



OPERATION CHANGE OUT MILITARY CHALLENGE

For Immediate Release

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ENERGY STAR® OPERATION CHANGE OUT Eighty-Four Military Bases Shift to Compact Fluorescents, Cut Nearly \$11 Million in Energy Costs

WASHINGTON, D.C., October 1, 2008 – Our servicemen and women have made “going green” as easy as changing a light bulb. Launched on Earth Day, April 22, 2008, *OPERATION CHANGE OUT* helps service members and government employees save energy, save money, and protect the environment by replacing their inefficient incandescent light bulbs with ENERGY STAR qualified compact fluorescents (CFLs). So far, 84 bases are participating in the challenge.

The 84 bases have installed 359,268 CFLs in 40,951 housing units. These light bulb change-outs are estimated to:

- save over 100 million kilowatt-hours over the life of the bulbs, representing a substantial reduction in national energy use,
- cut nearly \$11 million in energy costs over the life of the bulbs, and
- prevent the emissions of more than 150 million pounds of carbon dioxide.

Three bases stand out as leaders in efficiency.

Actus Lend Lease manages housing at Fort Drum, an Army base located in New York. Actus changed out 106,012 bulbs, the largest number of light bulbs so far. The new fluorescent bulbs will cut the base's energy bills by \$ 2,780,271.¹

"Actus Lend Lease continually seeks out ways to further our commitment to care for the planet that sustains us," said Dale Connor, Actus Lend Lease Managing Director. "We are proud to join with the DOE and DOD in *OPERATION CHANGE OUT*, an important program that encourages everyone—military families and civilians alike—to join in this simple, yet highly effective measure that will make a long-term impact on our environment."

Other bases also exceeded the goals they set for themselves. Camp Lejeune, located in North Carolina, pledged to change out at least one bulb in each of their 3,500 housing units. Instead, it changed out 19,020 bulbs in nearly 5,000 DOD and Actus Lend Lease-managed housing units, exceeding its goal by 143 percent. The change will save the base \$498,819.²

Tobyhanna Army Depot in Pennsylvania made special efforts to engage its military community, reaching out to about 6,000 employees. On the morning of June 18, personnel were able to submit a pledge to receive a free CFL, purchased with the installation's Recycling Fund. At the Employee Appreciation Day festivities that afternoon, personnel who had not already submitted a pledge and received a CFL were able to do so at the ENERGY STAR *OPERATION CHANGE OUT MILITARY CHALLENGE* tent. Tobyhanna had pledged to change out 2,414 bulbs. Due to its exemplary outreach, it has changed out 23,158 bulbs so far, for energy savings of 6,530,556 kWh, cost savings of \$607,342,³ and CO₂ savings of 9,471,622 lbs.

¹ Based on an electric rate of 9.3 cents per kWh.

² Based on an electric rate of 9.3 cents per kWh.

³ Based on an electric rate of 9.3 cents per kWh.

In addition, base commissary and exchange stores have noted a significant increase in ENERGY STAR qualified light bulb sales, ranging from 172–290 percent with more than 620,000 units. For example, the Army and Air Force Exchange Service (AAFES), which provides merchandise and services to active duty, guard, and reserve members, military retirees and their families, reported a 290-percent increase in CFL sales compared to last year. Since the campaign launch, AAFES has sold more than 45,000 CFLs in the United States.

OPERATION CHANGE OUT supports federal energy-efficiency goals, such as Executive Order 13423, “Strengthening Federal Environmental, Energy, and Transportation Management,” and the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007. Simply changing bulbs offers significant savings potential for military families and taxpayers, as well as a substantial reduction in energy use at military facilities.

Due to this tremendous progress, the campaign is being extended through Earth Day, April 22, 2009. Picerne Military Housing has already committed to changing out over 580,000 inefficient light bulbs at six installations, beginning in 2009. The expanded campaign takes efficiency to a new level: OPERATION CHANGE OUT will be encouraging participating bases to replace not just light bulbs, but also energy-inefficient refrigerators and clothes washers with new ENERGY STAR qualified models.

Installations or organizations interested in participating can visit the campaign Web site at www.ENERGYSTAR.gov/OCO or contact OperationChangeOut@drintl.com for assistance.

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