



ARCA Recycling Successfully Launches Seven Appliance Recycling Programs with Utilities

Minneapolis – April 5, 2016 – On Friday, April 1, ARCA Recycling launched seven turnkey appliance recycling programs with utilities, marking the largest one-day roll-out of such programs in the company’s history. ARCA Recycling, Inc., is a wholly owned subsidiary of Appliance Recycling Centers of America, Inc. (NASDAQ: ARCI).

“Since our company’s founding over 30 years ago, this was our greatest one-day operational accomplishment,” said Edward R. (Jack) Cameron, ARCA Recycling’s President. “I want to credit our outstanding team members who rose to the challenge to meet our utility clients’ timelines. ARCA’s infrastructure and capabilities developed over the years – including call centers, websites, proprietary software, on-the-ground logistics and state-of-the-art recycling centers – have enabled us to respond quickly to the increased demand for our services.”

Most of the seven programs launched April 1 relate to contracts in five states that were announced in March. ARCA Recycling is continuing to implement programs for utilities, with multiple programs expected to launch in May and June.

Cameron added, “Our scalable solution has proven effective across the United States and we continue to respond to strong interest from utilities.” Cameron noted that the increase in business has provided opportunities to open additional recycling centers while boosting appliance volumes at existing facilities.

Utilities are continuing to embrace the benefits of energy-efficiency programs for ratepayers and the environment, according to information from the American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy (ACEEE): “Total spending for customer-funded electric efficiency programs and natural gas programs together amounted to more than \$7 billion in 2014, more than five times what was invested in efficiency programs just a decade ago.” (ACEEE blog, March 25, 2016).

About Appliance Recycling Centers of America (ARCA)

ARCA’s three business components are uniquely positioned in the industry to work together to provide a full array of appliance-related services. ARCA Advanced Processing, LLC employs advanced technology to refine traditional appliance recycling techniques to achieve optimal revenue-generating and



environmental benefits. ARCA (www.ARCALinc.com) is also the exclusive North American distributor for UNTHA Recycling Technology (URT), one of the world's leading manufacturers of technologically advanced refrigerator recycling systems and recycling facilities for electrical household appliances and electronic scrap.

ARCA's regional centers process appliances at end of life to remove environmentally damaging substances and produce material byproducts for recycling for utilities in the U.S. and Canada. Eighteen company-owned stores under the name ApplianceSmart, Inc.[®] (www.ApplianceSmart.com) sell new appliances directly to consumers and provide affordable ENERGY STAR[®] options for energy efficiency appliance replacement programs.

This press release contains statements that are forward-looking statements as defined within the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, including statements regarding ARCA's future success. These forward-looking statements are subject to risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from the statements made, including the risks associated with general economic conditions, competition in the retail and recycling industries and regulatory risks. Other factors that could cause operating and financial results to differ are described in ARCA's periodic reports filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Other risks may be detailed from time to time in reports to be filed with the SEC.

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