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President of Brithinee Electric Addresses San Bernardino Valley Zone Advocates

San Bernardino, California, April 29, 2009—Wallace Brithinee, president of Brithinee Electric, recently addressed a group of 150 local business owners and community and state officials at the ribbon cutting event held for the San Bernardino Valley Zone.

Dignitaries present included Josie Gonzales, County of San Bernardino 5th District Supervisor, and Mayors Pat Morris and Kelly Chastain (representing San Bernardino and Colton, respectively). The ribbon cutting ceremony was held on April 22, at the California Theatre of the Performing Arts, located in downtown San Bernardino.

The San Bernardino Valley Zone encompasses almost 4700 businesses, most of which exist in San Bernardino, as well as parts of Colton and county land. The area received its original designation in October 2006 from the state Department of Housing and Community Development, providing state tax incentives to businesses that will continue to be available through October 2021.

During his address, Brithinee stated: "Over the last nine years, Brithinee Electric has received material benefits because our plant is located in the Enterprise Zone. Approximately two-thirds of those benefits are credits for qualified new-hires; the remainder is for credits related to the purchase of new machinery and equipment. With today's high cost of doing business and increasing state taxes, our decision to commit to staying in Colton and to expand our motor and generator plant has definitely been influenced by the benefits offered by this designation."

Since the year 2000, the firm has doubled its number of employees. Brithinee also announced that new construction planning was underway which, when complete, will double the company's production capacity, plus double the size capability for the department which repairs and remanufactures motors and generators.

Brithinee Electric is one of the largest sellers of NEMA Premium Efficiency industrial electric motors. These motors are the highest electrical efficiency motors available today. The firm specializes in remanufacturing industrial electric motors and wind generators and produces custom motor control centers for clients throughout the western United States.

Brithinee was introduced by Colton mayor Kelly Chastain, who mentioned that Brithinee Electric is a "green" company –"green" in the sense that the wind turbine and generator business is a key component of their business. Brithinee mentioned that in order to enlarge the plant, the equipment needed is also more "green", as it must be state-of-the-art, to satisfy the strict standards of air quality regulators.

The event emphasized the strategic significance of the "zone" designation to economic development within the region. Committed to maintaining the program, California legislators are scheduled to meet with local business owners and the Zone's manager, Wendy Clements, on May 5 to advocate keeping benefits to area commerce

active.

About Wally Brithinee

Brithinee is a member of the advisory group of the Motor Resource Center, a partnership between Advanced Energy Corporation (Raleigh, North Carolina), and the Washington State University (WSU) Extension Energy Program. He was a founding member of the California Motor Initiative, a collaborative effort of the U.S. Department of Energy, the California Energy Commission, and the three electric public utilities in California, and member of the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) National Motors & Drives Steering Committee. He is president of Brithinee Electric, located in Colton. He holds a Ph.D. in mathematics from the University of California, Riverside. His graduate work and original research was performed under a National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) fellowship.

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