

Dear Colleagues:

The need to bring renewable, affordable steam power to Rock-Tenn, Minnesota's largest recycler, is a catalyst to think bigger and bolder:

- To eliminate multiple sources of air pollution in our neighborhoods.
- To wean our dependence on imported fossil fuels.
- To reduce global-warming CO2 emissions in Saint Paul to help the state meet its emissions-reduction goals.
- To begin building sources for homegrown, renewable fuel options.
- And to advance our energy independence.

Our vision is to tap some thermal energy from a proposed Rock-Tenn power plant, pipe it underground and heat commercial buildings along University Avenue. In effect, we could create a Central Corridor energy district much like the energy district we have in downtown Saint Paul where more than 150 boilers and 300 furnaces have been taken off-line and no longer emit pollutants.

The Energy Independent promotes our vision for a Central Corridor energy district. This newsletter again will be distributed as an insert to the various newspapers that serve the neighborhoods and communities of color in Saint Paul.

We hope The Energy Independent generates a healthy discussion about the role Saint Paul can play in fostering the development of homegrown, renewable energy alternatives and reducing our impact on global warming.

Best regards,

Kenneth R. Johnson