

# energizer



Minnesota Power 30 West Superior Street Duluth, Minnesota 55802 www.mnpower.com Marilyn Weber, Editor Winter 2007



## \$260 million invested in regional emission projects

The plan to retrofit air emission reduction equipment at five of our coal-fired generating units is on track. Retrofits were completed in December '06 at Laskin Energy Center Unit 2 near Hoyt Lakes, where the effort involved installation of equipment that is expected to reduce nitrogen oxide (NOx) emissions by about 65 percent. Some 170 contract employees along with about 40 Laskin employees worked diligently on the project. Work on Laskin Unit 1 is expected to be complete this spring.

Environmental retrofits have also begun at Taconite Harbor Energy Center Unit 2 on the north shore of Lake Superior near Schroeder. State-of-the-art environmental equipment is being installed that can reduce NOx emissions by more than 60 percent, sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>) emissions as much as 65 percent and mercury emission up to 90 percent. This project will be completed this summer. At peak construction, more than 300 area contractors will be employed. Taconite Harbor Units 1 and 3 are next in line for retrofits with completion expected in 2008. The Laskin and Taconite Harbor projects cost about \$60 million.

Another emission reduction project is planned to begin this spring at Boswell Energy Center (Unit 3) in Cohasset. A sophisticated \$200 million environmental control upgrade will reduce mercury emissions up to 90 percent and cut NOx by more than 80 percent and SO<sub>2</sub> as much as 90 percent. Equipment is scheduled to be up and running by year-end 2009.

MP works with the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency to obtain the necessary approvals for these projects.

Major investments like these help strengthen our region, create and preserve jobs and lead the way for an even cleaner, natural environment.

## Take advantage of MP's "Found Money" rebates

Don't miss out on the following 2007 energy-saving rebates:

- 💡 High efficiency furnace (90%) with ECM motor – rebate \$200; through Dec. 2007
- 💡 Central Air Conditioning (CAC) system, new install or tune up of existing CAC – \$50 rebate; through Dec. 2007.
- 💡 ENERGY STAR® appliance package includes clothes washers, dishwashers and/or refrigerators – rebate up to \$100; through Dec. 2007.
- 💡 Geothermal heat pump – rebates between \$100-\$200/ton; installed before Dec. 31, 2007
- 💡 Triple E New Construction – rebates up to \$2,000

when you build to energy efficient standards; through Dec. 2007.

- 💡 ENERGY STAR® lighting includes CFL bulbs, fixtures, lamps – rebates up to \$15; through Dec. 2007.
- 💡 Solar electric systems – rebates of \$2,000 per kilowatt up to \$4,000.
- 💡 PowerGrant – up to \$50,000 rebate is available for commercial, industrial and agricultural customers based on kW or kWh saved on qualifying energy efficiency improvements in new or existing buildings.

For more information about our energy services programs, visit [www.mnpower.com/rebates\\_savings](http://www.mnpower.com/rebates_savings).





## If you need electric service for a new construction project, call now!

**218-720-2644 or 1-877-535-0394**

You need to fill out an Electric Service Application form and also follow a few steps that can make the process convenient for you. Kelly will get you a copy of the form by mail, e-mail or fax right away. Or, you can go on MP's Web site and print a copy: [www.mnpower.com](http://www.mnpower.com). Click on Turn on Power and find the form.

If you're remodeling, replacing an existing structure or building a new one that requires separate service, we ask that you fill out and send us the application form. We need to know of any upgraded electric service requirements.



Make the call to Kelly part of your construction plan.

It's not too early in the year to let us know about electric service needs for a construction project you're planning. Our team of customer service folks needs four to six weeks notice before the date you want electric service at your site. So, the sooner you contact Kelly at MP, the sooner we can start the process to get you hooked up on time.

## MP can help detect stray voltage

MP will help farmers detect and reduce stray voltage in confined animal operations. Low-level voltage can be found on metal objects that farm animals touch, such as water pipes and stanchions. The voltage level is usually so slight that humans can't feel it, but animals may.

It can be caused by many factors, including faulty wiring or improper grounding. The voltage can affect animals' behavior, milk production, eating habits and overall health.

For more information or to schedule a free stray voltage investigation, call MP's Dan Tonder, 1-800-228-4966, ext. 5031.



## Call for your complimentary 2007 pocket calendar

Minnesota Power's handy 2007 calendar contains space on each day of the year for jotting down personal appointments and meetings. It also includes important MP phone numbers and some facts about our generating facilities. If you'd like a calendar, call Thea toll-free at

1-800-228-4966, ext. 3303. In Duluth: 722-5642, ext. 3303.



## Public Service Message

### Immunization is key to better health

Because diseases such as polio and diphtheria no longer threaten the lives of children in the U.S., many people mistakenly assume that immunizations aren't needed. Also, people may not know that new vaccines have been approved to prevent meningitis, chicken pox and other life threatening illnesses.

To keep track of immunization records of children and adults, Minnesota has a system called the Community

Health Information Collaborative that works with clinics, hospitals and long term health care facilities to keep records of vaccines given.

Ask your doctor or local public health department how to get the right immunizations for you and your children. Or, visit [www.immunize.org](http://www.immunize.org) for more information that includes recommendations for timely children and adult immunizations.