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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Community Invited to May 7th Clean Air Fair in the Arena District from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Rare Opportunity to Visit and Sign GE's 131-Foot Wind Turbine Blade

(COLUMBUS, April 30, 2010) – How can you live a healthier lifestyle? Want to find new ways to make a positive impact on the environment? What are your transportation options in Columbus? The answers to these questions and much more await at the sixth annual Clean Air Fair on Friday, May 7 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Arena District's Battelle Plaza at the corner of Front Street and Nationwide Boulevard.

From April through September warm temperatures and sunshine—combined with vehicle, lawn equipment and industry emissions—increase ground-level ozone pollution levels in central Ohio. Exposure to ozone pollution affects us all, especially certain sensitive groups of people who are most likely to be active outdoors or suffering from asthma. Through the Clean Air Fair, the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) partners with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Weather Service to urge Americans to "Be Air Aware" during National Air Quality Awareness Week, May 3 – 7.

Downtown employees and the community are invited to learn more about the impact of air pollution and discover simple ways to improve our central Ohio air quality. Participants will also enjoy a variety of activities such as prize drawings, including a new bike from Cyclist Connection, free ice cream, music from CD101 and GE's 131-foot wind turbine blade that is making a special stop at the Clean Air Fair as part of a nationwide renewable energy tour.

The wind turbine blade is part of the "Capture the Wind" tour: a 28-day, multi-state wind blade tour to emphasize the escalating role renewable energy will have on America's clean energy future. Individuals who see the blade will have the opportunity to sign their name on the blade to pledge their support for a clean energy future and urge America's leaders to support innovative renewable energy policies. The wind blade will carry the message "I'm helping to build America's energy future"

to highlight the personal role all Americans can play in making this clean energy vision a reality. The wind-blade will also be in Columbus on Thursday, May 6 at the COSI science museum.

A variety of the latest air-friendly vehicles will also be on display including The Ohio State University EcoCAR Team's award-winning Equinox vehicle, the Solid Waste Authority of Central Ohio's natural gas-fueled Honda vehicle, and several scooters from the local Zoot Scootz retail store. And don't miss a special viewing of the future product of Toyota, a fully functional Prius plug-in presented by Central Ohio Toyota Dealers.

"The Clean Air Fair is a fun way to showcase all of the great work that central Ohio businesses and organizations are doing to improve the air we breathe," said Judy Kress, Chair of MORPC's Energy and Air Quality Working Group.

MORPC's Air Quality Program seeks to address our region's growing air quality issues and inform, educate and alert individuals, businesses and organizations of the actions they can take to reduce air pollution. For more information about The Clean Air Fair, please visit www.cleanairfair.org.



Designated as central Ohio's metropolitan planning agency, MORPC is a voluntary association of 47 local governments. The Center for Energy & Environment at MORPC serves as a community resource in the region by offering a variety of services including: daily air quality forecasts, trail coordination, educational presentations, watershed planning, home weatherization, government carbon footprint analysis and more.