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PRESS RELEASE

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Nation's Largest Housing Development 'Goes Green' with Energy-Saving Compact Fluorescent Light Bulbs

NYCHA Celebrates Earth Day with the Installation of Nearly 10,000 Compact Fluorescent Light Bulbs

First Major Program of the Sustainability Partnership with the Clinton Climate Initiative, the City of New York and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

Residents of the New York City Housing Authority's (NYCHA) Queensbridge Houses in Long Island City, today received nearly 10,000 energy-efficient compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs) that will help promote savings in utility costs for the Authority. NYCHA, Citi, N.A., RelightNY, Ameresco, Inc. and the Clinton Climate Initiative (CCI), joined together at the development for a kickoff event to celebrate this partnership and begin the installation of the CFLs at the largest housing complex in the City and the nation. This is NYCHA's first major initiative following the announcement in December 2007 of the historical sustainability partnership with the City of New York, CCI and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Since then NYCHA has developed a comprehensive 'green' agenda that includes apartment and common area CFL upgrades as well as building retrofits and modernizations to current boiler and heating systems. The goal is to make NYCHA's 343 developments more energy-efficient and educate residents about energy conservation and its importance in saving our planet and in preserving public housing.

The CFL lamps were purchased by RelightNY with a generous \$20,000 donation made to the youth-run not-for-profit by Citi. NYCHA is replacing an average of six incandescent light bulbs per dwelling unit with CFLs, which use one-fourth the amount of electricity and last ten times longer.

"Queensbridge is the largest development in our real estate portfolio, and as such, is also the largest consumer of electricity and other utilities. The installation of CFLs is a sure and immediate way to lower our utility expenses, reduce our output of greenhouse gases, and in the process, contribute to the Mayor's PlaNYC efforts to reduce carbon emissions and guarantee the sustainability of our great City," said NYCHA Chairman Tino Hernandez.

"Citi is proud to support the New York City Housing Authority's Queensbridge South energy-efficient lighting project and its partners, Relight NY, Ameresco, and the Clinton Foundation," said Eileen A. Auld, New York Community Relations State Director.

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"At Citi, we are committed to promoting positive environmental change. We have established many programs and initiatives to support the environment, including a 10-year \$50 billion commitment to combat climate change."

Speaking on behalf of RelightNY, Avery Hairston, RelightNY's founder said, "To make a positive difference, we are working to educate and motivate all New Yorkers to make the switch to CFL bulbs, as an easy step to living more environmentally conscious lives. Thanks to Citibank and their generous donation, we are very pleased to provide these bulbs to the families who live in Queensbridge houses.

The financial savings and the environmental gains of installing CFLs at Queensbridge South are significant. The overall estimated reduction in greenhouse gases is of 1,400 tons per year, and the energy-efficient lamps will reduce overall electricity costs by 17 percent and save the Housing Authority approximately \$367K annually.

While the CFLs are the solution to reducing energy consumption, carbon emissions and utility costs at the development, NYCHA still had to engage an entity that would aid in the installation process.

Ameresco, the largest independent energy solutions provider in the nation and one of CCI's partner ESCOs (energy services companies) has donated the labor to complete the retrofitting.

NYCHA has also worked with Ameresco to create a resident "Green-Collar" job component. Six NYCHA residents of Queensbridge South have been given training and jobs to do CFL installations at the development.

"Since we first began working with NYCHA in 1999, the Authority has demonstrated extraordinary vision and leadership in its commitment to the goals of energy efficiency and environmental sustainability," said David J. Anderson, executive vice president for Ameresco, Inc. "Ameresco is proud to be extending our partnership with NYCHA and its residents to protect our precious natural resources and help preserve affordable housing for New Yorkers through this latest initiative."

"CCI is excited to be working closely with NYCHA to accelerate energy efficiency projects across NYCHA's portfolio," said Ira Magaziner, Chairman of CCI. "We hope that NYCHA will set an example that can be replicated in other public housing developments across the country and around the world."

The Clinton Climate Initiative has been working closely with NYCHA and supporting its mission by arranging agreements with energy service companies, such as the one with Ameresco, as well as with banks, and suppliers of energy-saving technologies to allow for the completion of upgrades, retrofits and modernizations at NYCHA.

NYCHA Board Member Margarita López, who in September of 2007 was appointed Environmental Coordinator by Mayor Bloomberg and Chairman Hernandez, has been spearheading the Authority's green initiatives.

"We are here to announce a new agency standard. We are retrofitting our developments with energy-saving technologies such as the CFL light bulbs, and launch an education campaign to inform our residents of how they can do their part."

In addition to addressing NYCHA's own financial needs and challenges, the retrofit program at Queensbridge will reduce NYCHA's output of CO₂ and contribute to the sustainability of New York City.

Queensbridge Houses is the largest NYCHA development in New York City--with thirteen, 6-story buildings which include 1,600 apartments. Completed March 15, 1940, the 29.12-acre development is home to 3,530 residents.