SPIRE Investment Partners

PRESS RELEASE

Richard Vodra, Expert on "Peak Oil," Is Named Financial Planner of the Year

McLean, VA- Richard E. Vodra, J.D., CFP® of Spire Investment Partners, LLC, has been named the Financial Planner of the Year by the Financial Planning Association, National Capital Area Chapter (FPA NCA) at the chapter's annual gala on June 12.

Vodra is an expert on the financial implications of "peak oil" and global climate change. Peak oil refers to the point in time when the world will reach a peak in the production of oil. Once the world hits that peak, oil production will go into decline, prices will rise, and shortages will develop worldwide. The American lifestyle which depends on consumption of cheap energy will face dramatic changes. Some experts believe that "peak oil" production has already been reached; others predict the peak will occur by 2012.

In 2007, Vodra was the first person to speak to the Financial Planning Association's National Retreat about the implications of the world's finite energy resources. He was also the first financial planner to speak to the Association for the Study of Peak Oil and Gas at their national conference last October.

He has written two articles on these subjects for *Financial Planning* Magazine. More recently, Financial Advisor magazine wrote about Vodra and his planning practice in "A Compelling Inconvenience," which appeared in its March 2008 issue (copy of article attached).

In 1997, Vodra served as president of the Northern Virginia Chapter of the Institute of Certified Financial Planners, the predecessor of the FPA NCA Chapter. He served on the local board through most of the 1990s. Nationally, he serves as Vice-Chair of the Public Issues Advisory Council and as a member of the editorial review board of the *Journal of Financial Planning*.

About Richard Vodra

Richard Vodra is a founding member of the Nazrudin Project, a group of about 125 financial advisors who are responsible for much of the "Life Planning" movement in the last decade.

He manages $100 million for 40 clients, who have an average of $2 million invested with him. His "Worldview Two" portfolio includes direct investments in energy production, global currencies and global bonds.

Vodra received the Certified Financial Planner designation in 1988. He worked with the Financial Services Group, Mason Associates and the Acacia Group before joining Spire Investment Partners in 1997. His book, *Enough Money*, was published in 2002.

He graduated Phi Beta Kappa with a degree in economics from the College of Wooster, an independent liberal arts college in Wooster, Ohio, nationally recognized for its curriculum of independent learning. He received his law degree from the Yale Law School.