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**FLUIDICENERGY**

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## Fluidic Energy's Zinc-air Technology Powers First Duke Energy Renewable Energy Microgrid

**Scottsdale, Ariz., – [December 15, 2016]:** Fluidic Energy™ continues to expand its global presence to North America, announcing a renewable microgrid project with Duke Energy in North Carolina that will serve a remote communications tower in Great Smoky Mountains National Park. This off-grid, solar-powered project utilizes Fluidic Energy Zinc-air hybrid batteries with a FluidicIQ monitoring and control system, creating an independent power system that generates clean, reliable, continuous energy.

The remote communications tower is located on Mt. Sterling in Haywood County and provides emergency communications for the park. System performance will be monitored 24/7 via FluidicIQ, the company's real-time integrated software monitoring and management system. Enabling more than 99% system uptime performance in the harshest of conditions, FluidicIQ dramatically reduces the need for preventive maintenance, ensuring reliability and reducing operating costs over incumbent technologies.

"Servicing remote locations like this is always a welcome challenge for our team. It leverages the advantages of our whole product solution and solves challenges that traditional energy storage systems simply cannot. Fluidic Energy is thrilled to work with Duke Energy on this project and looks forward to replicating these environmental and economic benefits throughout the entire park system. Projects like these enable us to make great strides toward cleaner, smarter energy solutions," said Steve Scharnhorst, CEO of Fluidic Energy.

Outside of various research projects, this effort is Duke Energy's first renewable energy microgrid to serve a customer. "This project allows us to take advantage of renewable energy resources to serve a remote area in a less expensive and more reliable way," said Robert Sipes, Duke Energy's Western North Carolina Regional General Manager.

Fluidic Energy and Duke have partnered with Industrial Solar Consulting (ISC) and Sky Engineering on this project for the design and installation of the microgrid site.

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Eliminating the need for central grid power improves the reliability of the site whose current power line feed is often subject to damage from falling trees and harsh winter conditions. Its removal, also allows for about 13 acres of parkland currently maintained as a utility corridor to return to a natural state, reducing CO2 emissions and benefiting both the environment and park visitors.

A key breakthrough in long duration energy storage, Fluidic's Zinc-air battery is the first new electrochemical storage technology to reach global commercial scale since the 1990s. With more than 50MWh of energy storage worldwide, Fluidic's technology and whole product approach has already impacted the lives of millions of people and thousands of communities by delivering reliable, affordable electricity to businesses and homes in diverse and difficult operating climates.

According to Scharnhorst, the company focused initial commercialization efforts for its game-changing Zinc-air energy storage technology and whole system approach, where it could make the biggest impact globally such as rural electrification and grid reliability applications. Recently, the company announced its first North American residential unit in Arizona. "Our team is excited to apply all the knowledge and experience we now have from over five years proving our whole product energy storage solution with utilities, telecoms partners and residents in some of the harshest terrains and climates in the world right here in North America at a site so remote that historically it is typically serviced by helicopter. Working with a leader like Duke Energy as well as additional infrastructure partners that make a project like this come to life is an honor," said Scharnhorst.

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### **About Fluidic Energy**

Fluidic Energy is dedicated to accelerating the worldwide transformation to clean, reliable energy through its innovative and intelligent energy storage solutions. Enabled by groundbreaking battery technology and smart-grid intelligence, Fluidic Energy designs, manufactures and markets long-duration energy storage solutions globally. As the first company to deliver rechargeable Zinc-air battery technology in high production volumes Fluidic Energy has over 50MWh of energy storage globally with its industry leading whole product approach. Fluidic Energy continues to build momentum as the long-duration energy storage leader, installing systems worldwide that increase reliability, functionality and surpass cost targets necessary for practical energy storage adoption. While meeting market needs now, Fluidic Energy is paving the path for the smart, sustainable, and accessible grid of the future.

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