



Media Release

Turning On to Turning Off

Horizon Utilities Reports More Customers Reducing Consumption During Earth Hour

(ST. CATHARINES, ON) MARCH 28, 2010 – Horizon Utilities reports that electricity demand dropped 6.1 megawatts or 5.2% in St. Catharines on Saturday night between 8:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. compared to the previous hour as area residents joined with millions around the world to celebrate Earth Hour. That represents more than a 50% improvement over last year's results of 3.26%.

"I'm happy to see even more people in St. Catharines responding to the global call to take action on climate change by participating in Earth Hour," says Mayor Brian McMullan. "Like many of our residents, we participated by switching off non-essential lighting in City facilities. I look forward to seeing these small actions translate into big habits that will drive everyday energy reductions."

Many Earth Hour participants enjoyed a computer-, television- and video game-free night. Some families even hosted Earth Hour parties, playing board games by candlelight.

"Earth Hour is a great catalyst for generating grassroots involvement in reducing electrical consumption," says Max Cananzi, President & CEO, Horizon Utilities Corporation. "We're pleased to collaborate with the City and its residents to demonstrate the substantial energy savings we can realize by making simple and easy changes. It's one more way we're helping create a culture of conservation and contributing to the sustainability of the communities we serve."

- more -

The goal of Earth Hour is to get as many individuals and businesses as possible to turn off their lights for one hour to raise awareness about climate change. One way to slow the current rate of global warming is to get individuals to make small adjustments to the amount of power they consume. Last night's reductions by Horizon's customers are equivalent to removing 41 cars from the road for one month.

"Imagine the energy we could save everyday if the simple act of powering down just a few non-essential lights and appliances became part of our usual routine! That's what Earth Hour is all about," adds Mr. Cananzi.

For more information on Earth Hour and energy saving tips, please, visit:
www.horizonutilities.com

About Horizon Utilities

Horizon Utilities Corporation, named Company of the Year by the Ontario Energy Association, is one of the largest municipally owned electricity distribution companies in Ontario providing electricity and related utility services to more than 230,000 residential and commercial customers in Hamilton and St. Catharines. Horizon's 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.

- 30 -

For more information, please contact:

Sheri Ojero
Communications Specialist
Horizon Utilities Corporation
Tel: 905-522-6611, ext. 2534 Cell: 905-961-1211
Email: sheri.ojero@horizonutilities.com
Website: www.horizonutilities.com

Mayor Brian McMullan
City of St. Catharines
Tel: (905) 688-5601, ext 1540
Cell: 905-328-8907
Website: www.stcatharines.ca



Company of the Year
Ontario Energy Association

Mark Green
Manager of Environmental Services
City of St. Catharines
Email: mgreen@stcatharines.ca
Phone: (905) 688-5601 ext. 2193
Website: www.stcatharines.ca