



Media Release

Lights out across the City

Horizon Utilities reports decrease in energy consumption during Earth Hour

(ST. CATHARINES, ON) MARCH 27, 2011 – Horizon Utilities reports that electricity demand decreased 5.5 megawatts or 4.4% in St. Catharines Saturday night between 8:30 and 9:30 p.m. as the Garden City powered down to celebrate Earth Hour. The drop, compared to the same hour from previous Saturdays in March with comparable weather, is slightly below last year's 5.2% reduction.

"I'm pleased to see residents unplugged for Earth Hour in the global call to fight climate change," said Mayor Brian McMullan. "Powering down for one hour may seem insignificant but small steps can lead to big changes. I hope we can see even greater energy reductions next year."

Many Earth Hour participants enjoyed an electronic-free night. Some families took advantage of the hour to take a walk through their neighbourhood or play board games by candlelight.

"Earth Hour is a great way to raise awareness about the everyday actions we can take to fight climate change," 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 as we work together not only during Earth Hour, but on an on-going basis as we help build sustainable communities."

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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 each and every day. Last night's reductions by Horizon's customers are equivalent to powering 241 homes for a 24-hour period.

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

About Horizon Utilities Corporation

Horizon Utilities is one of the largest municipally owned electricity distribution companies in Ontario, providing electricity and related utility services to 236,000 residential, commercial and industrial customers in Hamilton and St. Catharines. Horizon Utilities' 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.

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