



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 2, 2006

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**GOVERNOR OWENS PROCLAIMS OCTOBER 3 AS
“ENERGY STAR® Change a Light Day”**

DENVER, October 2, 2006 – In an effort to help Colorado save energy and money, and reduce pollution, Governor Owens has proclaimed **Tuesday, October 3, 2006 as ENERGY STAR Change a Light Day**, and encourages Coloradans to change a light to an energy-efficient model. With his proclamation, Governor Owens joins the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), and the U.S. Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and governors from across the country in celebrating ENERGY STAR Change a Light Day.

Lighting accounts for nearly 20 percent of the average home's electric bill. ENERGY STAR qualified light bulbs use at least two-thirds less energy than standard bulbs and last up to ten times longer. If every household in Colorado changes just one bulb, we would save a combined total of \$8.5 million in household energy costs a year, prevent more than 150 million pounds of carbon dioxide emissions from being released into the atmosphere and accomplish the equivalent of removing 13,000 cars from the road.

“Colorado state government has been using energy efficient lighting in our overall energy management practices for many years. These efforts have saved tax payer dollars through reduced energy usage and costs,” said Governor Owens.

In 2006, the Governor and the State Legislature enacted House Bill 06-1200, creating new strategies including “Energy Savings-First Response” to supplement federally funded energy assistance efforts. Energy Saving Partners Program, which is a part of the Governor's Office of Energy Management and Conservation (OEMC), is implementing “Energy Savings – First Response,” which enlists members of the Mile High Youth Corps to put in low-cost, easy-to-install energy efficient tools, such as compact fluorescent lights, in low-income homes.

“Change a Light” Event Information

Join representatives from OEMC, EPA, HUD, and Mile High Youth Corps on Tuesday, October 3, as they demonstrate energy efficiency measures installed at a Denver multi-family apartment building. For more information, contact Megan Castle at (303)866-2262.

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