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## For immediate release

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## District Energy St. Paul Wins Global District Energy Climate Award

New York City, NY, September 23, 2013 – District Energy St. Paul is pleased to announce its Global District Energy Climate Excellence Award under the modernization category. The International District Energy Association (IDEA) and Euroheat & Power sponsor the award to promote district energy's critical role in helping our communities meet their sustainability goals. According to award organizers, "we need solutions that make it possible to combine sound economic growth with little environmental impact and customer convenience." District Energy St. Paul exceeded these expectations and was selected from dozens of global applications by an international panel of experts led by the International Energy Agency

Through this award, District Energy St. Paul's global leadership in continuous improvement efforts, benchmarking excellence, and demonstrating the evolution of a high-performing district energy system are recognized. Modernization of the system includes solar thermal technology, data collection enhancements, customer service investments, and climate-related community education. Ken Smith, President and CEO, shares "District Energy's vision propels us to promote energy conservation, provide exceptional customer service, and give careful attention to environmental concerns. Our company values push us toward modernization and integration. Continued advancement of our technologies, our infrastructure, and our customer service has kept our business competitive in the energy market."

The carbon footprint from our high-performance solar thermal installation resulted in carbon emission reductions of approximately 460,000 pounds in 2012. Wood residuals and waste heat serve as two of the primary fuels providing flexibility to the heating system, allowing the heating system to be over 50% renewable. In 30 years of service, District Energy tripled the space heated while cutting carbon emissions per square-foot-served by over 50 percent.

District Energy St. Paul realized the vision of integrating large-scale solar thermal into its hot water district energy system in March 2011. Project implementation offered a unique system application, lowered the system's overall carbon footprint, and positively influenced the transformation of the U.S. solar thermal market. District Energy served to inspire a customer, Ramsey County's Law Enforcement Center, to evaluate and ultimately install a small-scale solar thermal installation on a

building to serve their higher demand for domestic hot water. The opportunity to explore the integration of this small-scale system into District Energy's hot water loop was an important step in exploring the challenges with connecting a customer owned and operated installation.

The planned development and construction of the Green Line light rail transit corridor through the central business district of Saint Paul offered the opportunity for District Energy to upgrade its data infrastructure. This complex project included removal of 1983 vintage copper and smaller fiber optic communication lines and subsequent replacement with new fiber optic communication cable to provide crucial, real-time leak detection, communication between meters and the central plant, and important data connections for partners.

To maintain stable rates, each customer needs a unique formula for service support to keep their building running effectively. Monitoring efficiency through data inputs results in effective management of customer costs, improved tracking and sharing of information, and reduced damage to piping systems.

District Energy St. Paul places a high value on environmental stewardship and education and has significantly expanded community engagement efforts. By seeking partnerships with other leading-edge organizations, District Energy maximizes its reach within Saint Paul and beyond to achieve local energy solutions and minimize effects on global climate.

District Energy St. Paul has earned a global reputation for their leadership in the energy field. As a company with local roots, District Energy is proud to see our system serve as an international example of smart, reliable energy systems that create benefits for our customers, our community, and the environment.

To learn more about District Energy St. Paul, visit <a href="http://www.districtenergy.com">http://www.districtenergy.com</a>.

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