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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

RUTGERS UNIVERSITY RECOGNIZED NJEAA 2013 RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECT OF THE YEAR CO-RECIPIENT, CONCORD ENGINEERING SPECIFIED AND INSTALLED SYSTEM

PISCATAWAY, NJ, SEPTEMBER 29, 2014--The New Jersey Association of Energy Engineers (NJAE) recognized Rutgers University and Concord Engineering for the geothermal system which heats and cools the new business school on the Livingston campus. Rutgers and Concord were awarded the *2013 Renewable Energy Project of the Year* at a dinner and awards banquet held Wednesday evening, September 17 in Iselin. Michael Kornitas, Director of Sustainability & Energy for University Facilities & Capital Planning attended the award ceremony for Rutgers, along with Rutgers Senior Project Manager, Arnold Vicidomini, who managed project construction.

Geothermal heating and cooling systems take advantage of the stable temperature underground using a loop. Water circulates in the loop to exchange heat among the building, the ground source chiller/heater, and the earth, providing high efficiency heating and cooling.

"The efficiency comes from using the ground temperature as the source for heating and cooling, and minimizing reliance on fossil fuels," said Kornitas.

In winter months, the system absorbs heat stored in the ground through the water that circulates in its underground loop. During the summer months, heat from the building transfers to the underground loop where it is then absorbed by the cooler earth. The geothermal chiller/heater uses the cool water returning from the earth to air condition the building.

“We are always looking for more efficient and renewable methods to deliver energy to a campus this size,” said Joseph Witkowski, Executive Director, Utilities Operations. “Mike has been very instrumental in achieving this goal.”

The business school geothermal system is composed of four chillers and 321 wells, 500 feet deep, each set 20 feet apart. “Because of this, you need a building that has the exterior space for the wells, as the business school has,” Kornitas explained. “There are no real drawbacks except that you do need space.”

“It’s important to strike a balance on a large campus,” added Antonio Calcado, Vice President of University Facilities & Capital Planning. “When we have the opportunity to use a more renewable and efficient fuel source, we will. When we have to use traditional fuel sources, we try to upgrade systems for greater efficiencies. Both Joe and Mike are doing a great job of recommending the energy sources that can be implemented on our many and varied campuses and working with our construction partners to make this happen.”

Michael Fischette, CEO of Concord Engineering said, “We are excited to receive this award from NJAEE and appreciate our partnership with Rutgers University. The application of geothermal exchange and 4 pipe chilled/hot water systems brings a renewable energy source directly to central plant systems.” Concord Engineering Group based in Voorhees, NJ, is a full service engineering, design, and consulting firm with expertise in commercial/institutional/healthcare facilities, industrial plants and power plants.

Rutgers University is comprised of four campuses for a total of 27 million square feet and 1,009 buildings throughout the state. The University Facilities & Capital Planning organization is the agency responsible for construction, renovation, maintenance and repair of all buildings and grounds found within the campus perimeters and outlying areas.



University Facilities & Capital Planning employees, Michael Kornitas and Arnold Vicidomini, display the NJAEE award for the *2013 Renewable Energy Project of the Year*, which recognizes the new business school's use of geothermal for heating and cooling.

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