



CONTACT:
Cori Burbach
Sustainability Coordinator
City of Dubuque
563.690.6038
cburbach@cityofdubuque.org

NEWS RELEASE

October 14, 2015 – For Immediate Release

Dubuque Competing for Georgetown University Energy Prize

DUBUQUE, Iowa -- The City of Dubuque is partnering with local utility providers, non-profits, and kindergarten-12th grade schools to compete in the Georgetown University Energy Prize (GUEP). The GUEP is a challenge initiated in 2013 by Georgetown University to incent small to medium-sized cities to implement creative strategies to reduce energy use in residential, municipal, and K-12 school buildings.

In addition to the environmental and economic benefits all communities will experience by participating in the program, the GUEP will award one community \$5 million at the end of the competition based on a combination of their reduction in energy use and a final report which documents their partnerships and programs over the two-year period. The community may choose how to use the \$5 million, provided the money is spent on energy efficiency programs that reward the community as a whole.

Of the 200 communities that applied to the GUEP beginning in 2013, Dubuque is one of 52 communities chosen as a semi-finalist. These 52 communities will compete to reduce energy use in residential, municipal, and K-12 schools in 2015 and 2016, using 2013 and 2014 data as a baseline.

“This prize is an added incentive for us to continue the excellent energy efficiency and renewable energy work already being done in our community,” said Mayor Roy D. Buol.

Alliant Energy, Black Hills Energy, the Dubuque Community School District, Green Iowa Americorps, Dubuque Metropolitan Area Solid Waste Agency’s Green Vision Schools, Holy Family Schools, Operation New View, and newly-formed non-profit Trailhead Energy will coordinate outreach, education, and implementation efforts over the next two years.

Eric Coffman, Trailhead Energy Executive Director says, "We're excited to help support the City's effort to win the Georgetown University Energy Prize. There is such great momentum already happening in Dubuque, with established programs like Green Vision Education, utility rebates from Alliant and Black Hills Energy, and the growing number of solar installations. We're hoping to stir more interest with upcoming events like the Dubuque Solar Tour on October 17."

For more information on Dubuque’s efforts and this weekend’s Solar Tour, visit www.energizedubuque.com. For more information on the GUEP, visit www.guep.org.

#