

News Release

Independence Light and Power, Telecommunications

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Contact: Darrel Wenzel, General Manager
319-332-0100

IL&P,T Sponsors Educational Performances on Energy Conservation

Independence, Iowa, February 15 – IL&P,T is sponsoring a local performance of a touring theater show designed to educate young students about the concepts of smart energy use, energy conservation and efficiency, and electrical safety.

The fast-paced show, called “Men in Plaid: The Kilowatt Connection,” is presented by the National Theatre for Children (NTC) — the largest in-school educational touring theater company in the world. The program uses colorful sets and engaging characters to teach students about the importance of conserving energy and establishing responsible energy habits.

The interactive program encourages audience participation and presents lessons in a manner that children enjoy. In the program “Men in Plaid: The Kilowatt Connection,” special agents Moldy and Skuller learn about an electrical crisis and must follow the trail of The Slug who is obsessed with using electricity unwisely. During their hunt, the Men in Plaid special agents teach aliens and humans about electrical safety and in the end, must utilize their electrical safety training to teach The Slug about responsible and safe electricity usage.

Minneapolis-based NTC tours the United States presenting educational theater in schools on behalf of sponsoring organizations. NTC’s live theater performances are accompanied by curriculum materials and teacher guides to educate children, teachers, adults and parents about energy conservation.

Local performances are scheduled for:

- March 1st at 8:35 am at West Elementary.
- March 1st at 1:30 pm at St. John’s Elementary.

After the performance, teachers have an opportunity to complete evaluations and download the curriculum materials and activities for classroom use.

IL&P,T routinely sponsors energy education performances by the NTC to help inspire the next generation of energy users for a better energy future. In 2011, through nonprofit power supplier WPPI Energy, local utilities hosted and sponsored 171 performances in 109 schools, reaching more than 29,700 students through the performances.

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[NOTE TO EDITOR: This live show provides numerous photo opportunities as the performers interact with the students.]