



## **EnSave Completes First Phase of Maryland Farm Energy Audit Program**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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EnSave, Inc. today completed the first phase of the Maryland Farm Energy Audit Program. This program provided energy audits to 25 Maryland farmers, and identified the opportunity for those farmers to save over 470,000 kilowatt-hours (kWh) of electricity and over 46,000 gallons of propane. The program was developed in partnership with the United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and the Maryland Energy Administration. Other program partners included the Maryland Eastern Shore Resource Conservation & Development Council and the Maryland Department of Agriculture.

Audits were performed for poultry, dairy, and crop farms. The audits identified production increase techniques for farms in addition to energy savings. Production increase techniques are practices that typically result in energy savings but can also occasionally result in increased energy consumption. Typically, any potential increase in energy costs associated with these practices is completely offset by the additional revenue generated due to the resulting productivity increases. The audit recommendations represent \$100,000 in energy savings and \$300,000 in additional income potential for poultry growers. These economic benefits will help these businesses become more sustainable and competitive.

EnSave will be presenting the final report from the first phase of the program to the program partners on February 15, 2007. In the next phase of the project, the EnSave team will perform additional audits, and will also work with the program partners to seek funding for farmers to implement the practices and equipment recommended through the audit.

### **About EnSave**

EnSave supports the American agricultural sector with innovative energy efficiency and pollution prevention programs. EnSave provides agricultural producers and food processors with cost-effective ways to reduce operating costs while saving energy and reducing pollution. EnSave's clients include state and federal energy and environmental agencies, investor-owned utilities, and rural electric cooperatives. EnSave implements its programs by developing relationships with equipment manufacturers, local equipment dealers and the local agricultural community. Ultimately, these programs promote economic investment in the rural economy and improve the quality of America's land, air, and water.