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Governor Doyle Announces Residents, Businesses Save Over \$239 Million Annually in Energy Costs

MADISON – Governor Jim Doyle today announced that Wisconsin residents, farms and businesses have saved more than \$239 million in annual energy costs through energy efficiency and renewable energy initiatives with assistance from the Wisconsin's Focus on Energy program. Wisconsin recently ranked fifth in the country for energy efficiency accomplishments according to a report by the American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy.

"These energy efficiency and renewable energy initiatives translate into real economic and environmental benefits for people and businesses in Wisconsin," Governor Doyle said. "We are working hard to make Wisconsin a national leader in clean energy initiatives and energy projects that will help create jobs, make America energy independent, and protect our environment for generations to come."

Focus on Energy works with Wisconsin residents and businesses to install cost effective energy efficiency and renewable energy projects. They provide information, resources and financial incentives help to help Wisconsin residents and businesses manage rising energy costs and protect the environment.

The \$239 million in annual savings is equivalent to:

- The amount of electricity consumed annually by approximately 173,000 average homes in Wisconsin.
- The amount of natural gas consumed annually by more than 89,000 average Wisconsin homes.
- Almost 4 billion pounds of carbon dioxide
- The amount of electricity produced by burning 8,650 rail car loads of coal.
- The same energy value as 4.9 million barrels of oil.

"The progress Focus on Energy is making has helped to establish Wisconsin as a leader in energy efficiency," said Eric Callisto, Chairperson of the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin. "We are ranked fifth in the country for our energy efficiency efforts. This is a major accomplishment, something we can all be proud of. And it couldn't have happened without the enthusiasm of Wisconsin residents and businesses looking to better their environment and reduce their energy costs."

Business Programs Make an Impact

Businesses has experienced growing pressure to become more environmentally friendly. To date the program has helped businesses from all sectors reduce energy consumption by more than 1 billion kWh and more than 68 million therms, resulting in annual energy costs savings of nearly \$151 million. Focus Programs has worked with Wisconsin businesses of all sizes and in all industries to install cost effective energy efficiency and renewable energy projects. The program provides technical expertise, training and financial incentives to help implement innovative energy management projects.

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Consumers Benefit from Residential Programs

Focus on Energy helps residents make energy efficiency improvements at home. Focus makes purchasing energy efficiency products easier by providing Cash-Back Rewards on items like qualified water heaters, heating and cooling systems and lighting. The program also provides professional advice to residents wanting to build energy efficient homes or improve the efficiency of their existing homes. The residential improvements have amounted to more than \$77 million in annual energy cost savings since 2001.

Renewable Energy Use Continues to Grow

Wisconsin residents and businesses continue to reduce their reliance on fossil fuels and lower their utility bills by using renewable energy technologies. Focus on Energy has helped many residents and businesses harness energy from the sun, wind and organic materials to become more energy independent. More than \$10 million dollars in annual energy cost savings have resulted from the program's efforts.

The following tables provide details about the financial, energy and environmental savings generated by Wisconsin's Focus on Energy Program. Every year since 2001, residents, farms and businesses have saved over \$239 million dollars in energy costs.

FOCUS ON ENERGY BENEFIT DISTRIBUTION BY SECTOR July 1, 2001 – December 31, 2008				
	Business	Residential	Renewable Energy	Total
Electricity Kilowatt-hour average annual savings	1,093,233,207	582,079,215	54,678,154	1,729,990,576
Natural Gas Therms average annual savings	68,836,785	12,774,784	5,511,172	87,122,741
Average Annual Dollar Value of Energy Savings	\$151,540,503	\$77,093,906	\$10,627,827	\$239,262,236

FOCUS ON ENERGY EMISSIONS REDUCTIONS (in pounds) July 1, 2001 – December 31, 2008			
Nitrogen Oxides	Sulfur Dioxide	Greenhouse Gas Carbon Dioxide	Mercury
More than 4.1 million pounds	More than 6.4 million pounds	More than 3.9 billion pounds	266 pounds