

News Release – August 21, 2008

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Energy Efficient Windows Installed at REDI's Research Facility

WILLITS, CA – As part of its ongoing research and commitment to energy efficiency, the Renewable Energy Development Institute installed 13 new windows at the “REDI Haus” in downtown Willits earlier this month.

The Energy Star certified windows were supplied and expertly installed by Willits Round Tree Glass, replacing all 250 square feet of the old single-pane aluminum or wood framed windows in the building.

A durable vinyl coating on the new frames helps to deflect “solar heat gain,” keeping the house cooler in the summer. In winter, the dual-pane windows help to contain heat in the building, rated by a “U-factor.” All of the windows slide open for venting, and less noise from the street is audible indoors.

REDI will now be able to monitor and report energy-use reduction as a result of the high-performance windows. A 20-percent energy savings is estimated. Various reports of energy savings from window replacement have ranged from seven to 38 percent, but have not been reliably documented.

REDI invested its own funds for the improvement. Currently window replacement is not considered by funding institutions to be a cost-effective energy efficiency measure. “We will use the data we collect to seek funding sources for dual-pane window installation, to make available even more efficiency measures through our low- and moderate-income weatherization programs,” reports Perri Kaller, Program Manager.

The local Home Energy Link Program offered by REDI, also known as “HELP,” provides weatherization and energy efficiency improvements to income-eligible households, in partnership with the City of Willits and North Coast Energy Services.

Previous improvements at the REDI Haus include two types of solar photovoltaic systems. Ongoing projects include a water conserving landscape.

For more information call Willits Round Tree Glass at 459-6163 or visit REDI's website at www.redinet.org.

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