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For Immediate Release

**Agreement Reached between Protient Inc and
Wisconsin Environmental Law Advocates**

Madison, WI -- Protient Inc. and Wisconsin Environmental Law Advocates (WELA) announced today they have entered into an agreement that will benefit the Lower Sugar River Watershed and the North Fork Juda Branch Creek. Under the agreement Protient will reduce its loading of phosphorus and iron pollution to the North Fork Juda Branch and will provide \$20,000.00 to the Green County Land Conservation Department to fund and implement projects necessary to reduce phosphorus loadings and non-point source pollution in the Lower Sugar River Watershed. Phosphorus pollution causes algal blooms, taste and odor problems, fish kills and beach closings in area waterways.

Protient and WELA worked together to assess Protient's processes and agreed that facility and process changes are necessary to reduce pollutants discharged from the facility to the North Fork Juda Branch Creek. The agreed upon process and facility changes are designed to *meet* and *exceed* the terms of Protient's water pollution permit and will significantly reduce Protient's wastewater discharges of phosphorus, total suspended solids, and biological oxygen demand from its Juda, Wisconsin facility.

"Protient is proud to demonstrate its commitment to the environment by working with the Green County Land Conservation Department and WELA and making significant investments within the plant to ensure the discharge of high quality effluent," said Vice President of Operations, Robin Muir. "Our contribution of funds to the Green County Land Conservation Department will help reduce phosphorus non-point source pollution discharges to area waterways. We are proud to provide corporate leadership in this sound conservation endeavor."

Beyond non-point source reductions Protient has committed to operational changes including the replacement of certain chemicals used in the treatment of Protient's effluent. The agreement also establishes new phosphorous discharge restrictions, more stringent than required by its current Department of Natural Resources (DNR) issued water pollution permit. The Agreement resolves WELA's legal challenges to Protient's WPDES Permit, issued in July 2006 by the Department of Natural Resources.

"WELA is pleased to work creatively to protect water quality in Wisconsin's valued waterways and to reduce point source and non point source contributions of phosphorus that deter and impede recreation in and on those waters," said WELA spokesperson Janet Boerboom. "Protient's commitment to reduce its discharge of phosphorus and contribution to reduce nonpoint source pollution in the Lower Sugar River Watershed are admirable. While continued efforts by the Wisconsin DNR, industry, citizens and environmental organizations are necessary to ensure healthy and usable water in Wisconsin, Protient's stewardship creates a model for the future."

Protient and WELA wish to recognize former Wisconsin State Trout Unlimited Chairman Bill Pielsticker for his expertise in researching and assessing methods to reduce agricultural loadings of phosphorus to the Lower Sugar River Watershed. Protient was represented by Van R. Ellig, an environmental attorney from Fergus Falls, MN, and WELA was represented by attorney Betsy Lawton of Midwest Environmental Advocates.