



Media Memo

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Atmos Energy and Payless ShoeSource Partner to Keep Local Students Warm this Winter

Dallas (December 11, 2006)— On Wednesday, December 13, 2006, that dreaded morning walk to school will be a little easier for 250 kids at City Park Elementary thanks to Atmos Energy, Payless ShoeSource and Santa Claus and his elves. Atmos Energy is giving 225 pairs of shoes to the students, and Payless ShoeSource is donating \$500 in gift certificates for shoes and accessories and \$1,500 from the Payless Foundation Business/School Partnership Program for the school to use as needed.

“City Park Elementary has been our ‘Adopt-A-School’ for several years,” said Kim Cocklin, Atmos Energy senior vice president of utility operations. “Our employees tutor at the school year-round on a weekly basis, sponsor parties and field trips and donate school supplies as part of giving back to the community.”

Added Gerald Hardesty, Payless ShoeSource director of operations in Dallas: “The Payless Foundation Business/School Partnership Program funds donations throughout the year, supporting schools with at-risk student populations. We are part of the communities that we operate in and support our educational institutions and their pursuit of excellence in education.”

City Park Elementary serves three homeless shelters in the downtown area and most of the students at the school are economically disadvantaged and at-risk.

“We are so glad to have Atmos Energy and Payless ShoeSource as sponsors,” said Graciela Pontus, principal at City Park Elementary School. “Through their generosity our students will have warm feet and warm “soles” this Christmas.”

Atmos Energy’s Santa Claus and elves, along with Payless ShoeSource will make the delivery and presentation at 10:00 a.m. in the second-floor library of City Park Elementary, located at 1738 Gano Street in Dallas (Mapsco No. 45V).

WHO: Atmos Energy, Payless ShoeSource, Inc. and Santa Claus and his elves

WHAT: Donate 250 pairs of shoes to needy, at-risk students and \$1,500 to the school.

WHEN: 10:00 a.m., Wednesday, December 13, 2006

WHERE: City Park Elementary School, Second Floor, Library
1738 Gano Street
Dallas, Texas
MAPSCO No. 45V

VISUALS: Kids, a mountain of shoes, Santa Claus and Elves.

About Atmos Energy

Atmos Energy Corporation, headquartered in Dallas, is the country's largest natural-gas-only distributor, serving about 3.2 million gas utility customers. Atmos Energy's utility operations serve more than 1,500 communities in 12 states from the Blue Ridge Mountains in the East to the Rocky Mountains in the West. Atmos Energy's nonutility operations, organized under Atmos Energy Holdings, Inc., operate in 22 states. They provide natural gas marketing and procurement services to industrial, commercial and municipal customers and manage company-owned natural gas pipeline and storage assets, including one of the largest intrastate natural gas pipelines in Texas. Atmos Energy is a Fortune 500 company. For more information, visit www.atmosenergy.com.

About Payless ShoeSource, Inc.

Payless ShoeSource, Inc. is the largest specialty family footwear retailer in the Western Hemisphere, dedicated to democratizing fashion and design in footwear and accessories and inspiring fun, fashion possibilities for the family at a great value.

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