

PRESERVING ENERGY RESOURCES FOR TOMORROW

Energy conservation, always an important strategy, becomes even more crucial when major new generation and transmission facilities are being built to secure Wisconsin's electric future.

In response, WPPI has focused on efforts that support a sustainable energy future. Sound energy decisions that emphasize well-designed efficiency initiatives and take advantage of new opportunities for renewable-based generation are essential. These efforts will delay the need to build expensive fossil fuel power plants, helping to control costs while benefiting the environment.

In 2004, we increased our commitment to renewable resources by contracting for 40 megawatts of power from a proposed wind farm planned for construction near member community Waupun. With renewable energy poised to play a bigger role in our state's future electric supply, this wind project will help WPPI meet a growing demand with electricity generated from an environmentally friendly resource.

WPPI member participation in our renewable energy program grew by nearly 20 percent in 2004, the fourth year of the program's existence. Nearly 2,800 customers are now purchasing green power

for their homes and businesses, accounting for 800,000 kilowatt-hours of clean energy generated each month.

WPPI served in 2004 on Gov. Jim Doyle's Task Force on Energy Efficiency and Renewables, created to restore Wisconsin's leadership in conservation and renewable energy through consensus-based initiatives. The Task Force has unanimously recommended legislation that would require Wisconsin utilities to generate at least 10 percent of their electricity from renewable sources by 2015.

“It is necessary to be forward-thinking in this industry. Through the strength of joint action, WPPI has been able to play a leadership role in key legislation designed to protect the long-term interests of our customers. This helps ensure that Waterloo Utilities and the other member-owners of WPPI will be able to provide our communities with reliable energy well into the future.”

Ray Robertson
Commission President
Waterloo Utilities



Waterloo



Hustisford

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Conservation measures implemented by WPPI members in 2004 reduced our energy requirements by more than 16 million kilowatt-hours, an amount equivalent to the annual electric demand of about 2,000 homes. Nearly all of these conservation programs were funded through a public benefits charge that electric utilities are required by law to collect to promote energy efficiency, conservation and weatherization programs.

WPPI helped craft the legislation that provided the framework for these energy-efficiency programs. In the three

years since the public benefits legislation was enacted, our systemwide conservation efforts have resulted in a nearly 7 megawatt reduction in coincident demand and annual natural gas savings of 134,000 therms.

In 2004, WPPI awarded four grants for renewable energy demonstration projects at schools in member communities. With the



installation of small-scale wind turbines and solar panels, these projects provide excellent opportunities to educate the public and gain community support for renewable energy.

Looking ahead, we will continue to demonstrate our commitment to reducing the impact of electric generation on the environment. As strong advocates for responsible energy management and the development of renewable technologies, WPPI and our members will strive to be models for the efficient use of electricity and cost-effective conservation.



Stoughton



Eagle River



Reedsburg