

EnergyLine



Published by Market Street Energy Company, service provider to District Energy St. Paul

District Energy Wins Inspiring Efficiency Innovation Award

The Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance (MEEA) presented an Inspiring Efficiency Innovation Award to District Energy St. Paul on September 28 in Chicago. District Energy President Anders Rydaker and Vice President of Operations Michael Burns accepted the award on behalf of the company. The prestigious award recognizes District Energy's "Green Energy Program."

Anne Hunt, Saint Paul's Deputy Policy Director—Environment, presented the award to Rydaker and Burns

on behalf of Mayor Chris Coleman and the City. In her remarks Hunt stated, "District Energy's staff and board of directors should be commended and recognized for their vision, innovation and determination to bring 'green' renewable energy to the Saint Paul community long before being 'green' was fashionable and before natural gas prices were as high as they are today."

The Saint Paul City Council went a step further on October 4, passing a

resolution that recognizes and honors the achievements of District Energy and its Green Energy Program.

Minnesota Congresswoman Betty McCollum sent a congratulatory letter to Rydaker and staff stating, "District Energy St. Paul's



Anne Hunt presents an Inspiring Efficiency Award to Anders Rydaker and Michael Burns in recognition of District Energy's Green Energy Program.

'green energy' practices have improved our quality of life and have changed the way we think about the use of our resources. You are true innovators and your great work is helping our community and our state as

we strive to be more energy efficient."

The awards ceremony was part of MEEA's annual Midwest Energy Solutions Conference, where energy stakeholders gather to raise awareness and reinforce the importance of energy efficiency in the Midwest. Robert F. Kennedy, Jr., one of the nation's most prominent defenders of the environment, was the keynote speaker at the September 27-28 event which focused on "Empowerment."



Anders J. Rydaker
President

A Message from the President:

I'm looking out the window and it's snowing. What happened to the colorful transition between summer and winter?

Minnesota weather is almost as volatile as today's energy prices. District Energy can't control the weather, but we can stabilize energy prices for our customers. And we do this by using a local, renewable resource—clean wood waste—as our primary fuel. The general energy market affects us to some extent because we rely on natural gas and oil as backup fuels. But our goal is to become less and less dependent on fossil fuels to combat global warming, increase energy efficiency and keep energy dollars in the local economy.

Renewable energy will play a major role in the future of mankind. We are excited about the possibilities and committed to doing our part to help the nation achieve energy independence. With this goal in mind, we plan to increase our renewable energy portfolio in the years ahead so that energy production will have less of an impact on our environment.

Enjoy the change of seasons and best wishes for the holidays!

District Energy/District Cooling Boards:

George C. Fremder * **

Chairperson

Second Vice President, Corporate Services

Securian Financial Group

Mark E. Rancone * **

Vice Chairperson

Vice President

Roseville Properties Management Co.

William G. Morrissey * **

Secretary/Treasurer

President, Morrissey Hospitality Companies

T. Jerry Barnes * **

Business Manager

St. Paul Pipefitters Local 455

Todd S. Nicholson * **

President, Litho Express, Inc.

Richard D. Schreiner * **

Director of Facility Operations

United Hospital

Edward P. Starr * **

Retired Saint Paul City Attorney

Patricia A. Wolf, CPM, RPA **

Commercial Real Estate Services, Inc.

* District Energy Board Member

** District Cooling Board Member

Director Emeritus:

Bernard V. St. Peter

Market Street Energy Board:

John D. Taylor

Chairperson

Associate Vice President

Saint John's University

Robert D. Lowe, Sr.

Vice Chairperson

Retired International Vice President

United Association of Plumbers and Pipefitters

Barbara L. Lukermann

Secretary/Treasurer

Senior Fellow, University of Minnesota

Researcher, CURA

George C. Fremder

Second Vice President, Corporate Services

Securian Financial Group

Susan J. Sands

Owner, S&B Properties

Thomas Wilkolak

President and CEO

Grocery Shopping Network

“Survivor—Energy Planet” Goes Global!



Joyce Anderson shares information about District Energy's commitment to renewable energy with students in Belize.

While vacationing in Belize last winter, Joyce Anderson, vice president of accounting, shared District Energy's "Survivor—Energy Planet" education program with four groups of students in the small fishing village of Hopkins. The 120 students included 4th, 5th and 6th standards (they are not referred to by grades). Anderson was warmly welcomed by an excited and appreciative group of kids. They especially enjoyed receiving the green renewable energy bracelets and the educational brochures that she distributed to them.

One of the teachers, Mr. Costello, also teaches science, so the students in his class were more aware of green and renewable energy. The group shared with Anderson that a cogeneration plant is being built approximately two hours away in the mountains above Hopkins, where sugarcane stalks will be burned to provide a more affordable power source for the residents. The waste gas will actually generate the energy to run the plant. In describing our cogeneration process of burning wood waste, she compared the Dutch elm disease that has killed many trees in our cities to the Lethal Yellow disease that has killed numerous palm trees in Belize during the past decade.

Currently, Belize purchases electricity from Mexico, which is extremely expensive. Therefore, it is important for them to create their own energy sources. In addition to the cogeneration plant, two hydro projects are in the works. These projects are controversial as they require damming portions of the river, which is unpopular with the affected residents.

Anderson was unable to use a laptop computer for the game show portion of the energy presentation. Instead she used a small solar panel and a fan to demonstrate another form of renewable energy. The experiments were a big hit with the very enthusiastic students.

Despite a shortage of learning supplies such as basic paper and pencils, Anderson says, "The kids were so happy and smiling. It was fun and worthwhile for me to be with them and teach them about renewable energy."

Good Fortune Happens by Chance!

It was a twist of fate that set the career course for Dave Roske-Groth. Entering the Navy at the age of 18, he was assigned to a company commander who was inclined to wield his authority and sent the young sailor to Boiler A School. Working on boilers for the Navy is a difficult, hot and sometimes undesirable assignment, but this action turned out to be the best thing that could have happened for Roske-Groth. He left the Navy with a career in the boiler industry that has served him well to this day.

Roske-Groth's education and training landed him his first position at St. Benedict's College in 1978 and then more than 16 years at the University of Minnesota. Next he was employed by NRG before accepting a job as fuel handler here at Market Street Energy in 2003. He progressed to operations maintenance planner, and in May 2006 was promoted to maintenance supervisor. The challenge of a "scheduled plant shutdown" is especially appealing to Roske-Groth. "I like coordinating the staff and vendors to organize and follow through on a preventive

maintenance check on all of the major components in the CHP plant. This exercise involves identifying situations and areas that need attention immediately or making a decision to do a short-term repair and waiting until later to do a major overhaul."

An interesting sidebar that surfaced in a conversation with Roske-Groth was an answer to the question, "Tell us something about yourself that we'd be surprised to learn about you." His quick and witty response was, "I used to have hair!"

Life away from work includes his wife of 28 years, Mary, who happens to be his childhood sweetheart. They actually grew up in the same neighborhood. Together they care for two dogs, Kadie and Trudee, and two cats, Chloe and Clara. Their favorite pastime is hiking the Superior Hiking Trail along Lake Superior. On a recent trip they included their eleven-month-old grandnephew that absolutely loved a 3.5-mile trek in the woods. Roske-Groth called the little guy a "talking backpack" and says,



Dave Roske-Groth

"All six of our grandnieces and grandnephews are just a 'blast' to be with, and Mary and I enjoy them immensely."

Spending time at their cabin near Moose Lake is also a favorite activity. Communing with nature gives them a sense of fulfillment and satisfaction, providing a welcome break from the daily routines at work and at home.

St. Paul Travelers Awarded ENERGY STAR® Label for Buildings

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has awarded St. Paul Travelers' two largest campuses in Saint Paul, Minn., and Hartford, Conn., the prestigious ENERGY STAR® label for demonstrating superior energy performance. The ENERGY STAR label for buildings distinguishes these two campuses as ranking among the top 25 percent nationwide in energy performance.

"The EPA applauds St. Paul Travelers for its environmental leadership and strong commitment to conserving our natural resources," said Kathleen Hogan, Director of EPA's Climate Protection Partnerships Division.

St. Paul Travelers is an early adopter of sustainable business practices to reduce the

company's environmental footprint. As part of this initiative, the company has implemented environmentally sound programs, such as incorporating hybrid vehicles into the business fleet and instituting an active recycling program for office waste. Both the Saint Paul and Hartford campuses are connected to district heating and cooling systems that are energy efficient and dramatically reduce environmental effects.

St. Paul Travelers also announced in early October its participation in the EPA's "Climate Leaders" program as part of its continued commitment to sustainable business practices and its focus on improving the

environment of the communities in which it does business. Climate Leaders is a voluntary industry-government partnership that works with companies to develop long-term, comprehensive climate change strategies and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

District Energy is proud that its green energy service is helping St. Paul Travelers achieve its long-term sustainability goals at its corporate headquarters.





Ask Alex

Alex Sleiman
Vice President
Customer Relations

I want to share a few reminders with our building operating engineers about shutting down your cooling system for the winter and preparing your equipment for the upcoming heating season.

This past summer we experienced some water losses from the chilled water loop that we were not able to detect in the distribution system or in any of the 85 buildings on our cooling system. It appears that there was intermittent drainage.

Please notify us when you decide to drain a coil. We will tag the valves on the coil so that when it is ready to be filled, it will be properly flushed with City water prior to being filled with distribution system water. We will also make sure all the drain valves and vent valves on the coil are secured and shut.

Water treatment chemical costs have risen just as dramatically as energy costs over the last six years. Therefore, it is critical that water drainage be eliminated to help us reduce water make-up and treatment expenses. Reducing our costs will help us keep your cooling costs low.

If you need to winterize a cooling coil in your building, first isolate and drain the coil and then use air to blow out water trapped at low points. We do not recommend the use of glycol flushing, but if it is a last resort to reduce potential freeze-up of a coil, please call us so our distribution personnel can help you secure and tag the coil for the winter. In the spring, our personnel will help you properly flush the coil to avoid bacteria growth prior to placing it back online.

Here is a brief checklist as you prepare your equipment for the heating season:

- Install new air filters on all of the air-handling units and check your outside air dampers to make sure they are working freely and closing tightly when the units are off.
- Check and calibrate heat exchanger control valves with the outdoor reset temperature setting.
- Oil and grease heating pumps.
- Check the expansion tank for water log.
- Make sure the water treatment PH in the building's heating loop is correct.
- Check the pressure drop across the heat exchanger to make sure it is not exceeding the manufacturer's specifications. This will help determine if the unit's inner tubes are clean so you won't lose heating efficiency.

When all of your equipment is operating efficiently, you will reduce your building's energy consumption, resulting in lower maintenance and operating costs.



Market Street Energy Company, LLC
The Saint Paul Building
Six West Fifth Street, Suite 700
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102

