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## **NFS launches Young Innovator Program for schools with donation of science kits on electricity**



(Erwin, Tenn.) – Nuclear Fuel Services, Inc. (NFS) launched a new educational initiative for public schools today termed the NFS Young Innovators Program. The effort, designed to enhance science instruction among students, involves new, and locally developed, hands-on kits for understanding electricity.

“Since 1987 our focus for community partnerships has been toward public education,” said NFS Executive Vice-President and General Manager Tim Lindstrom. “The Young Innovators program provides new tools and hands-on classroom instruction in the sciences that are best taught through an interactive experience.” The program will also bring NFS employees into Unicoi County classrooms on topics tied to grade appropriate science curricula.

“The State of Tennessee recently upgraded the curricula for all subjects in an effort to enhance student academic achievement,” said Denise Brown, Director of Unicoi County Schools. “The new NFS program is another welcome example of how NFS is focused on helping our students lead better lives through education.”

Today's donation involves 150 student editions and 20 teacher's editions instructional science kits that will enable middle school students to conduct experiments involving electricity. Developed by two Johnson City engineers, Ed Basconi and David Jones, the KitBook™ series of science-related instructional materials has been supplemented with a section on how NFS plays a role in the production of electricity by converting surplus uranium from the Cold War into useful fuel to power commercial nuclear reactors to generate electricity.

“Ultimately our goal is to create a life long love for learning in the sciences,” explained NFS’ Lindstrom. “Our hopes are that more Unicoi County students will pursue rewarding careers in science and engineering.”

NFS has been the leader in business-education partnerships for more than two decades. Programs developed by the nuclear company for public schools range from academic incentives for students to the development of specialized science teacher instructional summer camps at Oak Ridge. NFS was the first private company in Tennessee to assure that qualified Unicoi County High School seniors have sufficient funds to enroll at Northeast State Community College in Blountville.

The new KitBooks enable teachers to bring to life the study of electricity by enabling each student to engage with fun experiments on how electrical circuits work. During the school year, Unicoi County teachers may request that NFS scientists, chemists, environmentalists and others visit their classroom for fun and informative lectures and hands-on experiments. Ken Greer of NFS is the contact person for scheduling in-classroom visits. He can be reached at 735-5567 or by e-mail at [kjgreer@nuclearfuelservices.com](mailto:kjgreer@nuclearfuelservices.com)