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NEWS RELEASE

For further information, contact:

Michael R. Jones, Energy Technology Program Chair
mjones69@ivytech.edu
219-464-8514 x3120

Kathleen Szot, NIPSCO
Senior Manager, Customer Communications & Marketing
kszot@nisource.com
219-647-4068

Ivy Tech's Gary Campus to Offer Natural Gas Technology Courses

GARY— Ivy Tech Community College and NIPSCO are partnering to offer courses in natural gas technology this fall at the college's Gary campus. The collaboration is aimed at preparing the next generation of the region workforce for careers in the energy industry.

Classes are eight weeks long and begin Aug. 22. They complement courses already offered at the Ivy Tech Valparaiso campus.

Available this fall in Gary are Energy Industry Fundamentals, Fundamentals of Natural Gas and Fluid Power Basics. Natural Gas Pipe Joining will be added in the spring.

Funding for the project was made possible by NIPSCO, which has committed \$35,000 in grant funding and in-kind support to provide materials, equipment and supplies. In addition, NIPSCO is supporting the classes through mentoring, field trips and curricular guidance. Students who successfully complete these classes and continue on to complete an Energy Technology/Natural Gas Technology technical certificate, and pass a mechanical aptitude test, will have an opportunity to interview at NIPSCO.

An information session on the classes and the application/registration process will take place Wednesday, June 29 from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Genesis Convention Center, corner of Fourth and Broadway, Gary. Those attending will be able to learn about admission requirements, scheduling, financial aid and employment opportunities.

Speakers at the session will include Karl Stanley, NIPSCO Vice President of Commercial Operations; and Ivy Tech. There will be a Q & A session after the presentations.

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About Ivy Tech Community College

Ivy Tech Community College is the state's largest public postsecondary institution and the nation's largest singly accredited statewide community college system. Ivy Tech has campuses throughout Indiana. It serves as the state's engine of workforce development, offering affordable degree programs and training that are aligned with the needs of its community along with courses and programs that transfer to other colleges and universities in Indiana. It is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and a member of the North Central Association.

About NIPSCO

Northern Indiana Public Service Company (NIPSCO), with headquarters in Merrillville, Indiana, has proudly served the energy needs of northern Indiana for more than 100 years. As Indiana's largest natural gas distribution company and the second-largest electric distribution company, NIPSCO serves approximately 810,000 natural gas and 460,000 electric customers across 32 counties. NIPSCO is part of NiSource's (NYSE: NI) seven regulated utility companies. NiSource is one of the largest fully regulated utility companies in the United States, serving approximately 4 million natural gas and electric customers through its local Columbia Gas and NIPSCO brands. More information about NIPSCO and NiSource is available at NIPSCO.com and NiSource.com.