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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **Flint Hills Resources Receives Business of the Year Award**

**Inver Grove Heights/South Saint Paul** – The River Heights Chamber of Commerce honored Flint Hills Resources Pine Bend refinery in Rosemount/Inver Grove Heights on February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2011 with their 2011 Business of the Year Award.

Pine Bend is the Upper Midwest's leading producer of transportation fuels, with a capacity of approximately 320,000 barrels per day (12 million gallons). Committed to producing cleaner-burning transportation fuels, Pine Bend introduced Blue Planet gasoline five years ahead of new federal regulations that limited sulfur levels in gasoline.

Pine Bend is one of the safest and cleanest refineries in the United States. The refinery has reduced its emissions by 71% since 1997, and recordable injuries at the refinery have declined 91% in the past 12 years.

Pine Bend employs more than 900 full-time workers and is considered the largest continuous construction project in Minnesota, with between 200 and 2,000 contractors working on site every day. According to a 2010 Harrah Analytics study, Pine Bend is responsible for creating 1,187 jobs directly, and indirectly it has created an additional 4,292 jobs in Minnesota.

The River Heights Chamber also recognizes the high priority Flint Hills Resources places on good corporate citizenship. From the Flint Hills Resources International Children's Festival and Project Green Fleet, to a partnership with the Science Museum of Minnesota and longstanding relationship with DARTS' Learning Buddies program, Flint Hills Resources supports many of the organizations that play a part in making Minnesota a special place to live and work.

Flint Hills Resources was selected by the River Heights Chamber of Commerce's Recognition Committee after careful review of all nominees' applications. The Business of the Year Award acknowledges an organization that has a commitment to the community through its involvement and assistance to community organizations, a commitment to its employees and focus on innovative employee programs, and a commitment to excellence in service, business ethics, friendliness and business operations. The Chamber's first Business of the Year Award was presented in 1995.

The River Heights Chamber of Commerce congratulates their 2011 Business of the Year, Flint Hills Resources Pine Bend refinery, a company committed to excellence!

For more information on this award recipient, contact the River Heights Chamber of Commerce at 651.451.2266 or visit our website at [www.riverheights.com](http://www.riverheights.com).

### **About Flint Hills Resources**

Flint Hills Resources is a leading provider of transportation fuels used in the Upper Midwest. Based in Wichita, Kansas, Flint Hills Resources owns and operates refineries and chemical plants in Minnesota, Alaska, Illinois, Michigan and Texas, as well as four ethanol plants in Iowa. The company also owns a system of refined products and asphalt terminals that

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serve Texas and the Midwest. It markets products such as gasoline, diesel, jet fuel, ethanol, olefins, polymers and intermediate chemicals, base oils, and asphalt.

Flint Hills Resources' Pine Bend refinery in Rosemount, Minn., has a crude oil processing capacity of about 320,000 barrels per day. Pine Bend employs about 900 people full-time; an additional 200-2,000 union contractors work at the refinery daily on construction projects. More information about the company is available at [www.fhr.com](http://www.fhr.com).

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