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GEORGETOWN PROJECT SELECTED FOR LEED-ND DESIGNATION BY THE US GREEN BUILDING COUNCIL

GEORGETOWN, CT – (June 15, 2007) – The U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) has selected the redevelopment of the former Gilbert & Bennett Wire Mill in Georgetown, CT to participate in its inaugural Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design for Neighborhood Development (LEED-ND) program. This new initiative by the USGBC is extending their current LEED certification program from individual buildings to encompass an entire development. The program will become the first national standard that integrates the principles of smart growth, new urbanism and green building entire projects.

Georgetown Special Taxing District along with the Georgetown Land Development Company submitted an application for consideration in April of 2007. The application detailed how smart growth and sustainable development practices will transform a former industrial property into one of the most desirable communities in Connecticut. The company was notified of acceptance on May 30th.

“This is a natural progression of our strong commitment to the environment” said Stephen Soler, President of the Georgetown Land Development Company. “Moving from what was brown to what will be green is consistent with our corporate philosophy, this builds on our designation as a Green Building and Sustainable Design Project”

The Georgetown project was one of four nationally to earn the Green Building designation, awarded by the US Treasury in January of 2006. With the designation comes an allocation of \$72.250 Million of Tax Exempt financing for the commercial development of the project.

Stephen Soler stated: “More and more individuals and businesses are seeking to locate in facilities that lessen their carbon footprint. We are very pleased the US Treasury and now LEED-ND Committee have recognized our efforts to create a sustainable designed mixed-use project. We are excited to be working groups that share this vision. Norwalk Hospital has already announced that it will occupy up to 50,000 square feet of space in a Green medical office building.”

The Georgetown Land Development Company has master planned the redevelopment of a 55 +/- acre wire mill into a mixed use transit oriented project that encourages pedestrian activity while accommodating vehicles. The project will include Housing, (Townhouses, Single Family Houses, Affordable Artist Lofts, Affordable Senior Housing, Traditional Lofts and Conventional Condo's), Commercial and Retail Spaces, Restaurants, a Performing Arts Center, a new Georgetown Campus for the Wilton Family Y, a new Train Station on the Danbury Branch of the Metro-North line with service to Norwalk, Stamford, Greenwich and New York City's Grand Central Station.

The LEED for Neighborhood Development system is from the U.S. Green Building Council in collaboration with the Congress for the New Urbanism and the Natural Resources Defense Council. LEED certification provides independent, third-party verification that a development's location and design meet accepted high standards for environmentally responsible, sustainable, development.