



## **NEWS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Benton PUD customers to receive compact fluorescent light bulbs**

(Kennewick) As part of the Benton PUD Conservation Program, Benton PUD is distributing compact fluorescent light bulbs (or often called CFLs) to all residential customers over a two week period. The distribution of the CFLs is integral component of Benton PUD's conservation program to meet the conservation requirements mandated by the Energy Independence Act (Initiative 937, approved by voters in 2006).

This conservation project enables Benton PUD to pass energy savings to all residential customers. While other energy conservation projects such as appliance rebates help save energy over time, CFLs provide savings to all our residential customers immediately. Compact use 60 percent less energy than the standard incandescent light bulb.

Residential customers will receive a package in the mail with five 19-watt CFLs and six 13-watt CFLs. A 19-watt CFL generally replaces a 75-watt incandescent light bulb and 13-watt CFL generally replaces a 60-watt incandescent light bulb.

By using CFLs, each Benton PUD residential customer will save about \$50 a year, totaling nearly \$2 million. Over 32,000 megawatt hours will be saved if all the CFLs are installed by customers.

The more energy Benton PUD saves now, the less the utility has to spend on more expensive power in the future. These savings provide Benton PUD a higher allotment of low-cost hydroelectric power from the Bonneville Power Administration. The power saved can be resold back into the wholesale market to generate revenues to offset the cost of power.

Benton PUD has other conservation programs available including rebates on energy efficient appliances and home improvements. More information is available on the Benton PUD website, [www.BentonPUD.org](http://www.BentonPUD.org) or by calling 582-1234.

Benton PUD serves 46,000 customers in Kennewick, Finley, Benton City, Prosser and surrounding areas.

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