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Contacts: Jennifer Stanbery

Lowe's Companies, Inc.

(336) 658-6481

jennifer.d.stanbery@lowes.com

Chris Ahearn

Lowe's Companies, Inc.

(336) 658-7387

chris.b.ahearn@lowes.com

**TENNESSEE, NORTH CAROLINA HONOR LOWE'S 'GREEN POWER' COMMITMENTS**  
*Company Supports Clean, Renewable Energy Sources*

**WILKESBORO, N.C.** – Coinciding with the start of national Energy Efficiency Month, Tennessee and North Carolina officials honored Lowe's (NYSE: LOW) today for its corporate energy initiatives and leadership.

At a ceremony in Springfield, Tenn., The Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) presented Lowe's with its first ever Green Power Switch® Leadership Award. Green Power Switch® is a renewable energy option, which provides electricity generated by clean, renewable energy sources such as wind, solar and methane gas. Similarly, the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) honored Lowe's with the Tennessee Energy Leadership Award.

"Lowe's is setting an example for others to follow," said Commissioner Betsy Child of the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation. "Lowe's public education efforts include staff training and in-store promotion of ENERGY STAR products. The company is also the largest single supporter of Green Power in the TVA service region, and indeed, in the entire Southeast."

In 2002, Lowe's committed to purchase Green Power Switch® for all its facilities within the TVA region where available. At present, energy produced under Green Power guidelines is used at 34 Lowe's stores in Tennessee, Kentucky, Alabama, and Georgia. The annual environmental impact of the Lowe's Green Power purchase is the equivalent of planting over 900 acres of trees.

"Environmental stewardship is at the core of Lowe's operation," said Michael Chenard, director of environmental affairs for Lowe's. "Clean, reliable energy generation, like the sources used in Green Power, is consistent with Lowe's commitment to enhancing our company's operations."

Lowe's is also the only corporation to sign on as a founding sponsor for a similar initiative being introduced by North Carolina. The NC GreenPower initiative was launched today with the support of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and North Carolina Utilities Commission at events in Charlotte and Raleigh.

Lowe's other energy efforts include the recent installation of one of the largest commercial solar rooftop electric systems in the nation and the largest at any retail store in the country, at its West Hills, California store. The PowerLight solar generation system covers 37,500 square feet, and produces enough electricity during the daytime to power more than 370 homes.

The EPA and Department of Energy (DOE) have also named Lowe's the 2003 ENERGY STAR Retail Partner of the Year for its outstanding contribution to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and promoting and selling energy-efficient products.

“We believe that investing in programs that reduce the impact that we have on the environment is the right thing to do,” said Robin Nickles, Lowe’s vice president of retail facilities management. “It’s good for the environment; it’s good for our business; and most importantly it’s good for the next generation and beyond. At Lowe’s, we accept this responsibility and we have committed to do our part to help lead these efforts.”

**About Lowe’s**

With fiscal year 2002 sales of \$26.5 billion, Lowe's Companies, Inc. is a FORTUNE 100 company that serves approximately nine million customers a week at more than 900 home improvement stores in 45 states. In 2003, FORTUNE named Lowe’s America’s Most Admired Specialty Retailer. Based in Wilkesboro, N.C., the 57-year old company is the second-largest home improvement retailer in the world. For more information, visit [www.lowes.com](http://www.lowes.com)

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