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ATCO NOISE MANAGEMENT AWARDED LARGEST CONTRACT IN COMPANY HISTORY Proprietary Technology to Create "Quiet Power Plant" in St. Paul

CALGARY, Alberta — ATCO Noise Management has been contracted by LG Constructors, a division of CH2M Hill, to use its proprietary technology to reduce noise at Xcel Energy's new, natural gas-fired High Bridge Combined Cycle Project in St. Paul, Minnesota.

The contract for the design, supply and installation of the acoustical treatment for the 280 MW High Bridge Combined Cycle Project located along the Mississippi River is the highest dollar value contract ever awarded to the company.

ATCO Noise Management, a world leader in the design of acoustical buildings and noise reduction products, has designed sound attenuation for the entire site to achieve 50 dBA at the nearby house 800 feet away. ATCO's acoustical design considered sound reflection from the Mississippi waters, the river valley's topography, and prevailing atmospheric conditions.

"We are proud to participate in this special project, and are especially pleased by LG Constructors' confidence in our engineering capability and project management skills," said Boris Rassin, President, ATCO Noise Management.

ATCO will use its proprietary acoustical wall systems to reduce noise from the core powerhouse and also provide the building's secondary structural steel, concrete masonry, brick facing, built-up roof, windows, exterior doors, and acoustical ventilation system. ATCO's work is to be 85% completed by the end of 2006.

"The High Bridge project showcases the full range of ATCO's extensive skills and proprietary technologies," said Rassin. "As the largest provider of turnkey noise solutions in North America, our ability to simultaneously undertake a number of large projects and manage multiple sub-trades enabled us to accommodate the tight project schedule. Our experience and guarantee to meet the stringent noise reduction requirement also was critical to the client."

The new High Bridge natural gas-fired combined-cycle power plant in downtown St. Paul replaces a nearby coal plant in operation since 1923. The new power building is aesthetically pleasing with well-defined architectural features and encloses two Mitsubishi 501 combustion turbines, a Mitsubishi TC2F steam turbine, and two Nooter Eriksen heat recovery steam generators (HRSGs).

ATCO Noise Management, part of the ATCO Group of Companies, has provided guaranteed noise reduction solutions since 1991, earning global recognition in industrial noise abatement. More information about ATCO Noise Management can be found at www.atconoise.com.

ATCO Group is an Alberta-based, worldwide organization of companies with more than 7,000 employees actively engaged in Power Generation, Utilities and Global Enterprises. More information about ATCO Ltd. can be found on its website, www.atco.com.

Headquartered in Denver, employee-owned CH2M HILL is a global firm providing engineering, construction, operations, and related technical services to public and private clients. With more than \$3.8 billion in revenue, CH2M HILL is an industry leading program management, construction management for fee, and design firm, as ranked by Engineering-News Record in 2005. The firm's work is concentrated in the areas of power, energy, transportation, water, environment, communications, pharmaceuticals & biotech, chemicals, manufacturing and electronics facilities. Recognized in 2006 as one of FORTUNE magazine's "100 Best Companies to Work For" and a "Most Admired Company," CH2M HILL has more than 18,000 employees in regional offices worldwide. More information is available at www.ch2m.com.

Xcel Energy (NYSE: XEL) is a major U.S. electricity and natural gas company with regulated operations in 10 Western and Midwestern states. Xcel Energy provides a comprehensive portfolio of energy-related products and services to 3.3 million electricity customers and 1.8 million natural gas customers through its regulated operating companies. Company headquarters are located in Minneapolis. More information is available at www.xcelenergy.com.

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