



Neighborhood Energy Connection
tools for energy-efficient living

Home Energy
Energy Improvement Financing
HOURCAR
Saint Paul Classic Bike Tour

January 30, 2009

Energy prices are on the rise, and homeowner interest in energy-saving improvements is steadily growing.

The Neighborhood Energy Connection (NEC) would like to help your utility customers save energy affordably. We offer home energy improvement loans with terrific rates and terms, backed by the State of Minnesota. With a low-closing-cost fixed-rate loan, homeowners can start saving energy immediately.

The newest lending offer from the NEC is the **Minnesota Energy Loan**. It's a great tool for homeowners who want to do general remodeling and make energy efficiency upgrades to their homes. To take advantage of the Minnesota Energy Loan, a homeowner begins with a home energy audit, where an energy professional inspects the home from attic to basement and identifies areas for energy improvements. The homeowner must complete at least one of the energy auditor's recommendations, and can finance the energy improvement along with other general remodeling. More details are enclosed, and can also be found online at www.TheNEC.org.

We hope that you'll take advantage of the NEC's lending experience and refer your utility customers to us for financing on energy improvements. We can provide an insert for your regular customer communications, or text for inclusion in your newsletter. As a trusted community partner, the NEC can help homeowners in your area finance energy improvements with confidence. In addition to lending, you may already know about our multi-state energy audit program, or our work in promoting and certifying ENERGY STAR® and LEED certified residential construction.

Thanks for passing on information about the Minnesota Energy Loan to your energy customers. They will certainly appreciate your initiative - and the community economic benefits are substantial. Housing stock is improved, money stays in the community, and less energy use means environmental gains. Please contact me with questions.

Thank you!

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Minnesota Energy Loan

The Neighborhood Energy Connection has partnered with the Minnesota Housing Financing Agency to bring Minnesotans a new way to finance energy improvements to their homes. It's called the Minnesota Energy Loan.

To participate, a homeowner obtains a Home Energy Audit and completes at least one of the auditor's recommended home energy improvements. These home improvements save energy and reduce the homeowner's utility costs.

By doing at least one home energy improvement, the homeowner can also finance any other home improvements at the same low rate. Other improvements may include kitchen or bath remodels, window or door replacement, new flooring, roofing and nearly any home improvement the homeowner wishes to make.

The Minnesota Energy Loan is available at a **6.25% fixed rate**, with minimal closing fees. Below is a quick overview of the guidelines of the program.

- Minimum loan amount \$2,000, maximum \$35,000
- Maximum upper income limit of \$93,100 gross household income
- All loans are secured by a mortgage so the interest is tax deductible
- One-day approval with closings through the mail is offered

For information, contact:

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www.TheNEC.org/Energy_Financing