpses into the past and insights into the future of energy.

Follow Duke Energy on [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#), [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#).

###