



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Delaware Sustainable Energy Utility Recognized by the Standards for Excellence Institute®

DOVER, DELAWARE, March 9, 2017 – The Delaware Sustainable Energy Utility (DESEU) has been recognized by the Standards for Excellence Institute for successfully completing the Standards Basics requirements of their signature Standards for Excellence® program. The DESEU voluntarily opened itself up to analysis by staff at the Institute, who examined their application for compliance with the Standards for Excellence®: An Ethics and Accountability Code for the Nonprofit Sector.

The Standards for Excellence Institute evaluates fundamental values such as honesty, integrity, fairness, respect, trust, responsibility, and accountability, all of which are inherently important in the nonprofit world. The DESEU's programs and services, management, fundraising and financial practices were subjected to in-depth examination prior to earning recognition.

"The DESEU prides itself on being a transparent, accountable and mission focused organization," says the DESEU's Executive Director, Tony DePrima. "We decided to pursue the Standards for Excellence accreditation so that Delawareans could have independent verification that our organization is operating at the highest ethical standards."

The DESEU participated in the Standards for Excellence program through its relationship with the Delaware Alliance for Nonprofit Advancement (DANA). As an Accredited Standards for Excellence organization and Standards for Excellence Replication Partner, DANA's advice and experience was invaluable throughout the process.

"DANA is very proud of the Delaware Sustainable Energy Utility (DESEU) for achieving level one on their journey to full Standards for Excellence Accreditation, an important milestone." says DANA's CEO, Sheila Bravo. "This is an important achievement for DSEU and demonstrates their dedication and commitment to excellence. They brought their staff and governance board together to address their important organizational policies, procedures, and programming."

The Standards for Excellence Institute is committed to raising the level of principled and responsible practices within the nonprofit sector. The Institute offers a model for organizations to implement in their operating plans so they can gain a deeper understanding of their effectiveness, improve their decision-making and minimize risks. Standards Basics is the first step of this three-tiered process which is designed to culminate in full accreditation under the Standards for Excellence program.

For more press information, contact Kate Bayard, Marketing and Communications Manager, Delaware Sustainable Energy Utility, kate.bayard@deseu.org.



About the Delaware Sustainable Energy Utility:

The Delaware Sustainable Energy Utility (DESEU) is a unique non-profit organization offering a one-stop resource through its Energize Delaware initiative to help residents and businesses save money through clean energy and efficiency. The DESEU was created in 2007 by the state of Delaware to foster a sustainable energy future for the state. The DESEU model is the first of its kind to be established in the United States, and is being replicated in several other communities around the world. Learn more about the SEU and find an Energize Delaware program to fit your needs at:

<https://www.energizedelaware.org>.

About the Standards for Excellence Institute

The Standards for Excellence originated as a special initiative of Maryland Nonprofits in 1998 and has since expanded into a national program to help nonprofit organizations achieve the highest benchmarks of ethics and accountability in nonprofit governance, management and operations. The program has been formally adopted by ten state, regional and national affiliate organizations, and is supported by nearly 100 Licensed Consultants and over 100 volunteers with professional experience in nonprofit governance and administration. Presently, over 200 individual nonprofit organizations are fully accredited or recognized as having completed a rigorous application and review process to demonstrate adherence to the Standards for Excellence: An Ethics and Accountability Code for the Nonprofit Sector.

www.standardsforexcellence.org.

About The Delaware Alliance for Nonprofit Advancement

DANA, The Delaware Alliance for Nonprofit Advancement, is a nonprofit whose mission is strengthen, enhance and advance nonprofit excellence in Delaware. As a Standards for Excellence® (SFX) Accredited Nonprofit itself, it has at its core programming the Standards for Excellence® principles. DANA's Excellence Academy's "Achieving Board Excellence" and Organizational Consulting, and all of its year-round workshops are grounded in the Standards for Excellence Ethic and Accountability Code. Many DANA nonprofit members have implemented components of the Standard for Excellence®, through its 27 Educational Packages. To learn more about DANA's programming and services, as well as the Standards for Excellence and the wealth of resources, please contact 302.777.5500 or visit the website

www.delawarenonprofit.org.

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