



News Release

CONTACT: Al Lara, Northeast Utilities
(860) 728-4616

NU Foundation to sponsor *Graduate!CT* initiative

\$60,000 in funding to support educational mission

HARTFORD, Connecticut, May 14, 2010 – In recognition of its launch today, the Northeast Utilities Foundation is announcing a \$60,000 grant to sponsor **Graduate!CT** and its mission of improving regional economic competitiveness by helping adults to complete their college education.

Graduate!CT (www.graduategct.org) is a partnership of the Connecticut colleges, universities and allied agencies seeking to make it easier for busy adults to complete their college learning. In the Greater Hartford region, about 18 percent of those over age 25 have some college credit but have not earned a degree.

“We all know someone who had their dream of a college education interrupted by other obligations,” said Pat McCullough, president and executive director of the Northeast Utilities Foundation. “**Graduate!CT** will be a great way to get back on the education track. Developing the quality of the workforce will benefit our existing businesses while attracting new enterprises to our region.”

The program was developed by the MetroHartford Alliance in collaboration with the Hartford Consortium for Higher Education. It features 10 Connecticut universities and colleges that will offer counseling and guidance to adults who are considering returning to college.

The foundation’s grant will be used to develop the infrastructure of the program, including the web-based application that will make it possible to register prospective students and facilitate their communication with participating institutions.

The Northeast Utilities Foundation, established by NU in 1998 and supported by Northeast Utilities’ operating companies (Connecticut Light & Power Co., Yankee Gas Services Co., Western Massachusetts Electric Co. and Public Service of New Hampshire), has benefited charitable partners in Connecticut, Massachusetts and New Hampshire with total donations of more than \$12 million. The Foundation’s focus areas are education for workforce development, environmental stewardship and economic development. For more information on the Northeast Utilities Foundation, please visit www.northeastutilitiesfoundation.org.