

ENERGY LINE

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MPR Continues to Enrich, Nourish and Strengthen

One of District Energy's distinguished heating and cooling customers is Minnesota Public Radio (MPR). MPR is a nationally-recognized owner and operator of a 38-station regional public radio network offering three 24-hour-per-



day program services through transmitters covering Minnesota and parts of Wisconsin, Iowa, Idaho, Michigan, the Dakotas and Manitoba, Canada. In addition, operating as American Public Media (APM), the company produces and distributes national programs to more than 16 million weekly listeners across the US. Its national programs include A Prairie Home Companion, Marketplace, Speaking of Faith,

The Splendid Table, SymphonyCast, Pipedreams, and Performance Today. MPR and APM jointly raise the name of our city in regional and national broadcasts multiple times a day, making it the most effective media company in enhancing the reputation of Saint Paul.

MPR's history goes back to 1967 when a single classical music and information station was created at Saint John's University in Collegeville, Minn. Its co-founder and director of broadcasting was Bill Kling, a graduate of Saint John's. Forty-one years later, Kling remains the president and CEO of MPR.

MPR was an advocate of district energy when the system was being designed and promoted in the 1980s by people as broadly represented as Paul Verret of The St Paul Foundation and Dick Broeker, long-time Saint Paul civic servant. "We never worry about heating or cooling," says Kling. "District Energy is a reliable energy provider. It has no seasonality or changeover issues and it's steady. We hope to continue to enjoy the uninterrupted service and cost-effectiveness of district energy, though we are concerned about the additional cost, estimated at \$20 million in assessments, and the service disruption if the light rail route is determined to be Cedar Street. Maintaining the integrity and cost-efficiencies of district energy is a critical function . . ."

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Anders J. Rydaker
President

A Message from the President:

The Central Corridor Management Committee announced in mid-December that construction on 4th Street in downtown Saint Paul will start next summer. The Central Corridor Project is an 11-mile light-rail line along University Avenue that will link downtown Saint Paul and downtown Minneapolis. If plans stay on schedule, the \$914 million line, which will include 20 stations and trains running every seven and one-half minutes during peak hours, will be up and running in 2014.

District Energy has critical heating and cooling piping along the downtown route that will be impacted by the Central Corridor Project. We have been working very closely with project partners for months to mitigate cost impacts and service disruptions to our customers. As a result of this collaborative effort, all utilities will now be able to co-locate their infrastructure in 4th Street rather than requiring the relocation of some utilities to other streets. In addition, the Central Corridor Project will assume responsibility for excavation and restoration on 4th Street, significantly reducing the impacts and relocation costs for all utilities.

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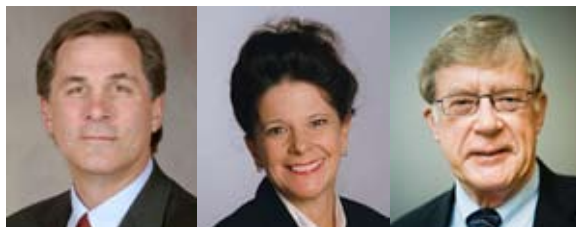
Directors Emeriti
Bernard St. Peter
Susan Sands

Board Members Held in High Esteem

One of the unique benefits of being a District Energy or District Cooling customer is the opportunity to elect a representative to serve on the company's board of directors.


In September, our largest customers elected Tom Geskermann to the District Energy board of directors. Geskermann is the vice president of operations for Regions Hospital, a district heating customer since 1984.

Re-elected in September to the District Cooling board of directors was Patricia Wolf. Wolf has been actively involved in the commercial real estate industry in downtown Saint Paul for more than 30 years. She currently manages and leases the Golden Rule Building, a district heating customer since 1984 and a cooling customer since 1997.



Tom Geskermann Pat Wolf Jim Pederson

In addition to the newly-elected board members, Harry Melander (not pictured), business representative for the Building and Construction Trades Council, was appointed to the District Energy board by the Mayor and the Saint Paul City Council in November. And former District Energy board member, Jim Pederson, is filling the unexpired term of another member. Pederson represented District Energy's large customers from 1987 to 1993.


We are fortunate to have highly motivated and extremely talented board members who volunteer their time and expertise to ensure the continued success of Saint Paul's community energy system. 

Nina Axelson Joins Ever-Green Energy

Nina Axelson has joined the Ever-Green Energy team as Director of Customer and Community Relations. Nina brings with her more than 10 years of community, political, and environmental experience. The past two years Nina worked on the Rock-Tenn Project as the Community Outreach Director. During that time she worked side-by-side with many organizations, including Ever-Green Energy. Prior to the Rock-Tenn project, she focused on community and environmental initiatives in both the non-profit and for-profit sectors, including four years with the St. Anthony Park Community Council and five years with Best Buy Corporation. Nina's work has involved environmental policy research and development, project management, urban planning, communications, community giving, stakeholder collaboration and the advancement of diversity and inclusion.



Nina Axelson

A Minneapolis native and resident, Nina stays engaged in her community through volunteering and outdoor life. She has served on the Sheridan Neighborhood Board, volunteered with the YWCA of Minneapolis, and mentors students at the College of Food, Agriculture and Natural Resource Sciences at the University of Minnesota. And her verve for distance running, camping, and the water has been an integral part of her life and travels. Nina has a strong commitment to renewable energy fulfilling the needs of our environment, our clients, and our community. And she is thrilled to join Ever-Green Energy in these essential efforts. 



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Digital drawings now stored in Vault...

After spending most of her life in the East, Mary Bourquin and her husband, Ron, successfully relocated to Minnesota and are finding it to be a good place to live, work and raise their two-year old son, Dylan.

Mary graduated from Millersville University in Pennsylvania, in the famous Lancaster County, which most of us associate with lush green farmlands and the horse and buggies so prominent in the Amish communities of that region. During

her college days she worked for Mapquest in their atlas department. Her geography degree was also a good fit when she was hired by an engineering firm in St. Louis, Missouri, as a Geographical Information Systems (GIS) technician and it was there she had the opportunity to learn Computer Aided Design (CAD). All of this accumulated experience made her the ideal candidate to join the Distribution/Engineering department here at Ever-Green Energy in December 2006.

Her job includes updating existing CAD drawings and new project drawings as well as working on drawings required by the plant staff. Mary played an intricate role in researching and implementing Vault, a data management system for electronic drawings.

With the amount of electronic information that Distribution produces, there was a need to reduce the number of files and to have a newer version of a file without re-saving the actual file. Vault helps organize files and with the search feature, it will make finding files much more efficient. Staff members will be able to view the drawings, check out (like in a library) the most current drawing and make red-line edits as needed.

Mary enjoys reading in her leisure time and spending time with her family. "Music Together" is a special program for young children and their parents and is an activity she especially enjoys with her son. Mary says, "Dylan just loves music and this program has really taught him to create a range of vocal sounds. I appreciate and value the time we spend together."

A surprising tidbit about Mary is that she and her meteorologist husband find storm chasing to be fun and exciting. She says, "We only go when there is a high probability a storm could produce a tornado. There is some danger involved, such as being in a storm that produces hail or being in the direct path of a tornado." Two years ago on Easter Sunday, they spotted and followed their first tornado. Mary was six months pregnant. Thankfully, all of this excitement did not initiate an early labor and Dylan was born as planned, three months later.

Future plans for Mary include completing a master's degree in Geographical Information Technology from Northeastern University in Boston, Massachusetts. She is taking courses online and plans to complete the program in two years. 🌿

Rock-Tenn Study Endorsed

Ever-Green Energy was hired by the Saint Paul Port Authority over a year ago to lead the engineering team that evaluated renewable fuel sources to meet the energy needs of Rock-Tenn, the largest paper recycler in Minnesota and a plant responsible for processing about 1 percent of all the recycled paper in the nation. Rock-Tenn lost its previous high-pressure steam fuel source in August 2007 when its supplier, Xcel Energy, converted its coal-fired High Bridge plant to natural gas. Since then, the paper mill has been using natural gas and fuel oil as its thermal energy sources.

Ever-Green Energy, as the lead engineer, was involved in the \$4 million state-funded study that included evaluation of energy, emissions and public health. Study results were announced this past August. Based on those findings, the Rock-Tenn Community Advisory Panel endorsed the Port Authority's recommendation that Rock-Tenn would be best served by using biogas as its fuel source. The biogas could be generated from sugar beets, ethanol byproducts or animal waste at a rural Minnesota facility, cleaned, and then added to natural gas transportation pipelines. Currently, there would not be a need for a new power plant at Rock-Tenn.

The Saint Paul City Council has endorsed the recommendation for biogas as a cost-effective, environmentally-beneficial fuel source for Rock-Tenn. This solution would ensure that 500 high-paying union jobs remain in the city and enhance Saint Paul's and Minnesota's reputation as a leader in the renewable energy industry. 🌿




...MPR Continues to Enrich, Nourish and Strengthen

Headquartered in the heart of downtown Saint Paul, MPR serves a regional population of 5 million people. With 97,600 paid members and 820,000 weekly listeners, it has the largest audience of any regional public radio network. Its three services include News & Information, a mix of locally produced programs and national/international shows (KNOW 91.1); Classical Music, drawing from a library of more than 50,000 compact discs and live performances throughout the world (KSJN 99.5); and The Current (KCMP 89.3), an alternative music service that provides a venue for local musicians and bands and is committed to civic engagement of its younger audience.

One of MPR's best loved programs is Garrison Keillor's A Prairie Home Companion, which MPR started broadcasting in 1974. In 1981, MPR purchased the nearby 1,100-seat Fitzgerald Theater (another District Energy customer) and brought it back to its original glory to serve as a home base for the national broadcasts of Prairie Home as well as other concerts and lectures by some of the greatest talent in and passing through our community.

In 2006, MPR completed a \$50 million expansion that included construction of a new 70,000 sq ft addition to its Broadcast Center and renovation of its 50,000 sq ft existing facility, all served by district heating and cooling.

MPR has come a long way since its early concept as a local station in central Minnesota. Over the years, the station has earned nearly 1,000 broadcasting and journalism awards, including seven George Foster Peabody Awards, six Robert F Kennedy Journalism Awards, a prestigious Alfred I duPont-Columbia University Gold Baton Award and a GRAMMY Award, to name a few. It is considered the top performer in its industry and its Saint Paul Broadcast Center is the envy of major cities throughout the country. With a mission "to enrich the mind, nourish the spirit and strengthen community," MPR is often called Minnesota's most significant institution. 

...A Message from the President

We are committed to working with Central Corridor project partners and District Energy customers to minimize impacts and reduce costs while providing reliable service throughout the construction phase of this exciting mass-transit project. The long-term community benefits are enormous!



Happy Holidays!



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