



Policy makers discuss energy efficiency

Ameren meets with local leaders to talk about how to cut energy costs

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PEORIA — Replacing your light bulbs with compact fluorescent light bulbs can save \$7 a year per bulb, and \$40 over the lifetime of the bulb. And that is just one bulb.

The Environmental Law and Policy Center and the Citizens Utility Board were joined by state Sens. Dave Koehler, D-Peoria, and Darin LaHood, R-Peoria, on Tuesday to discuss this and all the other discounts and rebates Ameren is offering to entice customers to use energy-efficient appliances.

"Many Ameren customers don't realize that the company is spending \$78 million this year on discounts and rebates to residential and commercial customers," said Robert Kelter, senior attorney at the law and policy center. "The programs help Ameren customers maintain their current level of comfort at the same time that they use less energy."

It was a timely event with also saving people money

"Today, on the first day of taking power over your power efficiency isn't about saving

Making the necessary changes offering rebates and discounts themselves.

"The best way to cut the in an energy-efficient light the increased capacity and

While cutting costs is undoubtedly the biggest incentive for consumers, there are benefits that can motivate people for reasons other than their bank account.

"We're teaming up with CUB today because these programs are a win-win for consumers and for the environment," Kelter said. "Consumers not only save money on their bills, but we reduce pollution from coal-fired power plants, and it means we will emit fewer tons of CO2 as well as less mercury, soot and other toxic pollutants."



initiatives are not only helping the environment, but

nt you to know that energy efficiency can be the key to nd outreach associate at CUB. "Remember, energy ss energy while doing those things."

e their lives and use energy, officials said. Ameren is , and the savings on the power bills speak for

rman of the Energy Committee. "So as soon as you put r, you're not having to build more power plants to take

Incentives to save

Four ways to help cut energy costs.

- Replace light bulbs with compact fluorescent light bulbs. Saves \$40 per bulb.
- Upgrade the air conditioning unit. Get a \$35 rebate for room units, \$600 for a central unit.
- Recycle that extra fridge and get a \$50 "reward."
- Switch to a programmable thermostat and get a \$25 rebate.

For more information, go to www.ActOnEnergy.com.

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Didn't Sen Koehler vote for Ameren and ComEd's 10 year rate increase bill? Now seems a little late to tell us how to save money on our utility bills?

exmits

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These new energy efficient bulbs and other devices would be great if they weren't all made in China!!!!!!!!!! The last US light bulb manufacturer just closed down a few months ago. How much energy is wasted by all those computers and cell phone towers etc. that run 24/7. I bet a ton of electricity could be saved if people would give up all of that crap that serves no real purpose except to waste time and money--including my typing this message into a computer and sending it out onto the Internet for someone to read instead of doing their work.

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