



## Community Advisory Panel helps Fibrowatt reach out to Minnesota community

During the past seven years, Jan Lundebrek, President of First Security Bank in Benson, Minnesota, has seen talk of a Fibrowatt plant in her community transform from vision into reality. The 55-megawatt Fibrominn Biomass Power Plant — the first in the nation fueled by poultry litter — started operations in Benson in mid 2007. During those seven years, Fibrominn, a subsidiary of Fibrowatt, has worked hard to develop trust between the plant and the neighboring community.

As a member of the [Fibrominn Community Advisory Panel](#), Lundebrek has played a valuable role as a link between Fibrominn and the local community. The 12-member independent panel has met regularly since the plant was first announced to help Fibrominn address questions, share information and solve challenges.

When residents expressed concern about potential odors, for example, Fibrominn educated members about how its technology is designed to minimize odors. Some current members of the Community Advisory Panel visited similar plants in the United Kingdom to experience the odor (or lack thereof) firsthand.

The panel has successfully addressed other issues, such as what city routes trucks should use when delivering poultry litter, and has proven to be an important avenue for local residents to stay informed about Fibrominn activities.

During a recent discussion about her experiences with Fibrominn, Lundebrek spoke about the trust that has been built in the community and paid our company one of the highest compliments possible:

“Anytime Fibrominn said it was going to do something, they did it. No exceptions,” she said.

Leroy Noreen, a retired businessman from Benson who also serves on the panel, echoed those sentiments. “They are good neighbors. Very open and always willing to listen,” he said. “You won’t get any surprises with Fibrowatt.” Mr. Noreen has become such a part of the Fibrominn – Benson partnership that he now hosts community tours at the site, providing a local perspective on how the plant works and what Fibrominn means to the community.

Fibrominn has worked hard to earn the trust of Lundebrek, Noreen and others over the years by constantly keeping the community informed and following through on its promises. Fibrowatt pledges to do the same thing in North Carolina.

After Fibrowatt announces our plant locations in North Carolina, one of our first priorities will be to establish a similar approach to community outreach – giving local residents the opportunity to provide input during the development, construction and operation of our North Carolina projects.

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