



Tom Barrett
Mayor, City of Milwaukee

For Immediate Release
June 21, 2013

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MAYOR TOM BARRETT AND CITY HONORED BY U.S. CONFERENCE OF MAYORS FOR THE MILWAUKEE ENERGY EFFICIENCY (ME2) PROGRAM

LAS VEGAS – Milwaukee Mayor Tom Barrett has received honorable mention in the 2013 Mayors’ Climate Protection Awards, an initiative sponsored by The U.S. Conference of Mayors (USCM) and Wal-Mart. Mayor Barrett is being recognized for the Milwaukee Energy Efficiency program, or Me2. Me2 helps homeowners and businesses located in the City of Milwaukee make energy saving building improvements like new insulation, energy efficient lighting, and new heating and cooling equipment.

All winners will be announced today during the Mayors’ Climate Protections Awards luncheon, which will be held in conjunction with USCM’s 81th Annual Meeting. The annual awards program, now in its seventh year, recognizes mayors for innovative practices in their cities that increase energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

“We are rebuilding Milwaukee from the inside out with the Me2 program, building by building, said Mayor Barrett. “Me2 makes it easy and affordable for property owners in the City of Milwaukee to make energy efficiency upgrades that improve our buildings, create local jobs, improve the environment, and help us stay economically competitive. I’m honored to be recognized by my peers from across the political spectrum for our energy efficiency strategies.”

To date, the Me2 program has upgraded 776 homes in the City of Milwaukee. Milwaukee homeowners who complete qualified home improvements by August 30th 2013 can receive substantial Me2 rebates. After August 30th, Me2 will continue to offer financing and smaller incentives through Wisconsin’s Focus on Energy program. Me2 has also approved more than \$16 million worth of commercial building upgrades in more than 130 properties. A key Me2 commercial project was in the former Eaton Building on N. 27th Street.

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Me2 is only one example of Mayor Barrett and the Milwaukee Common Council's comprehensive efforts to support smart energy policy and sustainability in the City of Milwaukee. In July, the City will publish its first ever comprehensive Sustainability Plan. The City of Milwaukee Office of Environmental Sustainability, created by the City in 2006, also operates the ME3 sustainable manufacturing program, Better Buildings Challenge, and Milwaukee Shines solar programs.

About the Me2 program

Milwaukee Energy Efficiency (Me²) is a federally funded program to help homeowners and business owners make energy-efficiency improvements, creating local private sector jobs. Often, the up-front costs of making energy-efficiency changes to a home or business can be challenging. Me² provides innovative financing solutions to help homeowners and commercial property owners afford energy-efficiency projects that will yield large energy savings over time. Me² is a partnership between the U.S. Department of Energy, the Milwaukee Office of Environmental Sustainability, Wisconsin Energy Conservation Corporation, and Focus on Energy.

About the US Conference of Mayors

The U.S. Conference of Mayors is the official nonpartisan organization of cities with populations of 30,000 or more. There are 1,309 such cities in the country today, and each city is represented in the Conference by its chief elected official, the mayor.

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