



For immediate release
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Minnesota's Renewable Energy Potential: Lessons from the 2009 Sweden Green Energy Tour

St. Paul, Minnesota – District Energy St. Paul was privileged to be part of the recent Green Energy Tour led by The BioBusiness Alliance of Minnesota and the Scandinavian Cleantech Export Association (SCE). The visit to western Sweden was a product of the International Renewable Energy Technology Institute's System for Technology Transfer (IRETI-STT). The Institute represents a partnership between the Kingdom of Sweden and the United States to deliver critical technology transfer services and academic support across the globe. The tour included large-scale district heating power plants, small-scale wood-fired district energy systems, solar and wind installations, and a range of anaerobic digesters. The delegation was comprised of industry, academic, government, agricultural, forestry, and entrepreneurial interests. They have returned with important lessons on how Minnesota can benefit from Sweden's renewable energy policy and industry achievements. District Energy and The BioBusiness Alliance of Minnesota are hosting an opportunity to learn more about their ventures and reflections from this cross-section of Minnesota.

[District Energy](#) is St. Paul's unique endeavor with Swedish origins, utilizing local wood residues to serve our customers, environment and the community. The combined heat and power plant, serving 80% of downtown St. Paul, is run primarily by renewable fuel. We are committed to moving swiftly toward the Swedish model of a fully integrated renewable energy system, with potential for greater use of alternative biomass sources, solar thermal, and waste heat recovery.

The [BioBusiness Alliance of Minnesota](#) has been a significant catalyst in supporting District Energy and positioning Minnesota as a global leader in biobusiness. The SCE Green Energy Tour is an outstanding example of their efforts to expand our local portfolio of renewable energy research, development, industry growth, and job creation. This vision was recently outlined in their publication of "[Destination 2025](#)".

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