

**GREAT FOREST AND LUTHIN ASSOCIATES  
LAUNCH JOINT VENTURE  
IN ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTING**

**INDUSTRY LEADERS WILL HELP BUSINESS ADDRESS  
'NEXT GENERATION' OF ENERGY MANAGEMENT CHALLENGES**

**New York, NY – August 18, 2008:** Great Forest and Luthin Associates, two of the tri-state area's most prominent energy and environmental management consultants, have formed a joint venture to provide energy management and sustainability services to the business community.

Both respected industry leaders, Great Forest is a provider of sustainability services and Luthin Associates specializes in energy procurement services.

With a combined total of 33 years in consulting, the two firms will provide new opportunities in the areas of competitive energy purchasing, master planning and energy conservation and sustainability.

"With energy prices soaring, corporations want to use energy more efficiently and reduce their carbon footprint," said Catherine Luthin, founder and principal of Luthin Associates. "Luthin Associates and Great Forest will leverage our existing experiences and introduce innovative services to meet the next generation of consulting needs in the facility management sector."

"Facility and property managers must manage their operating budgets while trying to meet the environmental goals of their organizations," said Michael Sanfilippo, director of energy services for Great Forest. "With uncertainty over energy prices and concerns about greenhouse gases, this joint venture will identify new opportunities for companies positioned to apply their knowledge and creativity."

The joining of two of the leading firms in the energy and environmental management business is a natural fit, according to Ms. Luthin and Mr. Sanfilippo. The joint venture will allow these leaders in the energy and sustainability industries to diversify and enhance their breadth of services for clients, they said.

Luthin Associates brings 14 years of experience in managing the procurement of energy for large commercial and institutional organizations. The firm is also a leader in regulatory and legislative consumer advocacy on energy issues.

Great Forest has 19 years of consulting experience in sustainability services, including environmental assessments, waste brokering, LEED consulting, ISO 14001 and 9001 certification, as well as energy services.

"The partnership of our two companies provides a unique combination of energy management with sustainability services that will be unmatched in the industry," said Ms. Luthin. "Great Forest is an innovative leader and exceptionally capable in the services it provides to its customers.

This partnership will enable each of us to broaden our customer base, introduce new services, and, most importantly, develop new products for clients. This will all be accomplished while we help preserve the environment."

"Great Forest sees the opportunity to work with Luthin Associates as an important step in bolstering institutional sustainability across the United States," said Mr. Sanfilippo. "Luthin Associates is one of the industry's most knowledgeable and respected energy management

firms. We are very pleased to be in partnership with Catherine Luthin and her team, and eagerly seek to provide our clients with a new and more comprehensive range of energy services.”

Great Forest is a sustainability consulting and program management firm based in New York City. Since 1989, Great Forest has specialized in designing and implementing programs that maximize clients’ profitability while enhancing the public good. These programs are increasingly important as the real estate industry has come to embrace sustainability as a necessary element to remain competitive. Corporate Social Responsibility, which strives for accountability for all stakeholders in all operations and activities, is a guiding principle of Great Forest’s philosophy. As a reflection of the variety of services that Great Forest provides, its client base is equally diverse and includes property management companies, financial institutions, hotels and clubs, and educational institutions.

Luthin Associates, Inc. is an energy management consulting firm providing national and regional clients with a variety of energy management services. Since 1994, Catherine Luthin and her associates have advised and represented the interests of non-profit and corporate entities on issues including deregulation, energy efficiency, strategic energy procurement, planning and management. The company’s core business is in energy purchasing, contract development and negotiation, alternate rate opportunities, energy efficiency analysis and customer education in deregulated markets. Luthin Associates’ clients have included major healthcare organizations, universities, state and local governments, real estate development companies and industrial/commercial facilities.

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