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Minnesota Housing Partnership

The Heart of the Big Stone Lake Area Prepares for Significant Growth

Ortonville and Surrounding Cities Look to Assess Housing Needs Related to Big Stone Power Plant

St. Paul, Minn. (February 14, 2008) – This month, Minnesota Housing Partnership awarded a \$10,000 grant the City of Ortonville and area partners to assess the area's housing needs related to pending economic growth.

Ortonville is located near South Dakota where the construction of a new power plant, one mile from the border, will result in the creation of 1,200 temporary construction jobs and 30 new permanent jobs over the next five years. Aware that the new plant will have a regional effect, the cities of Ortonville, Beardsley, Clinton, and Graceville, M.N. and Big Stone and Milbank, S.D. have invested funds to complete the assessment.

This award complements a recent grant provided to Ortonville by Minnesota Housing Partnership. Earlier this month, MHP announced it will provide technical and financial assistance to the City of Ortonville to create new housing development, a new housing program, and increase historic preservation capacity through the USDA's Rural Community Development Initiative.

The Minnesota Housing Partnership is a statewide nonprofit organization that advances the preservation and creation of housing affordable to low- and moderate-income people as a means of strengthening communities and families. MHP provides local governments and nonprofit housing organizations access to loans, grants, and technical expertise to plan and construct housing, in addition to advocating and educating people on sound housing policies. MHP's work in Greater Minnesota is primarily supported by The McKnight Foundation.

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