



# News Release

**For Release:**  
**April 20, 2010**

**Contact:**     **Bob Innes**  
**(804) 768-6410**  
**(804) 512-1425 - mobile**  
[rinnes@nisource.com](mailto:rinnes@nisource.com)

## **Columbia Gas of Virginia Sustainability Efforts Highlighted** *NiSource Sustainability Report outlines company's goals, progress*

**Chester, VA** - In an effort to provide stakeholders an in-depth look at the company's progress toward building sustainable value, NiSource, Inc, the parent company of Columbia Gas of Virginia, issued its first annual Sustainability Report. Columbia Gas of Virginia's efforts contribute to the overall corporate goals through specific, local customer-focused programs. To view the Sustainability Report go to [columbiagasva.com](http://columbiagasva.com).

The comprehensive report outlines the NiSource companies' ongoing sustainable business approach, including how they continue to build value through customer-focused energy solutions; environmental stewardship; strong, stable communities; and engaged, aligned and safe teams.

"We are serious about helping customers address energy costs by making smarter energy choices, which helps both our customers and the environment," said Carl W. Levander, president, Columbia Gas of Virginia. "These steps are essential to our long-term goal of working with our customers and others to build a cleaner, more efficient and affordable energy future."

### **Columbia Gas of Virginia Sustainability Contribution**

- In 2010, WarmWise energy efficiency and conservation program was launched to reduce individual residential and small business natural gas consumption with rebates for purchasing higher-efficiency appliances.
- Redesigned [columbiagasva.com](http://columbiagasva.com) with enhanced customer-focused Web site designs and innovative self-service options including improved site navigation

- More -

- Launched a partnership with the Nature Conservancy's Plant-a-Billion Trees program. For every customer who signs up for Direct e-Bill, our paper-reducing online billing service, a \$10 contribution has been made toward planting 10 trees in the Atlantic Forest.
- Launched Supporting Those in Need focused on contributions to local food banks, family shelters and other agencies providing basic needs to individuals and families across Virginia.
- In Portsmouth, VA., recently completed a multi-year remediation effort that converted a former manufactured gas plant (MGP) into Fort Nelson Park which celebrates the naval history of the region.
- Assure natural gas pipeline safety and reliability by advocating that all individuals always call Miss Utility at 811 before digging.

The report was produced using the Global Reporting Initiative Reporting Guidelines, a leading industry framework for measuring corporate sustainability initiatives and progress.

#### **About Columbia Gas of Virginia and NiSource**

Columbia Gas of Virginia, with headquarters in Chesterfield County, is one of the 9 energy distribution companies of NiSource Inc. (NYSE: NI). Columbia Gas of Virginia serves nearly 240,000 customers in portions of Northern Virginia, Hampton Roads, suburban Richmond, Central Virginia, and the Shenandoah Valley, the Lynchburg region and parts of Western Virginia. NiSource distribution companies serve 3.8 million gas and electric customers primarily in nine states. More information about Columbia Gas of Virginia is available at [www.columbiagasva.com](http://www.columbiagasva.com) or at [www.nisource.com](http://www.nisource.com).

####