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Air District salutes Bay Area Green Power Leadership Award winners

SAN FRANCISCO - The Bay Area Air Quality Management District wants to congratulate seven Bay Area organizations selected for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Green Power Leadership Awards.

"The Bay Area has more Green Power Leadership Award winners than any other area in the nation," said Jack Broadbent, executive officer of the Air District. "We would like to show our support for these local agencies and businesses, whose dedication to green energy and climate protection helps to preserve air quality and safeguard public health in the region."

The U.S. EPA's 13th annual Green Power Leadership Awards went to 21 green-power using organizations and three suppliers for their renewable energy achievements. The winning organizations were recognized for increasing their green power purchases, installing large-scale solar panel arrays, and leading innovative renewable energy procurement efforts, among other actions.

The seven local award winners and their categories are as follows:

Sustained Excellence in Green Power - Intel Corporation (Santa Clara) Green Power Partners of the Year - Cisco Systems, Inc. (San Jose) Green Power Purchasing - The North Face (Alameda) On-site Generation - Apple Inc. (Cupertino); County of Santa Clara; Kaiser Permanente (Oakland) Green Power Suppliers of the Year - 3Degrees (San Francisco)

The 21 award-winning partners were chosen from more than 1,500 organizations across the nation—including Fortune 500 companies, small and medium sized businesses, local, state and federal governments, and colleges and universities. Those eligible for the Supplier of the Year Award included utilities, renewable energy project developers, and other green power suppliers.

Close to one-third of America's carbon pollution comes from power plants. By using renewable electricity sources, communities, businesses and organizations can dramatically reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve public health, and help grow the nation's green power industry.

More on the Green Power Leadership Awards: <u>www.epa.gov/greenpower/awards/winners.htm</u>

The Bay Area Air Quality Management District (<u>www.baaqmd.gov</u>) is the regional agency responsible for protecting air quality in the nine-county Bay Area.