

**ROCHESTER
DISTRICT
HEATING
COOPERATIVE
INC.**

A Winning Team.

New York State
Energy Research
and Development
Authority



Courtesy of Rochester Area Chamber of Commerce

**James Malone
Deputy Mayor
City of Rochester**

“District heating is something every community should take a look at. I’m personally convinced of its merits. It’s sure to stimulate economic development and give us the lowest cost energy for our future.”

**Armand Lartigue
Manager of Site Services
Real Estate/General
Services Division
Xerox Corporation and
President, Rochester
District Heating
Cooperative Inc.**

“We believe we’re proof that an older district heating system can be saved for both its customers and the community. We’re proud to be co-op members now and dedicated to making the system even more energy-efficient and cost-effective.”

A Winning Team.

The Rochester District Heating Cooperative Inc. (RDH) turned a challenge into an opportunity and saved Rochester’s district heating system in only 18 months. It was not an easy task. It took hard work and commitment as well as new legislation and financing.

RDH had assembled a winning team of building owners and City and County officials that was determined to keep steam district heating—a tradition since 1889—in Rochester. District heating is the process by which water or steam, heated at a central plant,

is piped underground to businesses, industries and homes to meet their space heating, domestic hot water and processing needs.

By keeping steam district heating in Rochester, RDH saved consumers the \$12 million they would have spent to install new boilers in their buildings...and is saving them \$3 million in energy costs every year.

In addition, it will continue to stimulate economic development and give Rochester, and its businesses and industries, a competitive edge.



Rochester District Heating Cooperative President Armand Lartigue, Energy Authority Chairman William D. Cotter and others gather to cut the ribbon for the system's new boilers.

Pulling Together.

Sensing the decline and potential demise of the Rochester steam system, the City of Rochester and the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority commissioned a study in early 1984 to assess the community's district heating alternatives. The study, funded by the Energy Authority, Rochester Gas & Electric, the City of Rochester and the steam users, confirmed the steam system could economically and technically remain in service.

So when RG&E announced plans in mid-1984 to abandon its steam system by October 1985, steam users and City officials were determined to keep the system in operation. In late 1984, the group formed the Rochester District Heating Cooperative Inc., and began negotiations with RG&E to purchase the system. By March 1985, RDH and RG&E had signed a letter of intent to transfer system ownership to the new cooperative.

The cooperative volunteers started to clear the way for the new venture's success. A major hurdle was overcome when the New York State Legislature exempted the steam cooperative from

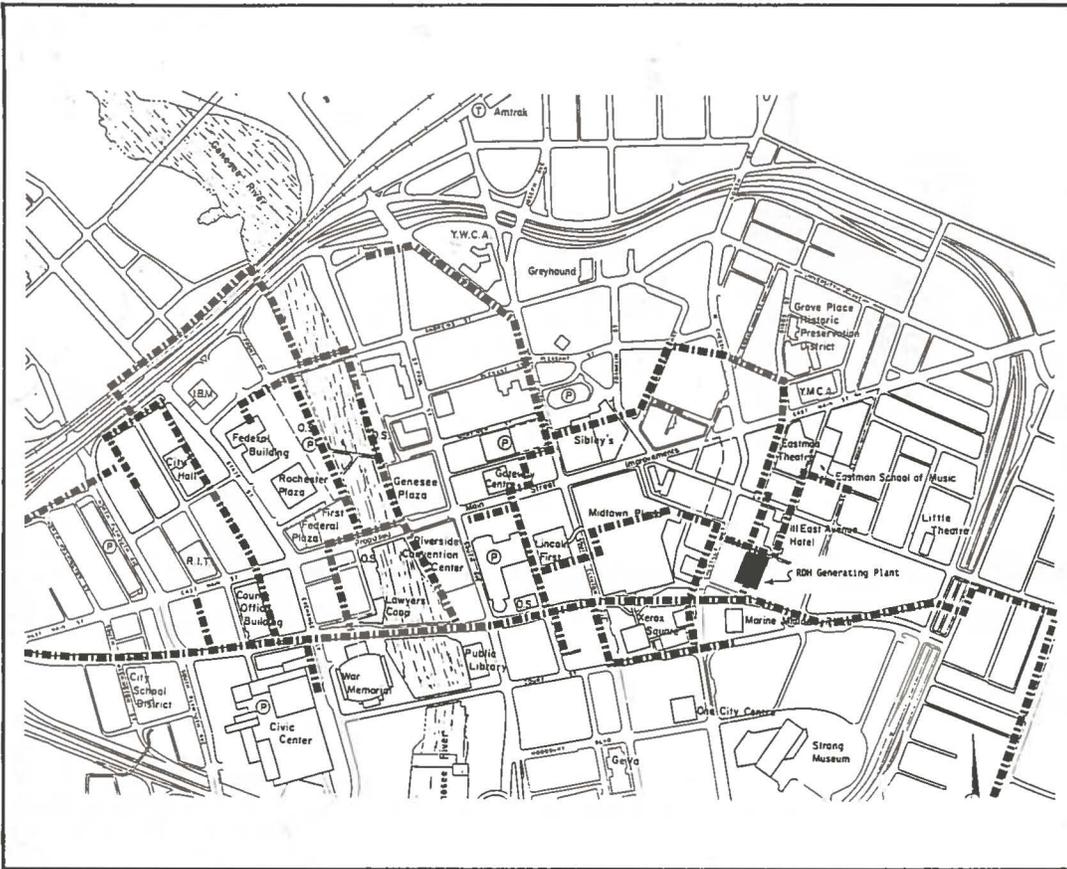
regulation by the Public Service Commission and allowed Monroe County—the system's largest user—to participate as a cooperative member.

By the fall of 1985, RDH had acquired the necessary members to back its purchase. And in December 1985, \$9 million of tax-exempt Industrial Development Bonds were issued by the County. RDH became the system's owner and operator.

But none of this would have been possible without the enormous cooperation among all sectors in the community who pulled together to make it work.

The system initially met its steam requirements by using two leased package boilers and purchasing steam from RG&E. Today, however, RDH has installed its own boilers and is even looking at alternative heat sources. The system serves 34 buildings including Xerox, churches, a hospital, banks and numerous City and County facilities.

Plans for the future include increasing plant efficiency, evaluating installation of condensate return lines, establishing a separate new heating and cooling system, and implementing cogeneration.



For further information about Rochester or other New York State district heating and cooling projects, please write or call:

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Rochester District Heating Cooperative Inc.

Type of System:	Steam
Ownership:	Rochester District Heating Cooperative Inc.
Number of Members:	30
Number of Buildings:	34
Annual Peak Demand:	165,000 lbs/hr.
Heat Source:	Three gas-fired boilers: two rated at 150,000 lbs/hr, one at 50,000 lbs/hr; back-up boiler rated 127,000 lbs/hr; total capacity: 350,000 lbs/hr.
Piping System:	Steel supply pipe; largest pipe diameter: 16 inches; 8.2 miles of pipe.

State of New York
Marlo M. Cuomo,
Governor

New York State
Energy Research
and Development
Authority

William D. Cotter,
Chairman
Irvin L. White,
President