



NEWS RELEASE

For additional information:

Mike Mullet

Cookerly Public Relations

(404) 419-9233

mike@cookerly.com

OHIOAMERICAN ENERGY COAL PREPARATION PLANT RECEIVES SAFETY AWARD FOR 545 DAYS WITHOUT LOST-TIME ACCIDENTS

West Virginia Council of Joseph A. Holmes Safety Association recognizes Star Ridge prep plant for incident rate of 0.0 during more than 41,000 man-hours

(Brilliant, OH – May 19, 2009) OhioAmerican Energy, Inc.'s Star Ridge Coal Preparation Plant received the Pacesetter Award for Mine Safety from the West Virginia Council of the Joseph A. Holmes Safety Association. The award recognizes the Star Ridge preparation plant's record of 545 days without a lost-time accident and was presented during the West Virginia council's annual meeting May 2. OhioAmerican Energy, Inc. is an independent operating subsidiary of Murray Energy Corporation.

The Joseph A. Holmes Safety Association was named in honor of the first administrator of the U.S. Bureau of Mines, which was created in 1910 and was a precursor of the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA). The Holmes Safety Association includes national, state and local councils, all working to prevent fatalities and injuries and to improve health and safety in all phases of mining – efforts strongly supported by MSHA.

“Recognizing safe mining operations through awards such as this is one of the most effective ways to demonstrate that solid safety practices pay off,” said Michael A. Davis, deputy assistant secretary for operations at MSHA. “Employees of the Star Ridge Preparation Plant successfully worked more than 41,000 hours in 2008 without any accidents or injuries, and MSHA is pleased to acknowledge that achievement.”

The Star Ridge Preparation Plant processes approximately two million tons of coal annually from OhioAmerican Energy's Redbird West surface mine to produce steam coal for American Electric Power's Cardinal Generating Station in Brilliant.

"The Star Ridge prep plant is a small facility so it is vital that everyone does his part to maintain the safety of operations at all times," said Star Ridge plant manager Chris Brown. "We're very proud to receive this award because it demonstrates the emphasis we put on safety not only at the Star Ridge plant, but at OhioAmerican Energy and at all Murray Energy facilities."

###



Joshua Brady (left), vice president of the North Central West Virginia Holmes Safety Association, presented the Pacesetter Award for Mine Safety to Chris Brown, manager of the Star Ridge Coal Preparation Plant, a subsidiary of Murray Energy Corporation, recognizing the plant's record of 545 days without a lost-time accident.