



For Immediate Release

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NYSERDA High-Performance Residential Development Challenge Completes First Ultra-Energy Efficient Home in Rochester

Governor Paterson Declares June 17 “Advanced Building Energy Efficiency Day”

June 17, 2008—Schenectady-based Newport Ventures today announced the completion of the first demonstration home under New York’s High-Performance Residential Development Challenge, a statewide, ultra-energy efficiency program sponsored by the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA).

The *Build Green. Live Green.* home, built by Gerber Homes of Rochester is showcased in the Rochester Home Builders’ Association’s 2008 Homearama. The home combines multiple energy efficiency strategies resulting in a design expected to provide **60% whole house energy savings** from the same floor plan built to 2007 New York Energy Conservation Construction Code standards.

New York Governor David A. Paterson recognized the NYSERDA milestone in a proclamation which stated “...these private industry and government partnerships to develop Advanced Building techniques and plans to achieve highly energy efficient building envelopes, mechanical systems and continued monitoring and reporting on the success of these techniques are hereby recognized by proclaiming this day in New York State as Advanced Building Energy Efficiency Day.”

The home is the first completed of twenty that will be built throughout the state where selected builders are partnering with NYSERDA to provide ultra energy efficient homes. The energy performance of this first home demonstration in Rochester, and the others to follow, will be documented through both short term tests and analysis of energy bills during the home’s first year of occupancy. All the design, construction and performance data of the home will be made available to the building industry and home buyers. To track progress of the Gerber home, please visit www.newportventures.net

“Through NYSERDA’s residential energy challenge we will demonstrate the enormous savings that the high energy systems in the *Build Green. Live Green.* home will provide generations of future homeowners,” said Liza Bowles, Newport Ventures President.

Electric and gas utility bill savings are expected to average \$99 per month for the *Build Green. Live Green.* home and result in emissions savings equivalent to removing one car from the road for one year. But, this is just the tip of the iceberg of potential savings that could be experienced by home owners across New York. In fact, if 20 percent of new single family homes built in New York began implementing similar measures today, New Yorkers could expect total dollar savings of \$417 million off utility bills and total emissions savings equivalent to removing 380,000 passenger cars from the road by 2020.

Initial builders participating in the NYSERDA program include: Belmonte Homes – Clifton Park, Rosewood Homes – Latham, Colton Corporation – Watertown, Viola Homes – Rochester, Rob France Homes – Albany, and Marrano Homes – Buffalo.

About NYSERDA

The New York State Energy Research and Development Authority was established by 1975 law as a public benefit corporation. NYSERDA funds research into energy supply and efficiency, as well as energy-related environmental issues, important to the well-being of New Yorkers. NYSERDA has been cited by the U.S. Department of Energy as being among the best government research organizations in the North America, including others such as NASA. Visit www.GetEnergySmart.org or call 1-877-NY-SMART (1-877-697-6278) to learn more ways to save energy.

About Newport Ventures

Newport Ventures is a Schenectady-based research and consulting firm with expertise in the housing industry. Newport Ventures is working under a NYSERDA contract to demonstrate energy efficient homes through the High Performance Residential Development Challenge. For more information about Newport Ventures, please visit www.newportventures.net.

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