

### **DEEP Legislative Report 10-15-10**

A contract has been established between the State of Minnesota and the City of Duluth for the Duluth Energy Efficiency Program (DEEP). This contract follows a planning grant that was completed in July to establish the most effective use of residential energy efficiency dollars in Duluth.

The DEEP program will be implemented along three pathways including single-family housing, multi-family housing, and do-it-yourself. Greater than 75% of funding will go into the single family pathway. This pathway establishes a comprehensive program of a) initial education on energy efficiency, b) a rating of homes on a 0-10 scale (utilizing neighborhood data for comparison) in order to target resources to the most inefficient homes, c) home performance audits in partnership with local utilities, d) bundling of a scope of work with financial package including rebates, loans, and tax credits, e) assistance in finding a qualified contractor, f) quality assurance and measurement of improvements. Under this pathway, BPI trained contractors will be utilized to perform audits and complete improvement work. A partial scholarship program will be offered to contractors to obtain certification under a partnership with Fond du Lac Community College. Over the eighteen month performance period of the contract, DEEP will facilitate significant energy improvements in 345 households and assist in training 60 contractors.

The multi-family program will involve creation of a data set on the multi-family structures in Duluth and establishment of a rating system to identify best opportunities for energy savings. Partnerships will be established with landlords and community organizations to implement a multi-family strategy. This strategy will be reviewed by the Office of Energy Security in January for implementation in late winter.

The third pathway involves assisting the 25% of homeowners who have identified themselves as do-it-yourselfers to measure energy loss, develop a scope of work, coach through improvements, and conduct quality assurance. In addition to working with homeowners, this pathway involves establishing a partnership with building material retailers to improve energy awareness in sales staff. An additional 100 homes will complete significant energy improvements through this pathway.