

## Minnesota Boat Club

Little did we know when we installed our heating pipes in a box girder below the Wabasha Street Bridge in 2002 that we would further extend them to an island in the Mississippi River in 2007. But that's exactly what we have been working on for the past



District heating service to the Minnesota Boat Club, located on Raspberry Island, will start in January 2008.

month in order to provide heating service to our newest customer, the Minnesota Boat Club.


"We are thrilled that District Energy is able to provide us with the greener energy we need," says Club President Charlene McEvoy.

Located on Raspberry Island in downtown Saint Paul, the Minnesota Boat Club is Minnesota's oldest athletic institution. The Club offers programs for men and women of all ages, including adult competitive teams, adult recreational teams, and a youth program for athletes ages 14-18. Competitive training participants represent the

Minnesota Boat Club and the City of Saint Paul at competitions throughout the United States and Canada.

The original wooden boathouse, built in 1870, was replaced in 1910 by the existing boathouse. A major renovation in 2003 created a banquet hall on the building's upper level that can be rented for meetings, parties, or other special events. The facility offers outstanding views of the downtown Saint Paul skyline and the Mississippi River Valley.

Any structure situated on the banks of a major river is subject to flooding, and the Minnesota Boat Club is no exception. A 1965 spring flood washed away some of the building's walls, which were replaced with concrete block walls on the up river end of the building. Floodwaters in 1993 reached the bottom of the boat bay doors, and a spring 2001 flood resulted in more than a foot of standing water in the boathouse but no permanent damage. Minnesota's mild winters in recent years have lowered flood threats.

Connecting the Minnesota Boat Club to our heating system provided District Energy with a unique set of design challenges. "The bridge structure and our hot water pipes expand and contract in different directions throughout the year," says Project Manager David Urke. "This results in some unusual piping configurations to ensure that the pipes that extend through the bridge are engineered to compensate for this movement." Despite the challenges, heating service to the Boat Club is on schedule to start in January. 



Anders J. Rydaker  
President

### A Message from the President:

In our last newsletter, we introduced you to Ever-Green Energy (formerly Market Street Energy) and the new "wave" logos created for that company as well as District Energy St. Paul and District Cooling St. Paul. This edition of our newsletter reflects a redesigned format and the use of color—a fresh, new look to complement our new name and logos.

The new District Energy logo enjoyed widespread visibility in October when we had the privilege of co-sponsoring the 43rd annual Nobel Conference hosted by Gustavus Adolphus College in Saint Peter, Minn. The conference theme, "Heating Up: The Energy Debate," addressed many critical issues currently being discussed locally, across the nation, and around the world.

More than 6,000 people listened to seven renowned energy and resource experts talk about the future of our planet if climate change continues at its present rate, the capping and permitting of carbon dioxide emissions, and the effectiveness and affordability of present and future alternative energy sources.

The presentations were truly enlightening and thought-provoking. In my mind, the message is clear: we must act now to curb the economical and environmental impacts of climate change that are already being felt around the world. Future generations are depending on us.

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# Notable Quotes from the 2007 Nobel Conference

## Read what leading world authorities have to say about climate change.

These quotes are from an article written by A.J.S. Rayl in the Nobel Conference magazine, August 2007.

Visit [www.gustavus.edu/events/nobelconference/2007/](http://www.gustavus.edu/events/nobelconference/2007/) for additional information and speaker Webcasts.

“There is a huge gap between what is understood about global warming by the scientific community and what is known about global warming by those who need to know, the public and policy-makers. We must close the gap and move on to a fundamentally different energy pathway within a decade to avoid setting in motion unstoppable climatic change with irreversible effects.”

*James Hansen, Director, NASA Goddard Institute for Space Studies, Columbia University Earth Institute*

“Global oil production has peaked. For the first time since the Industrial Revolution, the geological supply of an essential resource will not meet demand and the crash could be devastating. We are facing an unprecedented problem.”

*Kenneth Deffeyes, Professor of Geosciences Emeritus, Princeton University*

“In order to significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions, energy producers must be given incentives to invest in existing low-carbon energy supply sources and to develop new ones. At the same time, consumers of energy must be given incentives to use energy more efficiently.”

*Paul Joskow, Director, Center for Energy and Environmental Policy Research, Massachusetts Institute of Technology*

“[Cellulosic] biofuels offer an alternative to conventional energy sources that can offer dramatic benefits with respect to sustainability and environmental objectives, energy security, and the economy. If we do this right, we can dramatically improve the outlook for rural America while also addressing pressing energy security and climate issues.”

*Lee Rybeck Lynd, Professor, Thayer School of Engineering, Dartmouth College*

“The problem is we don't yet have a proven technology that can capture and sequester the carbon from coal in an economically feasible manner and at the scale where it would make a significant impact on worldwide carbon emissions. The American public does not know this. We need to capture and put away billions of tons per year to reduce CO2 emission levels from coal plants by 10 percent. It's a staggering amount.”

*Steven Chu, Nobel Laureate in Physics 1997; Director, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, California*



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### A View from “Down Under the Streets” ...

Scott Oettinger and Tony Young, distribution and building services representatives, agreed to give us a brief overview of just what goes on under the streets of downtown Saint Paul. You may have noticed their white truck sporting the new District Energy logo with the bright red wave. From time to time you see them emerging from or descending into a manhole and maybe you wondered, “What are they doing down there?” The manholes are an access to the infrastructure that was built in the early 1980s and 1990s to pump hot and

chilled water in a closed-loop system of underground pipes. The hot and chilled water pipes (totaling more than 50 miles) are connected by various types of valves for draining and filling and require consistent maintenance.


Scott and Tony perform other important tasks that include doing locates to identify hot and chilled water lines as well as the fiber optics buried underground. By locating and painting these areas, they protect the pipes and fiber from damage from other contractors that could potentially interrupt service to District Energy customers. They are also in charge of service shutdowns when there is a tie-in to a new customer building. This involves isolating and draining the pipes in the area and re-filling them when the job is complete. Before this process begins, the valves are checked to make sure they are in good working order. Another part of their job requires them to provide assistance to mechanical, electrical, civil (excavators) and insulator contractors and to keep them stocked with needed supplies.

Scott has worked for Ever-Green Energy for six years while Tony has been employed here for one and a half years.

Surprisingly, when asked what they like most about their job they both replied, “The hours!” Family time is valuable to both men and since they each worked shifts in the past, they appreciate the consistency of a day job.

Scott and his wife Heather, parents to Livia, 4, and Addison, 18 months, reside in Rosemount. He grew up in International Falls and it was there he learned a love of the outdoors. Scott especially enjoys hunting, fishing, sports (especially hockey), traveling and camping with his family.

Tony and his wife, Darcie, are involved in coaching youth sports while their two children, Brandon, 10, and Delaney, 7, participate in various sports year-round. Tony is director of football for the third and fourth grade league in their hometown of Cottage Grove, and he also helps Darcie teach pitching clinics.

Now, what we all want to know, what surprises do you see when you are below ground in the tunnels? Scott replies, “It’s really pretty clean. You might see a few ants and occasionally a spider or a couple of mice might sneak through a vent box but they are usually dead.” No big rats? “No rats,” Tony says with a big smile. 

## Wells Fargo WinterSkate

How do you enjoy a Minnesota winter? By ice skating, of course! And where can workers, residents, and visitors ice skate in downtown Saint Paul? At Wells Fargo WinterSkate, located at Landmark Plaza, adjacent to Rice Park and the historic Landmark Center.


Hosted by the Capital City Partnership, the City of Saint Paul, and Wells Fargo, WinterSkate features a free, outdoor, artificially-chilled ice skating rink that is open from November 24 through February 3. Skate rental is \$2 per person or free if you have a Wells Fargo check card or credit card. Open skating hours vary depending on the day of the week and youth hockey, corporate broomball, and holiday schedules. A warming house with snacks and a community hearth area are located next to the rink.

This is the first year District Energy has been a sponsor of this fun community event that was enjoyed by more than 40,000 skaters last year. We see it as a wonderful opportunity to showcase downtown Saint Paul’s many amenities this winter and over the holidays. And WinterSkate is sure to attract national attention January 20-27 when the U.S. Figure Skating Championships are held at nearby Xcel Energy Center. As an added bonus, many of the events associated with the 122nd Saint Paul Winter Carnival will take place near Landmark Center and Rice Park January 23 through February 3.



## Honolulu Seawater Project Moves Ahead

Climate change is arguably the greatest challenge that our planet has ever faced, and Ever-Green Energy is embarking on an exciting project that will reduce greenhouse gas emissions from the burning of fossil fuels. Honolulu Seawater Air Conditioning, LLC is a privately-financed venture that will be managed by an affiliate of Ever-Green Energy. This zero-emissions system will use ocean water to cool a loop of fresh water that circulates to buildings in downtown Honolulu, ultimately displacing up to 174,000 barrels of oil that is burned annually to generate electricity for air conditioning.

Honolulu Seawater Air Conditioning is just the latest in a succession of energy-efficient projects that support the broad mission of District Energy. In 1992 we launched the very successful, very efficient District Cooling St. Paul project. In 2003 the new combined heat and power plant began providing service to our district heating system and electricity to the local grid, using clean, renewable wood waste as its primary fuel. These projects have generated significant economic benefits for District Energy and our customers, helping to offset the routine increases in operating costs faced by every business. Private investors recently funded \$10.75 million for the Honolulu project, which will break ground in January 2009. 

... Message from the President


I'm proud to say that District Energy's commitment to energy efficiency and renewable fuels is responsible for the annual removal of hundreds of thousands of tons of carbon dioxide from Saint Paul's central business district. This commitment to environmental stewardship is also the foundation for Ever-Green Energy's business ventures, both locally and nationally.

Climate change is a reality, but working together we can slow its progress and develop long-term solutions.



## The Price is Right for Green Energy

The Saint Paul Building Owners and Managers Association knows how to have fun! For 17 years they have hosted an Expo featuring products and services available through their organization's membership. This year about 300 people visited more than 60 booths to network with the exhibitors, enjoy a free lunch, and enter drawings for lots of prizes, including a chance to participate in the Showcase Showdown.

Exhibitors were encouraged to create simple pricing games this year to support the Expo's theme, "The Price is Right." District Energy immediately added the words "for Green Energy" and created an interactive game focused on the cost and use of wood waste as our primary fuel for heating and cooling downtown Saint Paul buildings. 



Valerie Cruz-Gerlich and Jeff Volovsek created a green energy pricing game to play with people stopping by the District Energy exhibit booth at Saint Paul BOMA's Building Products and Services Expo.

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