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Residents Benefit From Free Educational Open House on Energy Efficiency

STOUGHTON, Wis. (February 11, 2008) — Mobile home residents from Bay View Heights in Stoughton, Wis., had the opportunity to learn about energy efficiency as it relates specifically to their homes at the first Mobile Home Information and Education Open House, which was hosted by Focus on Energy’s Home Performance with ENERGY STAR® Program on Saturday, Jan. 26, 2008.

The Home Performance with ENERGY STAR Program is a network of partnering consultants who have been trained to test homes, identify problems and recommend solutions. Partnering contractors can then implement the recommended improvements, ensuring the work is done to program standards.

Residents of the mobile home community were invited to attend one of the four one-hour-long sessions being held in one of the vacant units. The sessions explained the energy dynamics of mobile homes and how they can become more energy efficient. Attendees also had the opportunity to ask Home Performance with ENERGY STAR Program representatives about energy issues specific to their homes.

The open house was part of the larger initiative, Mobile Home Duct Sealing Pilot Project, which is designed to garner cost effective energy savings in mobile homes by testing for and correcting inefficiencies in the ductwork, dryer venting, shell and air distribution systems. All the work is done at no cost to the homeowner.

“We were very pleased by the turn out for our first open house,” said Sue Hanson, program manager for Home Performance with ENERGY STAR. “Attendees were very receptive. In fact, more than 20 people, living in Bay View Heights, signed-up to have their homes tested and improved through the pilot project.”

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RESIDENTS BENEFIT FROM FREE EDUCATIONAL OPEN HOUSE ON ENERGY EFFICIENCY

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Focus on Energy will continue the Mobile Home Duct Sealing Pilot Project by holding more open houses at an additional five targeted mobile home communities in participating utility service territories. Since the targeted communities are a concentrated population, contractors can more easily perform the energy efficiency improvements. “We’re hoping the exceptional service will turn into positive word of mouth among residents of the mobile home community,” continued Hanson.

Focus on Energy’s overall goal is to establish the cost effectiveness of the Mobile Home Duct Sealing Pilot Project. Once established, private contractors can market these services and their benefits to the general public — in turn helping to lessen Wisconsin’s energy consumption.

To find out more about the Home Performance with ENERGY STAR Program, visit focusonenergy.com. For details on open houses and eligibility requirements for the Mobile Home Duct Sealing Pilot Project, call (800) 762-7077.

About Focus on Energy

Focus on Energy works with eligible Wisconsin residents and businesses to install cost effective energy efficiency and renewable energy projects. Focus information, resources and financial incentives help to implement projects that otherwise would not get completed, or to complete projects sooner than scheduled. Its efforts help Wisconsin residents and businesses manage rising energy costs, promote in-state economic development, protect our environment and control the state's growing demand for electricity and natural gas. For more information call (800) 762-7077 or visit focusonenergy.com.

About the Home Performance with ENERGY STAR Program

Home Performance with ENERGY STAR is one of the Focus on Energy Residential Programs. It is designed to provide owners of existing Wisconsin homes a cost effective way to reduce their energy bills and enhance the safety and comfort of their homes. To participate, a homeowner must have a comprehensive home evaluation and work completed by consultants and contractors partnering with the program. To date more than 4,500 whole house projects have been completed under the Home Performance with ENERGY STAR Program. For information, call (800) 762-7077 or visit focusonenergy.com.

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