



September 19, 2006  
For Immediate Release

Contact Rob Seitz, 914- 654-1506  
rob.rsc@verizon.net

Trudy Sherwood, Marketing Communications  
District Energy St. Paul, 651-297-8955

### **District Energy St. Paul to Receive Award for “Green Energy” Program**

September 19, Chicago, IL— District Energy St. Paul, St. Paul, MN has been named the winner of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Inspiring Efficiency Innovation Award for its “Green Energy” program.

The award will be presented by the Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance (MEEA) at MEEA’s annual “Solutions” Conference, September 27-28 in Chicago. A large part of District Energy’s “Green Energy” program is the innovative combined heat and power (CHP) facility. This CHP facility was jointly developed in 2003 by a District Energy affiliate and Duke Energy Generating Services. This facility turns wood waste into green energy for District Energy’s downtown customer base including Minnesota’s State Capitol Complex.

“In 2003, a new era in energy production began in downtown St. Paul. For the first time, our customers heated their buildings with water produced primarily from ‘green energy’ generated from wood waste collected from the Twin Cities metropolitan area,” explained Anders Rydaker, president, District Energy,. “We turned around what once was a waste disposal problem into a renewable fuel, which will eventually replace up to 80% of District Energy’s use of coal and oil. The plant is now simultaneously producing electricity for Xcel Energy and heat for District Energy. We are honored to be recognized by our peers with this distinguished award.”

Robert F. Kennedy, Jr., one of the nation’s most prominent defenders of the environment, is the keynote speaker at this year’s conference. “Our Solutions Conference theme this year is “Empowerment” and District Energy along with all of this year’s Inspiring Efficiency Award winners were selected for the programs that they have in place that empower consumers and businesses with the tools and information they need to be more energy efficient,” said Alecia Ward, president, MEEA.

Other 2006 Inspiring Efficiencies award winners include:

- Inspiring Efficiency Leadership Award—Diane Munns, Commissioner, Iowa Utilities Board for making energy efficiency a top priority during her Presidency of the National Association of Regulatory Commissioners and for her leadership role in the Midwest Natural Gas Initiative and as co-chair of EPA’s National Action Plan for Energy Efficiency.

-more-

- Inspiring Efficiency Leadership Award—Robert L. Cowles, Wisconsin State Senator representing the second Senate district, for his 24 years of public service and dedication to energy efficiency culminating in the 2006 landmark legislation that solidifies Wisconsin’s investment in a balance energy portfolio for the future.
- Inspiring Efficiency Education Award—Missouri Botanical Garden, EarthWays Center, St. Louis, MO and its Missouri Schools Going Solar education program for providing K-12 students with hands-on experience with photovoltaic (PV) technology and energy education that extends beyond the classroom to the community.
- Inspiring Efficiency Impact Award— Alliant Energy-Wisconsin Power and Light of Madison, WI Shared Savings program. Offering performance-based financing, the Shared Savings program helps Wisconsin Power and Light customers benefit from new energy-efficient equipment and technology by identifying cost-effective projects and financing them with the energy savings the projects generate. The program has invested over \$320 million into Wisconsin’s economy over the last eight years, helping customers lower energy costs and increase competitiveness, and the cumulative energy savings has deferred the building of a new 250-megawatt power plant.
- Inspiring Efficiency Innovation Award —Cleveland Green Building Coalition’s Emerging Green Designers Symposium, Cleveland, OH, for connecting young architects and design professionals with local homebuilders and developers.
- Inspiring Efficiency Marketing Award—MidAmerican Energy, Davenport, IA, for the *Mr. Green/Save some green*<sup>®</sup> campaign, demystifying energy efficiency and providing Iowa consumers with low-cost/no-cost energy solutions for their homes.

A special Chairman’s Award will be presented to Mary O’Toole, former Chair of MEEA. Ms. O’Toole is being acknowledged for fostering energy efficiency collaborations throughout the Midwest. She is currently president of KO Solutions LLC, Chicago, a firm that assists clients in the development of regulatory and environmental strategies, and a member of the National Engineering Advisory Board at Marquette University.

Registration for the Solutions Conference can be done online at [www.mwalliance.org](http://www.mwalliance.org), or by calling 312-640-8900

# # #

### **About the 2006 Midwest Energy Solutions Conference**

The Midwest Energy Solutions Conference is the region’s premier energy conference, specifically designed for the Midwest’s unique energy challenges. It is an opportunity to learn, network, be inspired, and create a plan for the region’s energy health. Industry leaders, policy makers, regulators, utilities, consumers, environmental groups and consumer groups from across the Midwest will meet in Chicago to discuss critical issues that will impact the region and the country for years to come. For questions or more information, contact Alecia Ward at 312-587-8390 ext. 15 or at [award@mwalliance.org](mailto:award@mwalliance.org)