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Governor Crist Launches ENERGY STAR® Residential HVAC Web Site

~ Encourages Florida residents to upgrade to energy-efficient air conditioning system ~

www.rebates.com/floridahvac

TALLAHASSEE – Governor Charlie Crist today encouraged Floridians to learn how to receive a Florida ENERGY STAR® Residential HVAC rebate by visiting www.rebates.com/floridahvac. Beginning Monday, August 30, 2010, Florida homeowners who upgrade their air conditioning systems can qualify to receive a \$1,500 rebate. The program will end on Friday, December 31, 2010, or when the \$15 million in rebate funds are depleted. These purchases are expected to increase employment in the air conditioning industry and to create new green jobs for home energy efficiency raters.

"I encourage Floridians to learn about the state and federal financial rebate incentives and consider upgrading their residential air conditioning system beginning August 30," Governor Crist said. "This investment will benefit consumers, businesses and our entire state economy, as well as increase energy savings and improve the value of many Florida homes."

Due to the limited amount of rebate funds, rebates will be on a first-come, first-served basis. Governor Crist encourages Florida residents to visit the Web site to learn details that will increase consumers' likelihood of receiving a rebate. Beginning on Monday, August 30, consumers who purchase and install a new central air conditioner, air source heat pump or geothermal heat pump that meets Federal Energy Tax Credits standards can begin taking the first steps towards qualifying for a rebate.

Consumers can receive rebates of up to \$1,500 per household on central air conditioners, air source heat pumps or geothermal heat pumps when, concurrently with installation, they also have their home duct systems tested, and the test results indicate no more than 15 percent leakage to the outside. Participants must meet all the requirements of the Florida ENERGY STAR® Residential HVAC Rebate Program. Rebates will be given in the form of an American Express Prepaid Card, which has no fees for monthly servicing or card replacement, and the funds on the card never expire. The prepaid card can be exchanged for a check or an electronic funds transfer. The rebate program is for Florida household residents only.

Administered by the Florida Energy and Climate Commission and the Governor's Energy Office, the rebate program is made possible by a grant from the federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and Florida legislation signed by Governor Crist in 2009.

How to Qualify for an ENERGY STAR® Residential HVAC Rebate

The Florida ENERGY STAR® Residential HVAC Rebate Program Web site – www.rebates.com/floridahvac – contains details about how consumers can qualify for the rebate by taking the following steps:

- First, read all instructions for the Florida ENERGY STAR® Residential HVAC Rebate Program.
- Second, purchase and install a central air conditioner, air source heat pump or geothermal heat pump that meets the Federal Energy Tax Credits standards between Monday, August 30, 2010, and Friday, December 31, 2010.
- Third, make any necessary repairs to reduce leakage from the air conditioning duct system.
- Fourth, hire either a Florida Class 1 rater, State of Florida licensed Mechanical Contractor, or recognized test and balance agent to perform a duct test on your home to document no more than 15 percent leakage to the outside.
- Fifth, submit a completed rebate application form, along with four additional documents:
 1. A copy of the HVAC system price and payment receipt with the make and model clearly identified.
 2. A copy of the mechanical building permit issued by either your county or city for your HVAC system replacement.
 3. A copy of the summary (first page) of the ACCA Manual J program.
 4. A copy of the Air Distribution System Test Report indicating a leakage score of 0.10 Qn.out or less.

All applications must be postmarked on or before Friday, December 31, 2010; however, because rebates will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis, the first applications to be processed will be more likely to receive rebates.

About the Florida ENERGY STAR® Program

ENERGY STAR® is a joint program of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Department of Energy to help consumers save money and protect the environment through energy efficient products and practices. All appliances and products with the ENERGY STAR® label meet strict energy-efficiency guidelines set by the federal Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of Energy.

For more information on Florida's energy and climate change initiatives, please visit www.MyFloridaClimate.com.