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NREL SELECTS RNL AND HASELDEN CONSTRUCTION AS DESIGN/BUILD TEAM FOR NEW ZERO ENERGY BUILDING

Research Support Facilities (RSF) intended to be prototype for future U.S. office buildings

September 25, 2008, Denver, CO – The U.S. Department of Energy’s National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) located in Golden, Colorado, has selected Haselden Construction and the design firm of RNL to design and build its new Research Support Facilities (RSF). The design for the RSF is intended to create a “zero energy building” – one that produces as much energy as it uses. The building is also being designed to exceed the U.S. Green Building Council’s Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Platinum rating, the highest distinction given by the council for high performance green buildings. “We continually strive to raise the bar and bring exceptional value and performance in our buildings. Both Haselden and RNL consider it a great privilege to work with NREL on this prototype for future office buildings across the U.S.,” said Ed Haselden, CEO and president of Haselden Construction.

At approximately 220,000 square feet, the building is currently budgeted at a cost of \$64 million. Design is underway and construction is estimated to be completed in summer, 2010. The building will be jointly occupied by the Golden field office of the Department of Energy and NREL employees, currently housed in leased space.

“The contract with NREL means our team collectively guarantees the performance of the facility. The LEED Platinum and ‘zero energy building’ design will still allow for the RSF to be built using conventional techniques and products,” said Rich von Lührte, FAIA, president of RNL.

Achieving a zero energy building requires a critical integration of energy reduction strategies in order to minimize energy generation. Energy efficient features such as natural ventilation through operable windows, day lighting, and radiant heating and cooling will be included in the building design. Day lighting the office space and low energy consumption are the primary considerations for this project and are being incorporated into the design and construction of this high-performance building. The cost of the innovative design and construction of the Research Support Facility is expected to be in line with conventional processes due to an integrated-design approach that can be replicated by others.

Haselden Construction is a Colorado company founded in 1973. The company builds a diverse range of project types including office, education, health care, mountain resort, gaming, and municipal facilities. The company is ranked in the Top 5 regionally and Top 400 nationally by McGraw Hill Construction. For information, please visit www.haselden.com.

RNL is an integrated full service design firm with offices in Denver, Los Angeles and Phoenix. RNL provides sustainable and energy-efficient design and offers clients a continuum of design services, including architecture, interior design, landscape architecture, urban design and planning, and engineering. For more information, please visit www.rnldesign.com.

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