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News from Director Renfrow

City Water, Light and Power is committed to providing you with smart, reliable power at the lowest possible cost. Over the past two years, we have embarked on a number of new projects and initiatives to ensure a bright future for Springfield's energy program. Last November, CWLP assumed control of a [new 200-megawatt plant](#), which employs the best pollution control technologies available and is more efficient than any other like-unit in the market worldwide. We've also added 120 megawatts of wind power annually to the utility's energy portfolio to stay ahead of the curve on environmental regulations. With community participation, CWLP can continue its leadership role in the utility industry and remain independent from the volatility of higher power market costs.

You can be a part of continuing CWLP's leadership role as a smart power provider by participating in our community forums. In 2008 we launched a Smart Energy Forum that provided an opportunity to discuss ideas and gather feedback from the community on what the most desired and effective conservation programs our customers would like to see. In 2010 we are reaching out in particular to our commercial customers to participate in these forums as we are working to improve our programs and services for businesses.

The first aspect of the Smart Energy Forum was the establishment of smartenergy@cwlp.com to allow the public to submit comments via email. Comments may also be submitted by fax (217-789-2136, ATTN: CWLP Smart Energy) or mail (CWLP Smart Energy, Municipal Center East, 800 E. Monroe, Springfield, IL 62757).

I also encourage you to participate in any of our series of public Community Energy Meetings this year. Aside from your feedback, these meetings are a forum for CWLP to update you on new and enhanced programs and how their results are impacting your public power utility.

During 2010, Community Energy Meetings will be held:

Thursday, February 25	6:00-7:30 p.m.	UIS Public Affairs Center (PAC) Conference Room H
Tuesday, May 25	noon-1:30 p.m.	Illinois National Bank Conference Center Corner of 4th and Jackson Streets
Wednesday, August 25	6:00-7:30 p.m.	Illinois National Bank Conference Center Corner of 4th and Jackson Streets
Tuesday, November 30	6:00-7:30 p.m.	Illinois National Bank Conference Center Corner of 4th and Jackson Streets

We think your participation in these forums is another way we can build a stronger commercial program base for you. We look forward to hearing your feedback in 2010.

Sincerely



Todd Renfrow
General Manager



A “Lofty” Idea for Energy Efficiency?



If you're considering the replacement of a flat or mildly sloping roof, how do you extend the energy efficiency value of that investment? One option is to consider a “green roof”. While definitely non-traditional and with some upfront cost implications the life cycle benefits of this approach are being seen in a growing population of projects across the country. The financial/capital implications are promising, without even considering improved occupant satisfaction and environmental benefits. For more information on this topic check out the following links:

[Green Roof Benefits](#)

[Local Green Roof](#)

[Green Roofs & Global Warming](#)



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Electric Motors Offer Great Opportunity for Savings if you Plan Ahead



Electric motors are responsible for over half of all electrical consumption in the U.S. And, with efficiency improvements within the industry, a great potential exists for significant savings on electrical bills, especially for commercial and industrial customers. Too many times, though, when a motor fails it is quickly replaced with one that was the least expensive to buy without thought given to the efficiency and future operating costs.

These are usually the least efficient motors on the market which end up causing the customer to pay more than they should every month on their electric bill. Fortunately there are many tools to help you survey and analyze all the motors in your facility to create a proactive plan for replacement of motors with the most efficient units.

Read this Fact Sheet to learn more about the importance of energy efficient electric motors.

[Energy Efficient Electric Motors](#)

The Motor Decision Matters web site contains software tools, case studies and more.
[Motor Decision Matters](#)

MotorMaster+ is a great software tool to help you inventory and analyze all the motors in your facility.

[MotorMaster+](#)

Third Party Solar Financing an Option for Not-For-Profits



Even though the long term benefits are positive for solar, they are expensive to install. This is especially true for not-for-profit (NFP) organizations that are living from donation to donation. Even though they would like to do the right thing environmentally they don't have the resources to do so. Other businesses can take advantage of tax credits to help with the cost but not so with NFPs who don't pay taxes.

The new law allows third party financing which allows the financing group to install and own a solar system on a NFP and take the tax credit themselves. Eventually the NFP can purchase the system outright for a greatly reduced amount. See how a church in Colorado was able to express their faith based environmental efforts in this way.

[Read more here.](#)
