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For Immediate Release

NHA Announces 2010 Past Presidents' Legacy Scholarship Program Winner *Namratha Gudemaranahalli of Morgantown, WV, is the 2010 recipient*

Washington, D.C. (April 27, 2010) -- The National Hydropower Association is pleased to announce that it has awarded Namratha Gudemaranahalli of Morgantown, West Virginia, its prestigious Past Presidents' Legacy Scholarship for 2010.

NHA established the Past Presidents' Legacy Scholarship in 2008 to contribute to the next generation of industry leaders by helping them complete their degrees. Through donations from NHA's previous presidents and other contributors, the scholarship will serve as a legacy for the hydropower industry.

"Through this scholarship, NHA's leadership is helping to build a bridge to the next generation of hydropower innovators," said NHA Executive Director Linda Church Ciocci. "The scholarship also helps the hydropower industry ensure that the country will have a pool of strong, qualified engineers and scientists to help address the needs of the 21st century."

Gudemaranahalli is working toward a Bachelor's Degree in Biology at West Virginia University in Morgantown. In applying for the scholarship, she stated that she hopes to pursue a graduate degree, studying the effects of greenhouse-gas emissions on the environment and analyzing ways to use renewable resources like hydropower to minimize environmental impacts.

"Namratha's interest in building the country's clean-energy future is one that we in the hydropower industry share," said Church Ciocci. "This work addresses some of our country's most critical energy, economic, and environmental priorities."

To qualify for the Past President's Legacy Scholarship, applicants must be full-time juniors, seniors, or grad students with a 3.0 grade-point average at an accredited college, or have the equivalent average at an accredited vocational technical school. All applicants must be U.S. citizens and legal residents.

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