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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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2016 SDDC Annual Procurement and Matchmaking Conference You Don't Know What You Don't Know Let's Talk Opportunities and Cyber Security

Trenton, NJ – The New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (NJBPU) Supplier Diversity Development Council (SDDC) presents its annual conference on Tuesday, September 13th, 2016 at the Livingston Student Center, Rutgers University, 84 Joyce Kilmer Avenue, Piscataway, NJ 08854 in Piscataway, NJ. The SDDC Annual Conference hosts over 200 attendees, representing New Jersey's largest utilities, prime contractors, and diverse business owners. The conference acts as a forum for utilities to share procurement opportunities, and for business owners to gain a comprehensive understanding about how to strategically position their business before utilities and primes.

This year, select attendees will have the unique opportunity to participate in *individual matchmaker meetings*, where they can present their services and products directly to utilities and their prime contractors. Three panels will be presented that will include Rutgers Procurement, Cyber Security, and Social Media that will provide insightful information regarding what suppliers need to know regarding how to do business with primes.

The Keynote Speaker, Andrew Hendry, President, New Jersey Utility Association, will discuss NJ Utilities and Current Infrastructure Projects. Utilities that will be represented include AT&T, Verizon, PSE&G, and Elizabethtown Gas. Primes scheduled to attend include IBM, Henkels & McCoy Inc., Wesco, Elecnor Hawkeye LLC, Safeway, Ferreira Construction Co. Inc., Donofrio General Contractors Corp, TSR Consulting and others.

Tickets are only \$65 and can be purchased at <u>https://sddc.mybusinessmatches.com</u>. A continental breakfast and luncheon are included in the ticket price.

The Supplier Diversity Development Council (SDDC) is dedicated to forging effective working relationships between minority-, women-, and service disabled veteran-owned businesses (M/W/SDVBEs), New Jersey public utilities and the Board of Public Utilities (NJBPU) on matters relating to methods of reporting, measuring, and assessing the development of these relationships.

The SDDC serves as a resource to identify "best practices" and to promote related support activities and seminars for both companies and M/W/SDVBEs. In order to enhance the advancement of mutual goals, the SDDC promotes the adoption of "best practices" and processes that provide equal access for M/W/SDVBEs to companies. The SDDC's commitment to its mission will enhance supplier diversity among New Jersey companies, resulting in the development of a strong economy and a productive environment for the growth of business throughout the state.

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