



## PROMOTING ENERGY EFFICIENCY

America relies heavily on fossil fuels such as coal and oil to generate power, fuel our cars, heat our homes, and run our businesses. But our reliance on these sources is increasingly costly and damaging to our environment.

The cheapest, cleanest, and most readily available source of new energy is one that many people overlook: wasted energy. Improving the energy efficiency of buildings, cars, and businesses saves consumers money and creates jobs. By investing in energy efficiency, we can also help avoid the need to build new power plants, reducing air and water pollution, including greenhouse gases.

For almost two decades, the League has worked to lay the building blocks for a more energy efficient economy. Working with citizen activists, government decision-makers, and utilities, we craft solutions that make economic sense and protect our environment. Taken together, the League's efforts have resulted in lower energy bills, warmer and more efficient homes and businesses, and fewer power plants to provide needed energy—a win-win-win outcome.

### WORK WITH LOCAL UTILITIES

In partnership with electric and gas utilities, the League has helped to design new efficiency programs and encouraged the research needed to develop new efficiency technologies. We are also working to put in place new financial incentives that will make energy efficiency investments just as profitable to energy companies as selling more kilowatts. And when new power plants are proposed, the League strives to make sure that cheaper energy efficiency opportunities have been exhausted first.

### STATE AND FEDERAL POLICY

But eliminating energy waste also requires strong state and federal policies. The League has played a lead role in enacting state laws to establish ambitious goals for energy efficiency, including Minnesota's energy efficiency requirements that are among the highest in the nation. We've also pushed for higher federal efficiency standards for everything from vehicles to air conditioners.

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