# POWER Helping businesses lower electric usage and demand

# Iron Range Resources PROFILE

#### Economic Development Agency Works for Cleaner, Greener Region

Energy conservation is a high priority in Minnesota, a state that encourages businesses and residents to use less energy to help control costs and benefit the environment. As a state agency working to grow and diversify the economy of Northeast Minnesota, Iron Range Resources is very serious about energy and resource efficiency—both in the economic development projects it pursues and within its own walls.

# "These changes have reduced electrical lighting energy consumption in our building by 50 percent."

Mike Skenzich, Head of Maintenance, Iron Range Resources

"Iron Range Resources is committed to attracting clean and green businesses to the region," said Iron Range Resources Commissioner Sandy Layman. "As we develop and advance environmentally friendly projects within our service area, Iron Range Resources is leading by example through energy conservation initiatives in our facilities."

One recent example is the agency's decision to completely overhaul lighting at its headquarters in Eveleth, Minn. New high performance electronic ballasts and super-efficient 28-Watt T8 fluorescent and compact fluorescent light (CFL) bulbs were installed in fixtures throughout the building. Motion sensors were placed in various locations so lights turn off automatically when rooms are not in use.



Iron Range Resources is making energy-efficiency improvements at its headquarters in Eveleth, Minn.

"These changes have reduced electrical lighting energy consumption in our building by 50 percent," said Mike Skenzich, head of maintenance, Iron Range Resources. He worked closely with Minnesota Power staff and energy consultants from Energy Management Solutions to identify the most energy-efficient lighting solutions that would meet the agency's needs and achieve measurable results. Iron Range Resources utilizes a management tool called Balanced Score Card to identify organizational goals and track progress. Energy and resource conservation are among outcomes being assessed through this process in 2009.

#### Learn more about POWER Grant.

Minnesota Power's Conservation Improvement Program 218-722-5642 or toll-free at 800-228-4966, ext. 2909 WWW.mnpower.com/powergrant/



### POWER Grants

### "Energizing Our Region" through Conservation Improvement



Minnesota Power's Conservation Improvement Program (CIP) works with local leaders, businesses, community groups, other energy providers and government entities to help customers reap the economic and environmental benefits of sustainable energy savings. Minnesota Power and its partners accomplish this through research, education, evaluation and direct impact initiatives.

#### Find out how POWER Grant can help you.

Minnesota Power awards grants to commercial/industrial customers who use innovative technologies, improve manufacturing processes, undertake renewable electric energy projects, or who need project design assistance. POWER Grant is available for a wide variety of projects employing diverse technologies.

Here are some examples of activities or products that could qualify for Minnesota Power funding under the POWER Grant Program:

- New electro-technologies that lower energy costs per unit of production in a manufacturing process
- Innovative technologies that are new and underutilized in our regional marketplace
- Inclusion of energy-efficient options in the design phase of a project

Maximum annual grants are determined by a customer's average billing demand:

Customer Demand	Maximum Grant
Less than 100 kW	\$10,000
100 to 300 kW	\$25,000
Over 300 kW	\$50,000

Minnesota Power may consider higher rebate levels.

#### Other Minnesota Power Products and Services

In addition to POWER Grants, Minnesota Power offers commercial, industrial and agricultural customers other energy efficiency products and services. These include energy audits, rebates, dual fuel, storage/off-peak services, outdoor and area lighting, and economic development assistance.





(Left) Dale Sundin of Minnesota Power presents Iron Range Resources Commissioner Sandy Layman with a PowerGrant rebate check for more than \$1,500. (Right) New energy-efficient lighting will save Iron Range Resources thousands of dollars per year.

Efficient lighting and lighting controls are expected to save 27,601 kWh per year, reduce monthly electric demand by 6.3 kW, and lower Iron Range Resources' annual energy costs by more than \$2,300. These choices qualified for \$1,549 in POWER Grant rebates from Minnesota Power's conservation improvement program.

"Iron Range Resources is grateful to Minnesota Power for its partnership and support in completing this important energy conservation project," Commissioner Layman said. "With the POWER Grant rebates, we will realize a payback in less than three years on our total installation costs."

The agency is not content to stop with energy-efficient lighting. During the remainder of 2009, it plans to explore additional energy-conservation initiatives at its facilities—such as building envelope improvements and energy-saving controls on electric boilers.

"We're building on natural synergies.

Minnesota's new Green Jobs Investment
Initiative provides tax incentives for
businesses to be clean and green. Serving
as a state economic development agency
in Northeast Minnesota, we have a
responsibility to do our part."

Sandy Layman, Commissioner, Iron Range Resources

"Iron Range Resources is committed to saving energy in all of its projects," said Dale Sundin, regional account manager, Minnesota Power. "Every business and organization has the power to make choices that save energy, reduce costs, increase productivity and benefit the environment. It is nice to see this agency modeling responsible energy choices."