DCAS Division of Energy Management

Energy Updates

March 2010

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CFL discount at Home Depot for City employees

Starting earlier this month, you may have seen a cartoon birdie on the subways, at bus stops, and on the sides of buses encouraging New Yorkers to "Switch and Save" by replacing incandescent light bulbs with compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs). GreeNYC, the marketing arm of PlaNYC, is behind this campaign, and has partnered with Home Depot to offer an **exclusive discount on CFL light bulbs to City employees**. The single-use coupon for $1.00 off a new CFL bulb will be available for download on CityShare starting next week.

Once the link is activated next week, we will coordinate with each agency's communications department to share the coupon with all City employees via e-mail.

Earth Hour

On Saturday March 27th from 8:30 to 9:30pm, millions of people, organizations, businesses, and governments will turn off their lights for one hour to demonstrate their concern about climate change. Last year, Earth Hour changed the New York City skyline when the lights were shut off at several iconic NYC institutions, including the Empire State Building, the Brooklyn Bridge, and the Broadway Theater Marquees. City government also participated by turning off lights at City Hall, 1 Centre Street, Staten Island Borough Hall, and Brooklyn Borough Hall. While we do not expect staff to report to work solely to participate in this Saturday evening event, City agencies are encouraged to have all non-essential lighting turned off during Earth Hour. Please visit the Earth Hour website for more information: https://www.myearthhour.org/home.

Upcoming energy management training opportunities

We'd like to remind ELOs, facility managers, and building operators about the three remaining training opportunities for FY10. These training opportunities are free of charge and are a great way to learn how to operate your agency's buildings more efficiently.

1. Building Operator Certificate (BOC) Level II starts **April 9**
2. Certified Energy Manager (CEM) is the week of **May 10**

3. Overview of Building Systems starts **June 4** (this is a great non-technical course for ELOs who are not building operators)

Please visit the Division of Energy Management website for more information on each of the courses, and for the course application: www.nyc.gov/energy-conservation.

Local laws 85 and 88 – How they'll affect your agency

In the January Energy Update, we provided a brief overview of Local Laws 84 and 87 of 2009, the benchmarking and audit/retro-commissioning legislation Mayor Bloomberg signed into law in December. Two other pieces of legislation, Local Laws 85 and 88 of 2009, round out the Greener, Greater Buildings strategy that make New York the first American city with a comprehensive, mandatory effort to reduce emissions from existing large buildings.

Local Law 85 creates a New York City Energy Code ("Energy Code"), based on the New York State Energy Conservation Construction Code. LL85 **requires all building alterations and all new construction to comply with the City Energy Code**, which eliminates a loophole that exempted alterations of less than 50% of building gross square feet from meeting the State's Energy Code requirements. Beginning July 1, 2010, all building alterations will be required to meet the Energy Code standards, with certain exceptions for historic buildings.

Local Law 88 requires **lighting system upgrades and sub-metering for *tenant spaces* in all buildings greater than 50,000 gross square feet**. Lighting systems in all large buildings, whether renovated or not, must comply with Energy Code standards for new buildings by 2025. A report certifying the upgrade must be prepared by a registered architect, professional engineer, licensed master, or special electrician and filed with the Department of Buildings on or before the first of January, 2025.

In addition to lighting upgrades, sub-meters are required for any *tenant space* of 10,000 gross square feet or greater, while a tenancy of less than 10,000 gross square feet must be either separately sub-metered or share a sub-meter with other tenant spaces on the floor. A monthly statement of electrical consumption must be given to each tenant in a sub-metered space. The deadline for sub-metering is also the first of January, 2025.

If you have further questions about these new requirements and/or the Energy Code, please contact the Buildings Department: http://www.nyc.gov/html/dob/html/home/home.shtml.

"Spotlight" series

In each monthly Energy Update, we will highlight an energy efficiency or renewable energy project at a city agency that contributes to New York City's ambitious goal to reduce city government energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions by 30% by 2017. If you know of a project that you think would make a good candidate for the spotlight, please let us know!

Spotlight on: Fuel Cell at the Bronx Zoo

The Bronx Zoo, in partnership with DCAS, the New York Power Authority, and the NYC Department of Design and Construction, has installed a fuel cell at the Zoo's Lion House. The Lion House, built in 1903, is the largest of the Beaux-Arts buildings on the Zoo's central Astor Court and is a NYC Historic Landmark. As pictured below left, it has been reconstructed to house the Zoo's "Madgascar" exhibit.

Photo credit: Julie Larsen Maher, WCS.

The photo above right shows Jon Dohlin, Wildlife Conservation Society Project Manager for the Madagascar exhibit, overseeing the installation of the fuel cell at the rear of the Lion House. The energy-saving fuel cell will operate along with the existing Bronx Zoo cogeneration power system and with the Con Edison grid to reduce the electrical needs of the Lion House by 200 kilowatts. The clean, virtually emission-free power generated by the fuel cell allows the Zoo to meet its growing power needs while offsetting the need for upgrades to the existing Lion House's power supply. The heat generated by the fuel cell will be utilized for space heating and hot water, as opposed to wasted "up the stack" as in a conventional power plant.