



MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Ways to Reduce Electricity Consumption and Save Money When Temperatures Rise

HAMILTON / ST. CATHARINES (July 9, 2007) – It is going to be another hot and sticky day today. With temperatures reaching 29 degrees Celsius and humidity readings of 62%, air conditioners will be humming, putting pressure on the provincial electricity grid.

“The Live Earth concerts this past weekend reminded us all that we all need to contribute to solving the global climate crisis by reducing our energy usage,” says company spokesperson, Sandy Manners. “On hot days like today, we need to find ways to stay comfortable, while using as little energy as possible.”

Horizon Utilities’ Summer Savings program will reward customers who reduce their electricity usage by 10% this summer over last year’s consumption, with an additional 10% credit on their bill.

“Air conditioning can account for up to 50% of your hydro bill over the summer,” points out Manners, “so customers should try to use it conservatively.” For example, Horizon Utilities recommends setting the thermostat at 25 degrees Celsius or higher and only turning it on when absolutely necessary.

To make the most efficient use of air conditioning, keeping blinds closed and curtains drawn during the hottest hours of the day. Turning off the air conditioning at night and opening windows is also a good idea.

“If you use a ceiling fan or portable fan in conjunction with air conditioning, the “wind chill” effect will enable you to set your air conditioner higher to 26 or 27 degrees Celsius and still be comfortable,” notes Manners. “Setting your air conditioner thermostat just two degrees higher can reduce air conditioning energy use by 15% and result in significant savings on your electricity bill.”

Horizon Utilities is also offering customers a \$25 incentive to sign up to have a **peaksaver**[™] programmable thermostat for their heating and central air conditioning system installed at no charge. When the province’s electricity usage reaches critical levels on hot days and an alert for cut-backs is sent out, **peaksaver**[™] thermostats are automatically activated, turning up air conditioning units by a degree or two for short periods of time to relieve the stress on the system.

For more information about Summer Savings or **peaksaver**[™], please visit www.horizonutilities.com or call Horizon Utilities at 1-866-458-1236.

For more tips on how to conserve electricity, visit the Horizon Utilities website at www.horizonutilities.com.

Horizon Utilities Corporation is the third largest municipally owned electricity distribution company in Ontario and provides electricity and related utility services to over 230,000 residential and commercial customers in Hamilton and St. Catharines. Horizon's 340 employees are committed to delivering a safe and reliable supply of electricity, providing unparalleled customer value and helping to create a culture of energy conservation in Ontario. Horizon Utilities Corporation is proud to be a founding member of powerWISE[®], a brand created to promote energy conservation and reduce the demand for electricity in Ontario. powerWISE[®] is a joint initiative of the Ontario government and six of Ontario’s largest electricity distribution companies. For more information, visit: www.horizonutilities.com and www.powerwise.ca.

- 30 -

Contact information:

Sandy Manners, Director, Corporate Communications, Horizon Utilities Corporation

Tel: 905-317-4707 - Cell: 905-308-1473 - E-mail: sandy.manners@horizonutilities.com - Website: www.horizonutilities.com