CLEANTECH INVESTMENT LEADER, PIPER JAFFRAY’S LOIS QUAM, TO DELIVER CLEAN ENERGY CONFERENCE KEYNOTE

Head of Strategic Investments to Address Outlook for Investing in Clean Technology/Clean Energy

(NEWARK, NJ) – Lois Quam, Head of Strategic Investments at Piper Jaffray, a global investment bank with a leading clean technology and renewable energy team, will deliver the keynote address at the 2008 NJ Clean Energy Conference on October 17 at the Jersey City Hyatt Regency, New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (NJBPU) President Jeanne M. Fox announced today.

As Head of Strategic Investments, Quam is responsible for the development of new business opportunities in the cleantech sector. Quam and her team work with global clients in clean technology, distributed power generation, ethanol/bio-fuels, fuel cells, solar power, wind and other alternative energy. In her keynote address, Quam will discuss the latest cleantech market trends and opportunities for economic growth and business investment.

“Piper Jaffray is at the cutting edge of the latest trends in clean technology and alternative energy investments,” said President Fox. “Lois Quam is among those who exert tremendous influence on the direction of alternative energy growth. Smart businesses will want to hear what she has to say.”

Quam, one of Fortune Magazine’s “Most Powerful Women in Business,” is recognized for innovative and effective business responses to major challenges as well as working effectively with government. “The creation and growth of companies in the green economy is the economic opportunity of our lifetime,” Quam said. “There has never been a more exciting or critical time to be involved in building a cleantech economy, and New Jersey is leading the way with one of the fastest growing solar markets in the country and unprecedented opportunities for the cleantech sector.”

The New Jersey Clean Energy Conference, Investing in a Cleantech Economy, is sponsored by the NJBPU’s Clean Energy Program, and will bring together more than 700 leading business, cleantech professionals and clean energy leaders who understand that curbing global warming in clean energy is not only good for the environment, but also good for the bottom line. New Jersey has been at the forefront in setting policies and providing incentives to businesses to help drive investment in cleantech. Each year the Garden State provides more than $200 million in financial incentives to business and residential customers so they can install energy efficient and renewable energy technologies, including solar photovoltaic systems. Over the next four years, New Jersey and the surrounding PJM Mid Atlantic region is expected to be a leading market for emerging clean technologies including solar, wind and high efficiency technologies that save energy and reduce greenhouse gases.

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Ms. Quam will deliver the keynote address at 9:30 a.m. Other notable speakers at the conference include Ralph Izzo, Chairman, CEO and President of Public Service Electric & Gas, Inc. (PSE&G); Jeffrey Leonard, President, CEO and Founding Partner of the Global Environment Fund; and Nadim Barakat, Managing Director of Credit Suisse First Boston Alternative Investment.

To register for the conference, or to learn more about exhibit and sponsorship opportunities and nominations for this year’s New Jersey Clean Energy Leadership Awards, please visit www.njcleanenergy.com.

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**About the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (NJBPU)**

The New Jersey Board of Public Utilities is a state agency and regulatory authority mandated to ensure safe, adequate, and proper utility services at reasonable rates for New Jersey customers. Critical services regulated by the NJBPU include natural gas, electricity, water, wastewater, telecommunications and cable television. The Board has general oversight responsibility for monitoring utility service, responding to consumer complaints, and investigating utility accidents. To find out more about the NJBPU, visit our web site at www.nj.gov/bpu.

**About the New Jersey Clean Energy Program (NJCEP)**

New Jersey's Clean Energy Program, established on January 22, 2003, in accordance with the Electric Discount and Energy Competition Act (EDECA), provides financial and other incentives to the State's residential customers, businesses and schools that install high-efficiency or renewable energy technologies, thereby reducing energy usage, lowering customers' energy bills and reducing environmental impacts. The program is authorized and overseen by the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (NJBPU), and its website is www.njcleanenergy.com.

**About Piper Jaffray**

Piper Jaffray & Co. has been the number one U.S. clean technology underwriter since 2006* and boasts an international clean technology and renewables team that stretches from Asia to Europe to the United States and includes project finance, investment banking, research, and sales and trading professionals. In addition, the firm’s private capital team launched the first U.S.-based clean technology fund of funds in 2005.