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Date: May 15, 2002

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

STUDENTS IN MACON WIN ENERGY AWARD

JACKSON, Miss. – Students from B. F. Liddell Middle School in Macon, MS, have been selected Mississippi Junior Level Rookie School of the Year for the National Energy Education Development (NEED) Youth Awards for Energy Achievement. The Mississippi Development Authority (MDA) Energy Division will sponsor one teacher and four students from the school to attend the awards program in Washington, D. C.

“We are very proud of these students and their efforts,” said Robert J. Rohrlack, Jr., executive director of MDA. “Through this project, they are educating others in their school district and their community about the importance of energy efficiency.”

A team of seven students, along with their teacher, Mrs. Lucille Hatcher, conducted various energy activities during the school year as part of their participation in the NEED Program. The students then submitted a proposal package describing their energy projects and activities to the national NEED office for consideration. Liddell students entitled their NEED activities “Noxubee Energy E’s Navigating Through Noxubee.”

In their effort to educate others on energy efficiency, Liddell Middle School students conducted an energy booth at the Dancing Rabbit Festival in October, 2001, distributed a school-wide newsletter from March to December, 2001, and organized energy resource centers in all six libraries in the school district.

“The Energy Division’s mission is to educate consumers on the best ways to use Mississippi’s energy and environmental resources,” said Kenneth Calvin, director of MDA’s Energy Division. “The NEED Program encourages students to develop ideas that promote energy efficiency.”

The MDA Energy Division works with the NEED Program each year to sponsor teacher training workshops and multi-disciplinary energy education programs in schools throughout Mississippi. The NEED Program is a non-profit education association established to educate America’s students about energy issues. More than 6,000 schools in 35 states use the NEED program in their classrooms.

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