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**April 12, 2019**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Focus on Energy Earns 2019 ENERGY STAR® Partner of the Year – Sustained Excellence Award**

**Madison, Wis.** – Wisconsin’s statewide energy efficiency program, FOCUS ON ENERGY®, has won a 2019 ENERGY STAR® Partner of the Year - Sustained Excellence Award for continued leadership and superior contributions to ENERGY STAR. This marks the 13<sup>th</sup> year Focus on Energy has earned the Sustained Excellence award, and the program’s accomplishments were recognized by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Department of Energy at a ceremony in Washington, D.C. Thursday night.

“It’s really exciting to be a part of this program that is continuously recognized as a national leader,” said Focus on Energy Program Director, Erinn Monroe-Nye. “This amazing accomplishment could not happen without the dedicated men and women that work on this program every day.”

Partner of the Year – Sustained Excellence is the highest honor among the ENERGY STAR Awards. The EPA presents the Sustained Excellence Award to partners that have already received ENERGY STAR Partner of the Year recognition for a minimum of two consecutive years and have gone above and beyond the criteria needed to qualify for recognition.

According to the most recent third-party evaluations:

- Focus on Energy programs saved enough electric and gas energy in 2017 to power 73,000 homes for a year.
- Focus on Energy creates approximately 1,200 jobs annually in Wisconsin
- Focus on Energy generated \$762 million in economic benefits for Wisconsin in 2015-16

“I applaud the 2019 ENERGY STAR Award Winners,” said EPA Assistant Administrator for Air and Radiation Bill Wehrum. “Their innovation and leadership enhance America’s economic competitiveness. Reducing costly energy waste improves air quality and public health while protecting the environment.”

For a complete list of 2019 winners and more information about ENERGY STAR's awards program, visit [energystar.gov/awardwinners](http://energystar.gov/awardwinners).

The most recent independent evaluation found every \$1 invested in Focus on Energy creates more than \$5.00 in benefits for Wisconsin, including economic benefits, reduced energy costs, and reduced pollution.

### **About Focus on Energy**

Focus on Energy is Wisconsin utilities' statewide energy efficiency and renewable resource program funded by the state's investor-owned energy utilities and participating municipal and electric cooperative utilities. Focus on Energy works with eligible Wisconsin residents and businesses to install cost-effective energy efficiency and renewable energy projects. Focus on Energy information, resources and financial incentives help to implement projects that otherwise would not be completed. Its efforts help Wisconsin residents and businesses manage rising energy costs, promote in-state economic development, protect our environment and control Wisconsin's growing demand for electricity and natural gas. For more information call 800.762.7077 or visit [www.focusonenergy.com](http://www.focusonenergy.com).

### **About ENERGY STAR**

ENERGY STAR® is the government-backed symbol for energy efficiency, providing simple, credible, and unbiased information that consumers and businesses rely on to make well-informed decisions. Thousands of industrial, commercial, utility, state, and local organizations—including more than 40 percent of the Fortune 500®—rely on their partnership with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to deliver cost-saving energy efficiency solutions. Since 1992, ENERGY STAR and its partners helped save American families and businesses nearly 4 trillion kilowatt-hours of electricity and achieve over 3 billion metric tons of greenhouse gas reductions. In 2017 alone, ENERGY STAR and its partners helped Americans avoid \$30 billion in energy costs. More background information about ENERGY STAR can be found at: [energystar.gov/about](http://energystar.gov/about) and [energystar.gov/numbers](http://energystar.gov/numbers).

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