

Documentary on Geothermal Energy Honored

The American Clean Skies Foundation awarded a second place energy visions prize to “Geothermal: Energy from the Ground Up” in the long form feature film or documentary category. This Nebraska documentary features efficient geothermal technology (underground pipes installed with a heat pump to keep buildings cool in the summer and warm in the winter) and was co-produced by NET Public Media, the Nebraska Well Drillers Association and the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health.

Jody Millard of NET produced the documentary with Tom Christopherson of the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services and Lee Orton of the Nebraska Well Drillers Association. NET’s Nick Kumpula served as editor and Stephanie June served as narrator. Videographers on the project included Dan Smith and John Beck.

The \$20,000 prize will be used in Nebraska for future training to harness geothermal energy, according to Christopherson. “We had a really great crew at NET, along with our homeowners and contractors, and we were pleased to be able to get this geothermal information out to Nebraska citizens,” Christopherson said.

“The success of this film project resulted from the outstanding partnership between NET, the Department of Health and Human Services, through the Water Well Contractors Licensing Board and the Well Drillers Association,” said Orton who attended the awards ceremony in Washington, DC February 28. “Our project has benefitted from airing on NET2 World as well as the extensive use of the video by members of the water well industry and others to educate professional heating and cooling contractors and consumers,” he added.

NET Public Media provides services to Nebraska’s non-profit, educational, governmental and community service groups. “Geothermal: Energy from the Ground Up” will air on NET2 World Thursday, April 4, at 8:30 p.m. CT and on Sunday, April 7, at 2:30 p.m. CT.

According to the American Clean Skies Foundation, the prizes were awarded for works that advanced a vision for America’s energy security and a cleaner, low-carbon environment. To learn more about this prize, visit www.energyvisionsprize.org.

CONTACT: Mary Jane Winquest at 402.470.6247 or mjwinquest@netNebraska.org.