



FOR RELEASE: December 5

**For more information contact:
Becky Gay at 269-3024**

Chena geothermal project wins national award

Chena Hot Springs Resort's innovative new geothermal unit has won another energy award, this time the "2006 On-Site Generation Award" annually bestowed by the U.S. Department of Energy and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The "Chena Chiller" is an alternative energy project in part funded by an Alaska Energy Authority (AEA) Power Project Fund loan, is located some 57 miles from Fairbanks and is not connected to the grid.

In recognition of Chena's being the first geothermal power plant in Alaska and its innovative use of low temperature geothermal power, AEA Program Manager Rebecca Garrett nominated the project this summer.

Chena and the other award winners were hosted at the 6th Annual Green Power Leadership Award ceremony in San Francisco on December 4, 2006. The awards ceremony was held in conjunction with the 11th National Renewable Energy Marketing Conference at the Renaissance Parc 55 Hotel.

In her application, Garret noted that "the objective is to install a 400kW Organic Rankine Cycle (ORC) geothermal power plant with technology specially developed for the project by United Technologies (UTC). This will be the first power plant operated off fluid from a geothermal resource in the State of Alaska and will serve as a demonstration of the technology in the state. Additionally, the power plant will replace a 200kW diesel genset, displacing over 97,500 gallons of diesel per year, with 100% of the resort's power eventually met with geothermal generation."

"It is the outstanding leadership of companies like Chena Hot Springs Resort that is significantly advancing the development of renewable electricity sources through green power markets," said Susan Carollo, Awards Coordinator for U.S. Department of Energy and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Program Manager Rebecca Garrett represented AEA at the ceremony with representatives from Chena Resort to be on hand to receive the award.

###