



News Release

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NU Foundation sponsors “Nature Unleashed”

CT Science Center exhibit on disaster and preparedness

HARTFORD, Connecticut, May 26, 2011 – On the heels of the recent earthquakes in Japan and horrific tornados in the United States, a new Connecticut Science Center exhibit sponsored by the Northeast Utilities (NU) Foundation and Connecticut Light & Power will examine the science behind natural disasters and stress the importance of emergency preparedness.

“*Nature Unleashed*” will explore natural disasters through stunning displays, state-of-the-art animations, poignant, large-scale images and cultural artifacts. Visitors will see what it’s like to stand inside a tornado, trigger an underwater earthquake and tsunami, and examine real rock and lava specimens.

The exhibit will also illustrate how we can prepare for, and in some cases, minimize the impact of nature’s fury. A display at the exhibit’s entrance will feature information provided by Connecticut Light & Power on storm safety and artifacts demonstrating the company’s role at the frontline of emergency preparedness and response.

“We are excited to collaborate with the Science Center in bringing the *Nature Unleashed* exhibit to this region,” said Charles W. Shivery, chairman of the board of the Northeast Utilities Foundation and chairman, president and chief executive officer of Northeast Utilities, the parent company of Connecticut Light & Power. “This unique, educational exhibit provides the perfect platform to demonstrate how powerful a force nature can be and the importance of emergency preparedness.”

“When so many recent events around the world seem beyond comprehension, an exhibit like this helps to explain the Earth at work,” said Science Center President and Chief Executive Officer Matt Fleury. “We may ultimately be powerless in the face of nature, but having knowledge and the ability to prepare gives us a measure of control.”

Developed by Chicago’s Field Museum, “Nature Unleashed: Inside Natural Disasters” will be on display at the Connecticut Science Center’s Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center Gallery from May 28 until September 5, 2011. For more information about the exhibit, visit www.CTScienceCenter.org/nature.

About the Connecticut Science Center: The LEED-Gold certified Connecticut Science Center, located in downtown Hartford, sparks creative imagination and an appreciation for science by immersing visitors in fun and educational hands-on, minds-on interactive experiences while maintaining an environmentally conscious presence. Visitors experience over 150 exhibits in ten galleries and a range of topics, including space and earth sciences, physical sciences, biology, the Connecticut River watershed, alternative energy

sources, Connecticut inventors and innovations, a children's gallery and much more. Other features include four educational labs, a 200-seat, 3D digital theater, function room, gift store and café, and ongoing events and lectures for all ages. The Science Center is a non-profit organization dedicated to enhancing science education throughout the state of Connecticut and New England, providing learning opportunities for students and adults of all ages and engaging the community in scientific exploration. More information: www.CTScienceCenter.org or 860.SCIENCE.

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.