PRESS RELEASE

Winners of Annual ISGAN & GSGF Smart Grids Competitions

San Francisco, CA (May 31, 2016) – Today, the International Smart Grid Action Network (ISGAN) and the Global Smart Grid Federation (GSGF) announced that the CenterPoint Energy Smart Grid had won the ISGAN Award of Excellence and the GSGF Best Smartgrid Project Award for 2016.

Michele de Nigris, Chair of ISGAN's Executive Committee said, "The CenterPoint Energy Smart Grid exemplifies this year's competition theme of 'Excellence in Smart Grids for Reliable Electricity Service,' through its application of multiple technologies and approaches to reduce outages, increase performance, and save consumers money in a region known for its many severe weather events."

"We are honored to receive the ISGAN Award of Excellence and GSGF Best Smartgrid Project Award," said CenterPoint Energy Senior Vice President Kenny Mercado. "Through our smart grid, we have reduced outages by over 134 million minutes, enabled restoration of over 1.5 million outage cases without a customer phone call, and saved tens of millions of dollars for our over 2 million metered customers in Southeast Texas."

Ronnie Belmans, GSGF Executive Director, led a distinguished international jury of smart grid experts that selected the winning project for both the ISGAN and GSGF Awards. He said, "The CenterPoint Energy Smart Grid shows the tremendous value offered by smart grid systems that efficiently integrate advanced meters, intelligent switches, information and communications technologies, data analytics, grid management systems, and more to improve the flexibility, reliability and resilience of electricity service. It was the clear choice to win this year's awards."

ISGAN announced that two other projects received "Honorable Mentions," including "ESS for Frequency Regulation of KEPCO," submitted by the Korea Electric Power Corporation, and "Automated Impedance Fault Map Prediction for Smart Grid Systems," submitted by NextEra Energy – Florida Power & Light Company. "Unlocking Reliable Demand-Side Capacity in Colombia Without Adding Generation," a joint project of Innovari and Empresas Municipales de Cali (EMCALI), one of the largest distribution companies in Colombia, was cited for "Special Recognition for Potential for Replication."

On June 2, 2016, all of the projects will be formally honored during an awards ceremony at the Seventh Clean Energy Ministerial in San Francisco, California, a major gathering of governments, industry, and other key stakeholders from the world's largest and most forward-leaning countries on clean energy. ISGAN and GSGF will also promote the major concepts and lessons learned in the projects to their growing stakeholder communities, which now span more than 27 major developed and emerging economies across five continents.

This is the third year of the ISGAN Award of Excellence competition and the second year for the GSGF Best Smartgrid Project Award. With these annual awards competitions, ISGAN and GSGF aim to showcase global leadership and innovation in smart grids.

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Global Smart Grid Federation

The Global Smart Grid Federation (GSGF) is a global stakeholder organization committed to creating smarter, cleaner electrical systems around the world. GSGF is comprised of national smart grid organizations from fifteen countries and the European Union. GSGF brings together the intellectual capital of smart grid stakeholder organizations from around the world to:

- facilitate the collaboration of national and international Smart Grid nongovernmental organizations and governmental organizations from around the world to conduct and foster research in the application of Smart Grid technologies;
- support rapid implementation of Smart Grid technologies by establishing itself as the global center for competency on Smart Grid technologies and policy issues;
- foster the international exchange of ideas and best practices on energy issues, including reliability, efficiency, security, and climate change;
- create avenues for dialogue and cooperation between the public and private sectors in countries around the world on issues relating to the deployment of Smart Grid technologies.

These and other activities help member organizations initiate changes to their countries' electric systems to enhance security, increase flexibility, reduce emissions, and maintain affordability, reliability, and accessibility.

About the International Smart Grid Action Network (ISGAN)

Launched in 2010 at the first Clean Energy Ministerial, the International Smart Grid Action Network (ISGAN) brings together governments and their stakeholders to advance smart grids around the world through dynamic knowledge sharing, peer exchange, tool development, and project coordination among a global network of experts. ISGAN is formally organized through the Implementing Agreement for a Co-operative Programme on Smart Grids (ISGAN) under a framework of the International Energy Agency. More information on ISGAN and its Award of Excellence can be found at **www.iea-isgan.org**.

About the Global Smart Grid Federation (GSGF)

Established in 2010, the Global Smart Grid Federation (GSGF) is committed to creating smarter, cleaner electricity systems globally. It links leading national and regional smart grid organizations from around the world, each representing a variety of private-sector, academic, and other stakeholder interests. GSGF works to accelerate the deployment of smart grids by facilitating sharing of best practices on solutions for barriers to deployment, consumer engagement, innovation, and capacity building. More information on GSGF is available at **www.globalsmartgridfederation.org**.