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Springfield, Illinois, September 15, 2006 - Harold O'Shea Builders has been selected to act as General Contractor for construction of the new corporate offices of the Illinois Municipal Electric Agency. The 33,000 square foot facility was designed by Melotte, Morse, Leonatti Ltd. Architects (MML) of Springfield, Illinois.

The project features a state of the art data center and power scheduling control room, LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) compliant features and a built-in tornado shelter. LEED is a rating system to encourage highly energy and resource efficient buildings and construction techniques. Heating and cooling in the prairie style building is by a geothermal ground loop with heat pump distribution, rather than the traditional furnace and condenser designs. Geothermal systems use buried pipes to cool or heat water, which is then used to heat or cool the air that comes from the ceiling louvers. Not only can this system save as much as 60% of the annual utility costs, but there is no external equipment visible, improving the aesthetic experience of the structure and site. The design also includes a board meeting room with electronic voting and integrated audio-visual equipment, a large subdividable training room and built-in expansion space.

"IMEA has been an exciting client to work with." said T. David Parker, Principal and Project Architect at MML. "They are building a headquarters for the foreseeable future, and have opted

were pleased to have O'Shea be selected for the construction phase. While all the invited bidders were quality companies, we know we can count on a high level of workmanship and professionalism from O'Shea."

"Our main job is to deliver low cost wholesale electricity at the highest level of reliability to municipal electric systems all across Illinois," said IMEA General Manager & CEO Ronald D. Earl.

"We have the greatest confidence that Harold O'Shea Builders and MML will provide a productive and secure base of operations for our staff and our members for years to come."

Mike O'Shea, President of Harold O'Shea Builders says, "The project is a very challenging one, however, I am confident our team is up to the task. In the end a beautiful and functional work environment is going to be created and we are excited to be a part of team Illinois Municipal Electric Agency has selected to deliver this project."

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(Illinois Municipal Electric Agency rendering provided by Melotte, Morse & Leonatti Ltd. Architects)