

# Maine Public Utilities Commission

## NEWS RELEASE

Maine Public Utilities Commission

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **“Save-A-Watt” 10% Challenge Reaches Halfway Point**

AUGUSTA, MAINE – This week marks the halfway point for Maine’s Save-A-Watt 10% Challenge. Including the results of this week’s drawing, which is set for Friday, twenty-six Maine homeowners or businesses will each have won a \$1,000 rebate for an Energy Star appliance or other qualified product. The Challenge will continue through the end of March, with four new winners selected weekly until a total of fifty rebates have been awarded.

Since the Challenge began last December, over 200 thousand residential and small business customers of Central Maine Power and Bangor Hydro-Electric Companies (28% of all customers billed) have qualified for the rebate drawings by reducing their electricity use by 10% or more compared to last year. On average, qualifying customers reduced usage by about 28%, saving over 50 million kWh. These savings represent enough electricity to power 7,500 Maine homes for an entire year.

Winners have saved electricity in a variety of ways. For example, Joanne Tenney of Windham installed efficient light bulbs and made sure to turn off lights, and the computer and TV, when not in use. Martha McLean of Greenwood saved by not using her electric baseboard heat, hanging clothes out to dry instead of using the dryer, installing efficient light bulbs and making sure to turn off unneeded lights. Kimberly Mazone of Bath installed passive solar, switched to propane for some of her water heating, and used efficient light bulbs. Howard Johnson of Lewiston saved by replacing old appliances with more efficient ones.

