

## Getting Ready for The Next Heat Wave

### powerWISE™ Tips for The Summer Months

**TORONTO, July 6, 2005** – Six of Ontario's largest local electricity distribution companies, cooperatively delivering energy conservation programs under the powerWISE™ name, are advising customers on ways to save electricity and money without compromising comfort.

The province has already seen record temperatures and people are feeling the heat. Some areas of the province have been hit with 30-degree weather and air conditioners are humming. Not only does this significantly impact electricity supply, but contributes to poor air quality.

“Our hot summers result in the demand for electricity being much greater than other times of the year – in fact, heating and cooling account for a large percentage of a customer’s electricity bill,” says Rosemarie Leclair, acting president and CEO, Hydro Ottawa. “We all need to pay attention to how much electricity is used – using more electricity than our province can generate costs us more from a quality of life and financial perspective.”

powerWISE offers the following tips to save electricity and save money this summer:

- Clean or replace your air conditioner filter regularly.
- Turn the air conditioner off when you’re not home.
- If you have central air, raise the thermostat setting on your air conditioner.
- Turn on ceiling fans, rather than air conditioners, to circulate air.
- Close blinds and curtains during the day to keep the heat out.
- Replace incandescent light bulbs with compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFL).
- Create natural cooling with shade trees on the west and south sides of your house.
- Shower and run your dishwasher, washer and dryer early in the morning or late at night.
- Dry clothes outdoors.
- Don’t use heat-producing small appliances (toasters, hairdryers) at peak times.
- Vacuum the coils of your refrigerator and keep other appliances in good working order.
- Don’t heat your pool at night and let hot daytime temperatures warm it during the day.
- Use manual skimmers rather than pool vacuums daily. Vacuum once a week.
- Turn off lights, computers, stereos and TVs when you’re not using them.
- Keep those fridge and freezer doors closed as much as possible.

More information and tips can be found on the website at [www.powerwise.ca](http://www.powerwise.ca)

powerWISE members Enersource Hydro Mississauga, Horizon Utilities Corporation, Hydro Ottawa Limited, PowerStream Inc., Toronto Hydro-Electric System and Veridian Connections will continue to deliver more new and innovative programs, and are fully committed to the goal of reducing demand and creating a culture of conservation in Ontario.

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