



**Stoughton Utilities**

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*Serving Electric, Water & Wastewater Since 1886*

## **News Release**

# **Stoughton Utilities**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 13, 2011

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### **Local teacher participates in renewable energy training course**

**Stoughton, Wis., June 13** – A River Bluff Middle School teacher will have plenty of energy-related materials to share with her students this fall thanks in part to Stoughton Utilities' commitment to improve energy education in schools.

On June 15 and 16, Jennifer Monthie, an eighth grade teacher at Stoughton's River Bluff Middle School, will participate in the Doable Renewables K-12 Energy Education Program (KEEP), a statewide energy education training course. In partnership with Focus on Energy, Stoughton Utilities provided a scholarship to cover the costs for the course. In addition, teachers attending the KEEP training will receive one graduate credit from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point.

The KEEP course provides teachers with valuable approaches to leading renewable energy hands-on activities and discussions. WPPI Energy, the nonprofit power supplier for Stoughton Utilities and 50 other member communities in Wisconsin, Upper Michigan and Iowa, will host the KEEP training course. The teachers will gain classroom-based strategies for analyzing

energy information and creating techniques to enhance students' understanding of renewable energy.

“The course encourages students and teachers to personally think of their own energy needs and how their energy decisions impact future generations,” said Robert Kardasz, Stoughton Utilities Director.

The KEEP course is designed for teachers who want to bring renewable energy concepts into their classroom, offering the next step in renewable energy hands-on activities, classroom discussions, and classroom-based applications. The course provides renewable energy curriculum designed for use in K-12 classrooms.

“We are committed to building a better energy future for our community, and one of the most important ways we can do so is through outreach to teachers and students. KEEP’s energy initiatives play a central role in our efforts to reach the next generation of energy users,” said Kardasz.

KEEP is a partnership between Focus on Energy and the Wisconsin Center for Environmental Education at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. For more information, contact Stoughton Utilities at (608) 873-3379 or visit <http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr/wcee/keep/>.

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