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BrightSource Energy Selected as World Economic Forum Technology Pioneer 2009 *Recognized for Advancements in Large-Scale Solar Thermal Energy Generation*

(Oakland, CA) December 4, 2008 – BrightSource Energy, Inc., a developer of large-scale solar thermal energy plants, announced today that the company has been selected as a 2009 Technology Pioneer by the World Economic Forum. The only solar company to win this year's prestigious award, BrightSource Energy is being recognized for helping global utility and industrial customers reduce their dependence on fossil fuels by providing clean, low-cost and reliable solar energy.

The Technology Pioneers program identifies companies that have contributed to the Forum's mission of improving the state of the world. To be selected as a Technology Pioneer, a company must be involved in the development of life-changing technology innovation and have the potential for long-term impact on business and society.

"BrightSource Energy is honored to be selected as a Technology Pioneer by the World Economic Forum for our commitment to developing solar into a viable global energy solution," said John Woolard, CEO of BrightSource Energy. "We've achieved significant technological accomplishments over the last year that have demonstrated the scalability and reliability of our Power Tower technology and reinforced our position as the proven leader in solar thermal energy."

BrightSource Energy's solar thermal energy plants are built on the company's proven Luz Power Tower (LPT) technology. The system uses thousands of small mirrors called heliostats to reflect sunlight onto a boiler atop a tower to produce high temperature steam. The steam is then piped to a conventional turbine inside a power block, which generates electricity. The electricity is then connected to the transmission grid for consumption. The steam is air-cooled and piped back into the system in a closed-loop, environmentally friendly process.

This fully integrated energy system offers the highest operating efficiencies and lowest capital costs in the industry. The result is a large-scale solar system that reliably delivers solar energy at a cost competitive with fossil fuels.

This year is the 10th anniversary for the Technology Pioneer program, which has previously recognized nearly 400 companies for their accomplishments and vision. This year, 34 companies were selected based on their success developing proven technologies that will have a deep impact on business and society.

André Schneider, Managing Director and Chief Operating Officer of the World Economic Forum congratulated Woolard and BrightSource "for their remarkable achievements" and added that – particularly in this challenging climate – he expects BrightSource "will contribute to the next wave of growth, with the innovative and entrepreneurial spirit that characterizes them."

The World Economic Forum is an independent international organization committed to improving the state of the world by engaging leaders in partnerships to shape global, regional and industry agendas.

Incorporated as a foundation in 1971, and based in Geneva, Switzerland, the World Economic Forum is impartial and not-for-profit; it is tied to no political, partisan or national interests (<http://www.weforum.org>).

About BrightSource Energy, Inc.

BrightSource Energy, Inc. provides clean, reliable and low cost solar energy for utility and industrial companies worldwide. The BrightSource Energy team has more than thirty years of experience designing, developing, and operating solar energy plants. BrightSource Energy helps its customers reduce their dependence on fossil fuels and is a leader in environmental stewardship. Headquartered in Oakland, Calif., BrightSource Energy is a privately held company with operations in the United States and Israel. To learn more about BrightSource Energy and solar thermal energy, visit www.brightsourceenergy.com.

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