

STATE OF NEW YORK

Public Service Commission

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New Yorkers Urged to Decrease Energy Use in Heat Wave *-Tips to Conserve Energy and to Stay Cool-*

Albany, NY—07/22/11—The New York State Public Service Commission requests all New Yorkers to conserve energy use to help take stress off the electric system due to the high customer demand for electricity during this heat wave.

“It is critically important for consumers to reduce their energy use at this time,” said Chairman Garry Brown. “Equally important is for our State’s residents to stay cool and stay hydrated as hot and humid weather continues to stay with us. We must all work together to reduce unnecessary electricity usage during this heat wave.”

Saving Energy and Cooling Tips

The Commission has several suggestions to help reduce your energy use and to keep cool during the heat wave, including the following tips:

- Turning off lights and unplugging electronic devices not in use.
- Close drapes or blinds to help your air conditioner run less.
- Setting the thermostat on air conditioners to 78 degrees or higher.
- Change your air conditioner filter for peak efficiency.
- Use the fan setting on the air conditioner at night.
- Keep windows and doors closed whenever the air conditioner is on.
- Run dishwashers, ovens, washing machines and dryers in early morning or late at night.

- Keep refrigerator and freezer doors closed as long as possible, and limit the time they are open.
- Dress for the heat. Wear lightweight, light-colored clothing.
- If your home does not have air conditioning, consider going to the shopping mall, community center, public library or other designated local cooling center.

Staff of the Department of Public Service will continue to monitor the utilities efforts to maintain system reliability throughout the heat wave. Check your local utility's Website for additional information on how to conserve energy use.