



Heartland Utilities for Energy Efficiency

2009-2010 Annual Report

“Promoting energy efficiency in the Greater Kansas City Marketplace through energy education, resources and actions to help assure a secure energy future for area residents”

MEMBER UTILITIES:

Atmos Energy
Independence Power and Light
Kansas City Board of Public Utilities
Kansas City Power & Light

Kansas Gas Service
Missouri Gas Energy
Platte-Clay Electric Cooperative

HUEE is a community service project of the member utilities and is a fund of the Greater Kansas City Community Foundation

BACKGROUND

Organized in 2002, Heartland Utilities for Energy Efficiency (HUEE) is a vehicle for leading electric and gas utilities to advance a mission for the public good: "Promote progressive energy efficiency in the Regional Kansas City marketplace through energy education, resources and actions to help assure a secure energy future for area residents." As such, it may be the only dues-paying collaborative of natural gas, propane and electric utilities in the nation working together on residential energy efficiency issues. In furtherance of this mission, member utilities contribute staff time to HUEE and charitable dollars to the Energy Efficiency Education Fund established at the Greater Kansas City Community Foundation.

The Greater Kansas City Community Foundation is a public charity under Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(3). Its mission is to improve the quality of life in Greater Kansas City by increasing charitable giving, connecting

HUEE currently works within the Mid-America Regional Council's (MARC) "*Tier One Region*" which includes eight counties: Cass, Clay, Jackson, Platte and Ray in Missouri, and Johnson, Leavenworth and Wyandotte in Kansas. The organization devotes its efforts to activities that promote and support the overall goal of improved energy efficiency without endorsing particular products, equipment or energy sources.

On an annual basis, HUEE makes grants to nonprofit organizations to implement specific education projects. It's Board of Directors, whose members are drawn from the participating utilities that provide service in the above counties, makes funding decisions and provides overall governance.

2009 – 2010 HUEE Board of Directors

Gary Milligan – Atmos Energy
Mary Kay Alitz – IP&L
Patrice Townsend – BPU

Kim Winslow - KCP&L
Margaret Steele – KGS
Jason Fulp – MGE
David Deihl – PCEC

HUEE's Activities and Accomplishments

In 2009-2010, HUEE awarded \$27,737 in grants towards educating the public and utility customers on energy efficiency. The major accomplishments are listed below:

Home Energy Information Telephone Line: MEC continues to staff and manage the operation of the HUEE Home Energy Information Line (816) 835-7593. MEC publicizes the phone number in all of its public awareness activities, including the Home Performance with ENERGY STAR marketing. The Info Line is also available at the HUEE member utilities websites. In 2008, MEC welcomed additional staff and volunteer experts to answer a growing number of questions that originated from the Info Line.

Website: Coleridge Design redesigned the HUEE website (www.huee.org) to be consistent with the new HUEE identity. The Metropolitan Energy Center continues to maintain the content of the website with technical help from subcontracting webmaster, Intuitive Design.

Shows and Exhibits: HUEE was present at a number of shows and exhibits during the two years including: Kansas City Remodeling Show at the American Royal Center in February 2009; Greater Kansas City HOME SHOW and Flower, Lawn & Garden Show in March 2009; Build Green Conference, Jack Reardon Center, April 2009, Sustainable Homes Tour & Energy Fair, Green Living Show at Zona Rosa in Platte County, KCP&L Earth Day at Power & Light, ACI Home Performance show, Air Conditioning Contractors of America (ACCA)

U.S. Green Building Council: HUEE joined the US Green Building Council in 2010.

Public Awareness through Media: HUEE implemented its Public Awareness program through the HUEE website, *Greenability Magazine* advertisements and television media. HUEE sponsored the “Energy Detective” informational spot on KCPT TV and Time Warner Cable. MEC, with the help of Jason Fulp of MGE, worked with KCPT-TV 19 to write and produce the 30 second spots.

Signs & Displays: HUEE purchased a set of small displays designed to use at events where the 10’ display is too large. The smaller displays are great for quick set-up.

Community Services League: CSL provided PEETT workshops (Planning for Energy Efficiency for Today and Tomorrow). The program is to continue with educating and informing the low income and elderly with information to conserve and be more efficient in their energy usage. The workshops will be held throughout the metro area.

Catholic Charities: Catholic Charities provided energy education at its 38 community based sites. Catholic Charities also hosted bi-lingual energy efficiency workshops throughout the metro area.

Kansas State University: Kansas State University provided two workshops, one in Johnson County and one in Wyandotte County. Also, one webinar will be provided as well as a follow-up plan with attendees. 90 people attended each workshop.

MEC Neighborhood & Housing Authority Workshops: MEC provided 40 workshops of varying topics through interested organizations such as neighborhood associations, community service organizations, housing authorities, tax and finance organizations, churches and other organizations serving the communities. The Kansas City Housing Authority worked with MEC to develop and deliver a series of workshops for its residential clients as part of their “Money Smart” program.

NAHB’s Green Builder Award: HUEE provided a \$1,000 reward to Kevin Enyeart, general manager of Gale Home Builders for winning the Green Building Award in 2009. Kevin built the first HBA certified green build/Energy Star home in the metro area.

KARES: HUEE provided the winner of a drawing at the KC Home Show a free energy audit for their home. The winner was Jane Kalish of Overland Park.

MEC Spanish Energy Efficiency Workshops: Bilingual workshops were provided to Hispanic residents in Kansas & Missouri

Project Living Proof– HUEE provided a design grant for MEC’s Project Living Proof in 2006. The grant helped to facilitate by BNIM Architects and Henderson Engineers design work for an energy efficient and green demonstration renovation. Final construction drawings were completed in April 2008. The design supported fundraising during 2008, with the expectation of breaking ground in 2009.

Looking Forward

It has been an exciting year for HUEE as the board worked diligently accomplishing many of the goals set forth in the previous year. However our work is not done as we find our organization well positioned to take advantage of the renewed emphasis and importance of energy efficiency within the communities our utility companies serve. HUEE is committed to helping our communities in this renewed era of energy efficiency by offering energy saving information that helps reduce energy consumption while providing better value and comfort for customer’s homes.

- HUEE has committed in 2009 -2010 to continue working with non-profit organizations that provide exceptional value to our communities by educating our public in many facets of energy efficiency.
- HUEE will continue outreach to the general public through public awareness by sponsoring educational energy efficiency programs.
- HUEE will continue providing the metropolitan area with a 24-hour Home Energy Information line and website www.huee.org.
- Efforts are also underway to target new membership and broaden the HUEE region in 2012.