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Science Notes - National Energy Education Development Project

Stephanie A. Althof

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National Energy Education Development Project

This year marks the tenth anniversary of the National Energy Education Development (NEED) Project. Launched by a Congressional Resolution in 1980, the project was designed to introduce or enhance energy education programs in all American schools.

The project links more than 5000 schools nation-wide through its network of students, educators, community, industry and government leaders. Among the program and activities sponsored by NEED are annual National Leadership Training Conferences, the distribution of participation kits (including resource guides, activities, energy background reports and information on energy education polls) surveys and awards programs.

School NEED committees and student groups within those schools are eligible to participate in NEED's Youth Awards Program for Energy Achievement. Entrants must demonstrate an ability to plan and conduct multiple and varied energy education activities in their schools and communities. The contest provides recognition to outstanding energy education projects on both state and national levels, identifies activities that can be shared with other schools and prompts students to be involved in energy education throughout the school year.

All school NEED projects culminate with special week-long celebrations highlighted by NEEDay (officially the second to last Friday in March; however, many schools choose to celebrate it at a time that better fits their schedules). In 1991, NEED week officially begins on March 18 and NEEDay is March 22.

The basic network fee to join NEED is \$75, but, this year, membership is free to all schools and youth groups. For more information, contact the NEED Project, P.O. Box 2518, Reston, VA 22090.

--S.A.A.