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MEDIA RELEASE

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BIG CITY MAYORS INTRODUCE THE "STATE BULB" OF TEXAS

San Antonio— The Mayors of the state's largest cities joined together today and called on all Texans to replace their old-fashioned light bulbs with energy-saving compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs).

Five Texas Mayors are leading energy conservation efforts in their own cities and joined together to help reduce the state's energy bill.

"It's important for each of us to do our part," said Dallas Mayor Tom Leppert. "We started converting to more energy efficient lighting years ago at our more than 700 City-owned buildings, and now we're asking all Texans to do the same. Dallas has become an environmental leader, so it's a natural fit for us to join this statewide effort."

One of the simplest acts an individual can take – changing a light bulb – has the most far-reaching effects. If every Texan household changed just one bulb, it would be the equivalent of removing 55,000 cars from the road. It would be enough to light 200,000 homes for a year.

In spite of those cost and energy savings, CFLs account for only about 6 percent of all light bulb sales.

The mayors asked their fellow Texans to make the switch and adopt the energy-saving "state bulb" of Texas.

Other CFL benefits include:

- *CFLs last up to 10 times as long as regular bulbs.*
- *At today's electric rates, swapping out just one 60-watt incandescent bulb for an equally bright CFL saves more than \$35 over the life of the bulb. Swapping a 100-watt incandescent bulb for a CFL saves more than \$50.*
- *CFLs use about one-fourth the energy of regular bulbs, which is also good for the environment.*

The Mayors are collaborating with Environmental Defense and retailers to encourage Texans to give CFLs as a holiday gift, or to make the switch as a 2008 resolution.

A total of seven Texas cities are participating in the campaign: Houston, San Antonio, Dallas, Austin, Fort Worth, El Paso and Arlington.

For more information about CFLs go to www.lightenuptx.org.

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