CHESEAUX-SUR-LAUSANNE, Switzerland, 19 January 2021 – Ohio-based energy provider, Dayton Power & Light (DP&L), in partnership with Sinclair College’s National UAS Training and Certification Center, is employing a fleet of senseFly eBee X fixed-wing drones to improve its large-scale data collection and mapping capacity. Over a 9-month period, unmanned aerial systems (UAS) will be used to inspect 4,000 miles of power transmission lines, supporting electricity delivery for the 1.25 million residents of the Dayton, Ohio region.

The collaboration involves DP&L and Sinclair College employing four senseFly eBee X drones to gain insights to address the diverse challenges facing the energy industry, such as vegetation encroachment near power lines or damage caused by storms that can lead to electricity delivery disruptions. The resulting high-resolution imagery will be used to build an accurate picture of the area with products including maps and digital elevation models (DEM), aiding day-to-day essential maintenance and streamlining long-term efficiencies in energy management.

To support its team in deploying and integrating the eBee X to generate quality and accurate data, DP&L is also partnering with Sinclair College to spearhead the company’s drone training efforts—leveraging the State of Ohio TechCred program to train multiple operators and equip the DP&L team with the knowledge needed to support drone mapping and inspection projects.

“Having access to accurate and timely data to detect any changes to the power lines, whether gradual or sudden, is crucial to keep power up-and-running, particularly in Ohio, where storms are frequent,” comments Rob Beeler, Customer Business Manager at DP&L. “This partnership with senseFly and Sinclair College is a key milestone for us, and we’re excited to be playing a part in exploring the full potential of UAS technology in the energy sector at scale. We’re also happy to be working closely with the local Dayton community throughout the project, keeping them informed of the project’s progress as well as our ongoing commitment to limiting power outages and providing better customer service.”

Dr. Andrew Shepherd, Executive Director and Chief Scientist for UAS at Sinclair College adds: “The eBee X is a high-quality system that is easy to use and simple to integrate into workflows, so it was a quick decision to adopt senseFly for this project. The end-to-end usability of the technology is also key here, allowing us to quickly generate detailed map and terrain data and seamlessly create a permanent record for DP&L to share with internal and external stakeholders.”

Gilles Labossière, CEO at senseFly, comments: “This is an excellent example of how organizations can use multiple drones on a project to help increase capacity and improve efficiencies. The adoption of drone technology has important benefits across the energy industry, and we are pleased to support Sinclair College and DP&L to highlight how drones can radically improve workflows.”

For further information, visit www.sensefly.com.

About senseFly

At senseFly, we believe in using technology to make work safer and more efficient. As the global leader in fixed-wing drones, our proven drone solutions simplify the collection and analysis of geospatial data, allowing professionals in surveying, agriculture, engineering, and humanitarian aid to make better decisions, faster. The company is a commercial drone subsidiary of Parrot Group. For
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About Dayton Power & Light and AES
The Dayton Power and Light Company is the principal subsidiary of DPL Inc. (DPL), a regional energy provider and an AES company. DPL’s primary subsidiaries include The Dayton Power and Light Company. The Dayton Power and Light Company, a regulated electric utility, provides service to over 527,000 customers in West Central Ohio. For more information about the company, please visit www.dpandl.com. Connect with DP&L at www.twitter.com/dpltoday, www.linkedin.com/company/dayton-power-and-light, and at www.facebook.com/DPLToday.

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About Sinclair College’s National UAS Training and Certification Center
Sinclair College’s National UAS Training and Certification Center represents the culmination of a focused vision dedicated to creating one of the most comprehensive and pioneering facilities for the advancement of the UAS industry through training, consulting, and applied research support. Since 2008, Sinclair College has been at the forefront of UAS innovation, creating partnerships, developing leading curriculum, and investing significantly to establish a nationally prominent program dedicated to meeting the workforce needs of the growing UAS industry. To learn more about the Sinclair College National UAS Training and Certification Center, visit https://uas.sinclair.edu/