

PPL to Install High-Tech Microturbines as On-Site Power System at Masonic Homes

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PPL Corporation (NYSE: PPL) subsidiary PPL EnergyPlus and the Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown, Pa., announced on Friday (7/20) that a leading-edge, on-site generation plant will be installed at the retirement community, providing an innovative way to offset its energy costs and improve the environment.

(Photo: <http://www.newscom.com/cgi-bin/prnh/19981015/PHTH025>)

The distributed generation and energy services arm of PPL EnergyPlus will install five Capstone microturbines powered by clean-burning natural gas with each unit providing 60 kilowatts of electricity. To provide additional savings to the customer, the heat generated by the microturbines will be used to pre-heat the water in new gas-fired boilers, which PPL is also installing to replace aging coal-fired boilers at Masonic Homes.

Installing state-of-the-art on-site power generation and using the excess heat to reduce energy costs is at the heart of PPL's GenSelect(SM) program, which provides commercial, institutional and industrial customers with cutting-edge distributed generation technologies such as turbines, microturbines and fuel cells.

"Our GenSelect program offers the unbeatable combination of providing savings and reliability for our customers in an environmentally friendly manner," said Larry De Simone, president of PPL EnergyPlus. "We've been proud to show commercial and industrial clients, municipal governments, health care organizations and school districts how this innovative technology can provide the right solutions for their energy needs."

PPL projects the new, more efficient system will result in more than \$13 million in energy savings for Masonic Homes over the next 30 years. The project is expected to be completed in July 2002.

One of PPL's family of mechanical contracting and service subsidiaries, McClure Company, will design and construct the project at Masonic Homes. PPL will constantly monitor energy usage from the new heating plant and microturbines through a building automation system.

Joseph Murphy, chief executive officer of Masonic Homes, welcomed the new heating and microturbine systems.

"Our staff and board of directors conducted in-depth research on a great deal of options and agreed that PPL's distributed generation system would provide numerous advantages," he said. "It's a great value for clean, dependable on-site heating and power generation, and Masonic Homes was positioned to tap into this next generation of power supply."

Murphy said the gas-fired hot water boilers will be more environmentally friendly and meet Masonic Homes' ethical standards for conservation and air quality and comply with regulatory air pollution standards.

The project will help provide comfort and reliable heating and energy for the 1,400 residents at Masonic Homes' retirement community and children's home in Elizabethtown.

PPL EnergyPlus LLC is a subsidiary of PPL Corporation. Headquartered in Allentown, Pa., PPL Corporation generates electricity at power plants in Pennsylvania, Maine and Montana; provides distributed generation and energy services throughout the U.S.; markets wholesale or retail energy in 42 U.S. states and Canada; and delivers electricity to nearly 6 million customers in Pennsylvania, the United Kingdom and Latin America.

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