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NEWS RELEASE

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Three State Radon Poster Contest Winners Announced

(Salt Lake City, Utah) – The Utah Department of Environmental Quality’s Division of Radiation Control today announced three state winners for the 2009 National Radon Poster Contest. First and second-place winners were selected from Centennial Middle School and third-place winner was from South Jordan Middle School.

Congratulations to first-place winner Emma Sorensen, second-place winner Taite Haynes, and third-place winner Courtney Morgan.

This year was a record breaking year for participation. Students from eight different schools, ages 9 – 14, rose to the challenge by creating 138 posters. Posters illustrated the dangers of radon, where it comes from, how it gets into our homes, and how residents can test their home for this invisible, radioactive gas.

The creative artwork, displayed at the Whitmore Library and the Department of Environmental Quality, was open to the public for voting from October 16th through 27th. Winning posters were selected on content accuracy, visual communication of a specific topic, poster reproducibility (with title/topic on the front) for possible publication, and originality.

The 2009 state winners and the first-place winner’s school will receive a cash award. The winning posters will be sent to Washington D. C. to be entered in the national contest. The national winner, a parent, and teacher will win an all-expense paid trip to Washington, D.C., to participate in an awards ceremony, in January 2009.

“The poster contest is a great way to educate people about the dangers of radon, the second leading cause of lung cancer,” said John Hultquist, radon program manager with the Division of Radiation Control. “Testing for radon in homes and schools is the only way to find out if a radon problem exists.”

For more information about radon, please visit www.radon.utah.gov.

