The Energy Savers Campaign

Our homes consume a lot of energy:

- More than \$160 billion a year to heat, cool, light and live in our homes, and this energy bill continues to grow
- Our homes make up 21 percent of the energy our nation uses each year and contribute about 17 percent of our nation's emissions of greenhouse gases

While our homes are more efficient today than they were 30 years ago, considerable opportunity remains for greater energy efficiency and a lower energy bill. Many households could save 20-30 percent on their household energy bills through cost-effective household improvements such as:

- Buying more energy-efficient products and appliances
- Sealing air and duct leaks
- Adding insulation

Although the U.S. Department of Energy is working on new energy saving technologies, for many Americans, the benefits of those efforts will not come in time to help them this winter.

Some Americans will, unfortunately, have trouble paying their heating bills Although the Energy Information Administration (EIA) estimates that home heating oil, propane and natural gas prices will be lower compared to last year, most Americans are more concerned about their finances now than they were then. Some will have trouble paying their bills and staying warm.

So what can they do now to lower their energy costs?

The answers await them at <u>EnergySavers.gov</u>, where they'll find practical, low-cost tips for saving energy, including many they can implement themselves. The Web site is the centerpiece of the Energy Savers informational campaign, aimed at helping American consumers and businesses use energy more efficiently and save money during the cold winter months, in many cases with quick and easy low-cost and no-cost solutions. The site also provides information on more long-term solutions, along with links to organizations which may be able to provide financial assistance.

Because energy needs differ in various regions of this country, state energy offices and governors have been enlisted in the campaign. Through public outreach and relationship building, they will spread information to their residents about Energy Savers.

This campaign will change with the seasons and is meant to be used as a year-round resource for Americans' energy needs. In the summer months, Energy Savers will focus on how to use energy efficiently and save money when temperatures are high.

For more information, go to www.energysavers.gov.