



## New Jersey Board of Public Utilities

### PRESS RELEASE

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### **NEW JERSEY PLEDGES SUPPORT FOR 'CHANGE A LIGHT'**

*National Campaign to Raise Public Awareness and Promote ENERGY STAR Light Bulbs and Fixtures that Save Energy, Money and Protect the Environment.*

(NEWARK, NJ) -- The New Jersey Board of Public Utilities' (NJBPU) Office of Clean Energy will launch a statewide campaign that encourages families and businesses across the state to take the Change a Light Pledge and switch to energy efficient lighting. Through the Change a Light, Change the World campaign, New Jersey residents are encouraged to change the world, one light – one energy-saving step – at a time. By using ENERGY STAR qualified light bulbs and fixtures, New Jerseyans can reduce their energy use, save on energy costs, and help protect the environment. "We want to do our part to create a better environment," said NJBPU President Jeanne M. Fox.

"Participating in this national campaign is both easy and effective. We are proud to spread the word about the simple steps individuals in our state can take to make a difference. It's a commitment that will go a long way to assure that the energy resources we rely on and the environment we live in are preserved for generations to come.

New Jersey's Clean Energy Program in partnership with New Jersey retailers, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) -- joined the Change a Light, Change the World campaign for the third-consecutive year. The campaign and pledge are designed to encourage individuals to actively help save energy at home, starting by switching to energy-efficient lighting.

"The simple action of changing a light could prevent air pollution equivalent to the emissions from more than 1 million cars. If each household in the U.S. switched the lighting in just one room in their home to energy efficient lighting, the change would also save more than \$3 billion annually in electricity costs," said Wendy Reed, US Environmental Protection Agency, ENERGY STAR Campaign Director.

"The savings are measurable for New Jersey and the benefits unending," said Michael Winka, Director of the NJBPU Office of Clean Energy which administers the New Jersey's Clean Energy Program. "ENERGY STAR qualified compact fluorescent lamps use 66 percent less

energy than a standard incandescent bulb and last up to 10 times longer. Replacing a 100-watt incandescent with a 32-watt compact fluorescent lamp will save at least \$30 in energy cost over the life of the bulb."

Lighting accounts for 20 percent of the average home's electric bill and is one of the easiest places to save energy. Simple steps, such as changing a light at home, can save on energy bills while also reducing the risks of global warming. If every American home replaced their five most frequently used lights or the bulbs in them with the ones who have earned the ENERGY STAR, each home would save about \$60 a year in energy costs, and together we'd save about \$6.5 billion each year in energy costs and prevent greenhouse gases equivalent to the emissions from more than 8 million cars.

In New Jersey, The ENERGY STAR Change a Light Pledge and a complete list of retailers offering ENERGY STAR lighting products can be found on [www.njcleanenergy.com](http://www.njcleanenergy.com). Informational materials also are available at local retailers.

Visit [NJCleanEnergy.com](http://NJCleanEnergy.com) for more details and to take the pledge to Change a Light and Change the World.

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*New Jersey's Clean Energy Program provides financial and other incentives to the State's residential customers, businesses and schools that install high-efficiency or renewable energy technologies, thereby reducing energy usage, lowering customers' energy bills and reducing environmental impacts. The program is authorized and overseen by the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (NJBPU). Visit the New Jersey Clean Energy Program at [www.njcleanenergy.com](http://www.njcleanenergy.com).*

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*ENERGY STAR gives consumers energy-efficient choices in more than 40 product categories for the home and office. Products that earn the ENERGY STAR prevent greenhouse gas emissions by meeting strict energy-efficiency guidelines set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE). ENERGY STAR is a partnership between government, consumers, manufacturers, retailers and other industry organizations united by a common goal: to help protect our environment for future generations by changing to more energy-efficient practices today. For more information about ENERGY STAR and how you can help by changing a light, visit [www.energystar.gov](http://www.energystar.gov) or call 1-888-STAR-YES (1-888-782-7937).*

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*The New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (NJBPU) is a state agency and regulatory authority mandated to ensure safe, adequate, and proper utility services at reasonable rates for New Jersey customers. Critical services regulated by the NJBPU include natural gas, electricity, water, wastewater, telecommunications and cable television. The Board has general oversight responsibility for monitoring utility service, responding to consumer complaints, and*

*investigating utility accidents. To find out more about the NJBPU, visit our web site at [www.bpu.state.nj.us](http://www.bpu.state.nj.us).*