

the citizens pipeline

Mayor Ballard Announces Plans to Transfer Indianapolis Water and Wastewater Utilities to Citizens

Mayor Greg Ballard signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) on March 10, 2010 to transfer the City of Indianapolis' water and wastewater utilities to Citizens Energy Group, a public charitable trust operating like a not-for-profit for community benefit.

"With this agreement, I am rejecting private ownership of our water and wastewater system while embracing the benefits that come from private sector efficiency and expertise, and putting water and wastewater utilities under a public trust," Mayor Ballard said. "We look forward to working with the City-County Council and the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (IURC) to complete the transfer and realize benefits for utility customers throughout Central Indiana."

Pending negotiation of final agreement and Board of Waterworks, Board of Public Works, City-Council Council and IURC approval, the City will receive more than \$425 million in connection with the transfer of the utilities to Citizens.

"The transfer proposed today heeds the lessons of history by keeping our community's water and wastewater systems in the hands of the people, so they can be managed for their benefit,"

"This is a big win for the City of Indianapolis. It represents a once-in-a-generation opportunity to minimize future utility rate increases and to provide much-needed funding for deteriorating infrastructure such as streets, bridges and sidewalks," Mayor Ballard said. "Today, we took an important first step toward greatly improving quality of life for our residents, while encouraging job creation and economic growth in our community for many years to come."

Carey Lykins, President & CEO of Citizens Energy Group, said the proposed utility transfer is a historic moment for the greater Indianapolis community. "More than a century ago, civic leaders, including Colonel Eli Lilly, put our community's natural gas system into the Citizens



Mayor Greg Ballard and Citizens President & CEO Carey Lykins after the historic agreement to transfer the City's water and wastewater utilities to Citizens Energy Group.

Public Charitable Trust to protect it from sale to profit-making corporations and the uncertainties of changing political forces. The transfer proposed today heeds the lessons of history by keeping our community's water and wastewater systems in the hands of the people, so they can be managed for their benefit," Lykins said.

Lykins added that the utility transfer is expected to result in 25 percent lower water and wastewater rates by the year 2025, due to savings that can be achieved through the combined operations. He also stressed that the transfer of the water utilities to Citizens will not be paid for with an increase in natural gas rates.

The Mayor intends to file legislation for the utility transfers with the Indianapolis City-County Council on April 16. In addition to approval by the City-County Council, the utility transfer must be approved by the Board of Water Works, the Board of Public Works and the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission. Full approval would likely take place in late 2010.

To obtain further input on the utility transfers, the City plans to hold public meetings throughout Indianapolis. More information about the utility transfers and the schedule for public meetings will be available at www.indy.gov/utilities or by calling 317-327-4MAC.



Citizens Wins Sam H. Jones Award - Mayor's "Best of the Best Award" for Diversity

Citizens Energy Group was awarded the Sam H. Jones Award at the 9th Annual Mayor's Celebration of Diversity Awards Ceremony on January 22. The Mayor's Celebration of Diversity Awards recognize businesses and organizations that encourage, embrace and celebrate differences that foster a better place in which to live, work and raise family.



(Left to right:) Tamiko Razika (Citizens' Senior Employment Administrator), Yvonne Perkins (Citizens' Vice President of Community Relations), Pree Jones (wife of the late Sam Jones), Rev. Michael Jones (son of the late Sam Jones), Carey Lykins (Citizens' President & CEO), Greg Ballard (Mayor of Indianapolis), and Greg Wilson (City of Indianapolis Minority Business Director).

Girl Scouts of Central Indiana are Forever Green

The Girl Scouts of Central Indiana are showing they care about the environment by participating a national Girl Scout Forever Green Take Action Project. They are inviting the entire local community to join them in conserving energy on April 10 by asking residents to unplug all non-essential items (appliances, televisions, lamps, computers, etc.) for at least 10 minutes at 10:00 a.m. or 10:00 p.m. The Girl Scouts are also asking residents to adjust their thermostats for the season, set their water heater to 120 degrees and check their windows and doors for drafts. Following the Forever Green energy conservation day, all participants are asked to go to www.girlscoutsindiana.org and complete a short survey by April 17.

Girl Scouts are still taking orders for Girl Scout Cookies. Be sure to order an extra package to support Operation: Cookie Drop, a service project that sends cookies to soldiers who are trained and processed out of Camp Atterbury. Call the Girl Scout Cookie hotline at 877-474-2249 or order online via www.girlscoutsindiana.org.

GIRL SCOUTS OF CENTRAL INDIANA
forever GREEN

Student Fellow for Blacks Annual Fundraiser

The Student Fellowship for Blacks, Inc., a non-profit organization dedicated to helping economically disadvantaged black students attend historically black colleges and universities, will hold its annual African Fashion Show/ Monte Carlo Night (license number 119288)

on Saturday, May 8 from 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. at the American Legion Post # 249, 2523 Martin Luther King Street, Indianapolis. Advance tickets are \$5 (buy one, get one free) and \$10 at the door. **For tickets, contact the Student Fellowship for Blacks, Inc. at 549-3166.**

Smoked Cheddar Grits

Chef Chris Revercomb - Zing Restaurant

Ingredients:

- 1 Cup Heavy Cream
- ¼ lb Bacon
- 4 Cup Chicken Stock
- ¼ lb Smoked Cheddar Cheese
- 1 Cup Corn Meal
- 2 oz Butter
- To Taste Salt and Pepper

Directions:

Start by chopping one pound of bacon into 1/4 inch pieces. Brown the bacon in a sauté pan slowly until crispy. Set aside and drain away all grease. Next in a large pot bring to a boil heavy cream, chicken stock, butter. When boiling, quickly whisk in corn meal and lower flame to lowest setting. Cook the cornmeal on low for approx ten minutes or until thick. Add the bacon and smoked cheddar and continue cooking for five minutes. Check for seasoning and adjust accordingly. Remove from the hot pan immediately into a third pan and let cool to room temperature.

