



NEWS RELEASE – October 18, 2017

Ontario's leading electric and gas utilities host successful Powering Up Durham – Save on Energy Symposium

Ajax, ON – More than 200 business owners and operators from across Durham Region gathered in Ajax yesterday for *Powering Up Durham – Save on Energy Symposium*. The one-day information and networking event, presented by some of Ontario's leading electric and gas utilities, connected participants with experienced professionals on the incentive programs and tools that businesses can implement to improve their energy-efficiency.

The event kicked-off with an awards ceremony, where local businesses were recognized for their energy conservation projects. Nominees were judged on a number of criteria, including technology type, percentage of overall savings, project uniqueness, impact, collaboration efforts, incentive value and sustainability. Recipients of a Powering Up Durham award were:

- **Procter & Gamble Inc.**, Lighting Category
- **Die-Max Tool and Die Limited**, Compressed Air Category
- **Municipality of Clarington**, Variable Frequency Drives and/or Motor Category
- **Midtown Centre**, Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning Category
- **Town of Whitby**, Large Municipal Energy Savings Category
- **Cameco Corporation, Port Hope Conversion Facility**, Innovation Category
- **Lakeridge Health**, Collaboration Category

A series of breakout sessions focused on topics such as lighting system upgrades, compressed air, energy management and gas incentives, and the future of HVAC. The event also included a trade show with 45 vendors, and participants had an opportunity to tour the Combined Heat and Power initiative at the University of Ontario Institute of Technology in Oshawa.

Powering Up Durham – Save on Energy Symposium was presented by Enbridge Gas, Hydro One, Oshawa PUC Networks Inc., Union Gas, Whitby Hydro Electric Corporation and Veridian Connections.

Veridian Connections, serving more than 121,000 residential and business customers, is the fifth largest municipally owned electric utility in Ontario. The City of Pickering, the Town of Ajax, the Municipality of Clarington and the City of Belleville jointly own Veridian Corporation, the parent company to Veridian Connections. The utility has a successful history of effective growth through two mergers and five acquisitions, and now serves nine communities east and north of Toronto more efficiently than any other large non-contiguous utility in Ontario. Veridian has a keen focus on reliability, customer communication and helping to lower customers' electricity bills through the delivery of innovative conservation programs and reasonable rates. Veridian not only contributes to local communities through industry leading financial returns, but also helps build stronger communities through the support of youth, health, education, the arts, the environment and many charitable organizations. Industry leading employee programs, public safety and a focus on employee engagement has created an environment that has earned eight consecutive Canada's Greenest Employer awards, one Top GTA Employer award and the Electricity Distributors Association's Performance Excellence award. Veridian has now diversified into renewable energy, and will be establishing other value added offerings for its customers.

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For more information, contact:

Chris Mace
Corporate Communications Representative
Veridian Connections Inc.
905-427-9870, extension 2218
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