



WESTERN NEW YORK'S TOP "ENERGY DETECTIVES" ANNOUNCED

(June 4, 2010) Williamsville, N.Y.: National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation ("National Fuel"), the Buffalo Sabres ("Sabres") and the National Energy Education Development Project ("NEED") are pleased to name Cattaraugus-Little Valley Middle School the School of the Year in New York State for its winning project promoting energy efficiency in the Energy Detectives Classroom Contest, part of National Fuel's Energy Detectives Program.

National Fuel will celebrate the participating students, or Energy Detectives, at Cattaraugus-Little Valley with an in-school event on a date to be announced. In addition, National Fuel will sponsor 16 students to represent New York State at the NEED National Recognition Ceremonies in Washington, D.C., June 25 to June 28. Cattaraugus-Little Valley will be recognized for its first-place project and compete for national honors.

Tony Schabloski, an eighth grade science teacher at Cattaraugus-Little Valley, said, "I am proud of my students and the leadership they demonstrated in organizing their project and participating in the contest. I am all the more proud that the students took the lesson of the program to heart, sharing their project and what they learned with their sixth-grade peers and the community. I tell my students all the time that they can make a difference and even have fun while doing it. I'm ecstatic that they get to experience this first hand. My hopes are that they truly realize what is possible in the future, after reaching this many people, while in the eighth grade at a small rural school."

National Fuel will also honor a runner-up school for its participation in the contest by hosting an in-school recognition event for its Energy Detectives.

National Fuel's Energy Detectives Program, started in 2008, offers Western New York schools an education program for fifth through 12th grade teachers to help students become Energy Detectives by learning about energy efficiency, conservation and energy sources. The program includes hands-on classroom materials and take-home kits for participating students and their families. Materials include information on National Fuel's Conservation Incentive Program, brochures with energy savings tips, electric outlet and switch draft stoppers, window insulation kits, weather strip caulking cords, faucet aerators and water-saving showerheads. As part of the program, formal lesson plans integrate educational activities and community outreach projects.

Since inception, more than 19,000 Energy Detectives and 180 teachers have joined thousands of others to become members of the Sabres' Green Team. Introduced in 2007, the Green Team highlights the Sabres' dedication to the sustainability of the environment in Western New York through the Blue & Gold Make Green Initiative. The organization is committed to creating programming to help Sabres fans reduce their environmental footprints while educating them on conservation issues, providing them with conservation tips to promote cost-effective energy use and directing them to additional resources where they can learn more about the environment and energy-related issues and events in their communities.



About NEED: The mission of NEED is to promote an energy conscious and educated society by creating effective networks of students, educators, businesses, government and community leaders to design and deliver objective, multi-sided energy education programs. NEED works with energy companies, agencies and organizations to bring balanced energy programs to the nation's schools with a focus on strong teacher professional development, timely and balanced curriculum materials, signature program capabilities and turnkey program management. To learn more about NEED, visit need.org.

About the Conservation Incentive Program: National Fuel's Conservation Incentive Program was approved by the New York State Public Service Commission in September 2007 and, in addition to the Energy Detectives Program, includes rebates for residential and non-residential customers for purchasing high-efficiency natural gas equipment and free weatherization services for low-income customers. Since its inception, over \$8 million in rebates and weatherization services have been provided to more than 44,500 of National Fuel's customers in Western New York. For more information on the program, which is still offering rebates and weatherization services, visit www.NationalFuelForThought.com.

National Fuel is an integrated energy company with \$5.0 billion in assets comprised of the following four operating segments: Exploration and Production, Pipeline and Storage, Utility and Energy Marketing. Additional information about National Fuel is available on its website: <http://www.nationalfuelgas.com> or through its investor information service at 1-800-334-2188.