



News Release

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DUKENET COMMUNICATIONS ANNOUNCES PARTNERSHIP WITH CITY OF MONROE

CHARLOTTE, N.C. -- DukeNet Communications, Duke Energy's telecommunications business unit, has formed a partnership with the City of Monroe to provide next-generation network services by way of a robust fiber optic infrastructure to businesses within the network footprint.

The partnership will enable the delivery of high-speed connectivity and services to new and existing businesses in Monroe. This supports the city's continuing effort to help position these companies for the future. The DukeNet network is over 4,300 route miles connecting major Inter Exchange Carriers, Internet Providers and Competitive Local Exchange Carriers in over 40 markets in 5 states. This network brings competitive content to the front door of Monroe businesses, where in the past the choices were limited.

The diversity of businesses from manufacturing to retail to data centers will be able to take advantage of a fiber optic network that will connect companies to a variety of vendors and services for Internet, voice, security, disaster recovery, business continuity and data storage.

Companies interested in these services can contact Danielle Boukedes 704 382 0217 or Shawn Sutton at 919 323 7100.

Headquartered in Charlotte, N.C., DukeNet is one of the largest wholesale fiber-based carriers in the Southeast. In operation since 1994, DukeNet offers a wide variety of services including point-to-point local and long-haul connectivity, Ethernet, incumbent local exchange carrier (ILEC) central office access and collocation services. More information about the company is available on the Internet at: www.dukenet.com.

Duke Energy, a diversified multinational energy company, creates value for customers and shareholders through an integrated network of energy assets and expertise. Duke Energy manages a dynamic portfolio of natural gas and electric supply, delivery and trading. Duke Energy, headquartered in Charlotte, N.C., is a Fortune 100 company traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol DUK. More information about the company is available on the Internet at: www.duke-energy.com.