



August 2005

Tax Increment Financing Division Newsletter

• *The New Online Reporting System: Users' Feedback*

SUCCESS !!!

The new Online Reporting System is a tremendous success. Over 90% of filed reports were filed online. This represents a 136% increase over last year! Thanks to all authorities who used the new system. We have received scores of comments regarding the system's performance. Most are very positive, while some suggest possible improvements for next year.

"I'm just racing through these reports this year! Love this system."

"Your new system is absolutely excellent! It was very easy to work with! It will be very useful for those newer persons who are dealing with TIF's for the first time!"

"We had many decertified districts in our list, which made it a little confusing."

»We have eliminated this problem. Only districts needing to report for next year will be on the list. Sorry for the confusion.

"Easy to use; clear and easy to read forms."

"These forms are GREAT. The absolute best yet."

"It was easy. However, it would be a lot nicer if I could highlight all the files on my

hard drive at one time to upload (and download) rather than having to do one at a time."

"I'd like to be able to print out a copy of the entire report once it is completed rather than printing one page at a time."

»We're working on making these features possible for next year's reports. Thanks

"For the most part it [prepopulated data from the Department of Revenue] was correct. . . one of the prepopulated fields was incorrect."

»We'd like to thank the Department of Revenue for their help in providing excellent data. Despite its near-perfect reliability, we encourage authorities to keep checking their prepopulated data before submitting reports. Thanks!

"Instructions for the excess increment calculation were still somewhat difficult to understand."

»We are currently working on further simplifying the reporting process. If you have any specific suggestions, we'd like to hear from you.

Thanks to all for using the new Online Reporting System and helping us take affirmative steps towards full electronic reporting in 2006.

If you have any questions please contact us:

Tom Carlson

651-284-3543 Thomas.M.Carlson@state.mn.us

Kurt Mueller

651-297-3680 Kurt.Mueller@state.mn.us

Lisa McGuire

651-296-9255 Lisa.McGuire@state.mn.us

Suk Shah

651-296-7001 Suk.Shah@state.mn.us

Marsha Pattison

651-296-4716 Marsha.Pattison@state.mn.us

Alex Shleifman

651-297-8342 Alex.Shleifman@state.mn.us