PPL Completes Fuel Cell Installation at Starwood's Sheraton New York Hotel and Towers; First of Its Kind for Manhattan

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A PPL Corporation (NYSE: PPL) subsidiary has completed the installation of a clean, reliable Direct FuelCell® (DFC®) power plant for Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide, Inc. (NYSE: HOT), one of the world's largest hotel and leisure companies, the company announced today.

At a dedication ceremony today at the hotel, PPL's distributed generation and energy services subsidiary said it has completed the development of a 250- kilowatt fuel cell power plant at the 1,750-room Sheraton New York Hotel and Towers in New York City, the first high temperature fuel cell to be located in Manhattan.

The DFC power plant, similar to the one installed at two other Sheraton hotel locations in New Jersey, is situated on a fourth floor roof of the hotel, the brand's largest and flagship property. It provides about 10 percent of the hotel's electricity and hot water and will be able to supply backup electricity for a segment of the hotel. PPL will own, operate and maintain the DFC power plant.

The hotel project in New York and the two in New Jersey are part of a master agreement that PPL and Starwood signed that could eventually lead to PPL installing DFC power plants at other Starwood properties.

FuelCell Energy of Danbury, Conn., (NASDAQ: FCEL) manufactured the hotel's fuel cell power plant, which uses natural gas that will be supplied by Consolidated Edison. Trystate Mechanical Inc., a PPL mechanical contracting subsidiary based in Yonkers, N.Y., was responsible for its installation.

The New York State Energy Research and Development Authority has taken a leadership position by providing funding to encourage the use of clean and efficient energy technologies, including the fuel cells installed at the Sheraton New York Hotel and Towers.

"PPL is proud to be part of another clean energy project involving an efficient, reliable on-site DFC power plant," said Paul T. Champagne, president-PPL EnergyPlus. "Siting a fuel cell at this location had a unique set of challenges, but great cooperation from all parties made this project a reality.

"Fuel cells are now part of a growing range of environmentally friendly energy solutions that PPL is providing to customers," Champagne added. "Today's ceremony in New York marks the seventh unit PPL has sited over the past two years."

Fuel cells generate electricity with no combustion. They are, in effect, like large, continuously operating batteries that generate electricity as long as a source of hydrogen, such as natural gas, is supplied. Since the gas is not burned, there is no pollution commonly associated with the combustion of fossil fuels. Because hydrogen is generated directly within the fuel cell module from readily available fuels such as natural gas and wastewater treatment gas, FuelCell Energy power plants are ready today and do not require the creation of a hydrogen infrastructure.

Demonstrating its commitment to the environment, PPL is developing or has developed other clean and renewable energy projects including the installation of other fuel cells, microturbines, wind, photovoltaics and landfill gas and natural gas engines with a variety of customers.

Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide, Inc. is one of the leading hotel and leisure companies in the world, with more than 740 properties in more than 80 countries and 105,000 employees at its owned and managed properties. With internationally renowned brands, Starwood is a fully integrated owner, operator and franchisor of hotels and resorts including: St. Regis, The Luxury Collection, Sheraton, Westin, Four Points by Sheraton, W brands, as well as Starwood Vacation Ownership, Inc., one of the premier developers and operators of high-quality vacation interval ownership resorts.

FuelCell Energy, Inc., based in Danbury, Conn., is a world leader in the development and manufacture of high temperature fuel cells for clean electric power generation. The company has developed commercial distribution alliances for its carbonate Direct FuelCell products with world class companies such as PPL EnergyPlus, Caterpillar, Alliance Power, Chevron Energy Solutions and LOGANEnergy in the U.S.; Marubeni Corporation in Asia; MTU CFC Solutions in Europe; and Enbridge Inc. in Canada. FuelCell Energy developed its patented Direct FuelCell technology for stationary power plants with the U.S. Department of Energy through its Office of Fossil Energy's National Energy Technology Laboratory.

The sub-megawatt DFC fuel cell power plant is a collaborative effort using Direct FuelCell® technology of FuelCell Energy and the Hot Module® balance of plant design of MTU CFC Solutions, GmbH, a subsidiary of DaimlerChrysler. FuelCell Energy is also developing next generation high temperature fuel cell products, such as a diesel fueled marine Ship Service Fuel Cell, a combined- cycle DFC/Turbine® power plant, and, through its investment in and partnership with Versa Power Systems, solid oxide fuel cells for applications up to 100 kW. More information is available at http://www.fuelcellenergy.com/.

PPL Corporation, headquartered in Allentown, Pa., controls about 12,000 megawatts of generating capacity in the United States, sells energy in key U.S. markets, and delivers electricity to customers in Pennsylvania, the United Kingdom and Latin America. Through its distributed generation and energy services group, PPL EnergyPlus builds, owns and operates renewable and on-site central utility plants.

SOURCE: PPL Corporation

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