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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Starke County Economic Development Foundation, Inc.

Secures Round Two Energy Efficiency Grants

Starke County, Indiana – Indiana Lt. Governor Becky Skillman announced today that the City of Knox is one of 47 Indiana cities, towns, and counties who have been awarded grants under Round Two of the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program (EECBG). A total of \$5.09 million was awarded in this round and the winners were chosen in a competitive application process from among 220 applications requesting \$19 million in funding. The City of Knox was one of only eight communities that were awarded funding in both the first and second rounds. The most recent award is in the amount of \$21,450 and will be used for wastewater treatment plant pump retrofits. In the earlier round, Knox was the recipient of two awards, one in the amount of \$71,750 for adding a geothermal system to City Hall, and one in the amount of \$21,650 for lighting retrofits at several city-owned facilities. The City will be invited to attend an award ceremony at 10:00 am (EST) on June 22, 2010 in the North Atrium of the Indiana State House.

The Starke County Economic Development Foundation once again was instrumental in alerting, leading, and coordinating the preparation of applications for the City, the Town of Hamlet, and Starke County in this round. While neither Hamlet nor Starke County was

successful in this round, the County did receive an award in round one of \$57,500 for lighting retrofits at several buildings, and the Town of North Judson was also successful in round one, receiving \$41,985 for lighting retrofits at several facilities.

The EECBG Program is funded through the U.S. Department of Energy (USDOE) and administered in Indiana by the Indiana Office of Energy Development (OED). Cities and towns with less than 35,000 in population, and counties with populations of 200,000 or less were eligible to apply for these grants. The purpose of the program is to assist eligible entities in creating and implementing strategies to reduce fossil fuel emissions in a manner that is environmentally sustainable, reduce the total energy use of the eligible entities, increase energy efficiency, reduce energy consumption, and reduce energy costs through efficiency improvements and create new jobs and increased productivity to spur economic growth and community development.

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