



Ontario Power Authority™



## The Great Refrigerator Roundup Backgrounder

Program Dates:	June 22, 2007
For information:	Ontario Power Authority Customer Care 1-877-797-9473

### About the Program

ENWIN Utilities Ltd. is pleased to offer consumers *The Great Refrigerator Roundup* Program, in conjunction with the Ontario Power Authority (OPA). *The Great Refrigerator Roundup* is designed to remove older, inefficient fridges from the electricity system. Generally, these older secondary fridges, located in basements or garages, are plugged in but rarely used. Commonly referred to as 'beer fridges' these older units use two to three times more electricity than new refrigerators.

Household appliances account for about 20 per cent of the average homeowner's electricity bill. Over the last two decades, in part due to Canada's improved energy-efficiency standards, appliance manufacturers have greatly improved the efficiency of these appliances. For example, today's refrigerators use less than half the electricity of those built in 1984 or earlier.

The Ontario Power Authority's Secondary Refrigerator Retirement pilot program, which ran in 2006, led to the collection and decommissioning of nearly 5,000 fridges and more than 200 freezers. The main focus of the pilot program was to collect information for use in designing and implementing this program across the province.

Program participants will sign up either online or through the central OPA call centre to book their appointments for free pick-up of the refrigerator. Consumers will receive a confirmation call one day prior to their scheduled pick-up to ensure that the fridge is plugged in overnight (to confirm it is in working condition). Upon request, freezers, window air conditioners and smaller bar fridges will also be collected in conjunction with fridge pick-ups.

### Recycling

Recycling is a key element of the *The Great Refrigerator Roundup*. Refrigerators collected through the program will be disposed of in an environmentally safe manner, resulting in a significantly reduced contribution to local landfill. Full recycling includes removal and proper handling of CFC-based refrigerants and foam insulation; draining, decontamination and recycling of compressor oils; and recycling of plastic, glass and metals.

### Retiring a Refrigerator

To qualify, refrigerators must be at least ten years old, 10 cubic feet or larger, and plugged in and working at the time of pick-up. Other conditions apply, for a complete list, please visit our website at [www.everykilowattcounts.com/roundup](http://www.everykilowattcounts.com/roundup) or contact the Ontario Power Authority Customer Care Centre at 1-877-797-9473. They must also be located at a single-family residence (including, townhouses, duplexes, triplexes or four-plex buildings. Residences that do not meet these criteria may be eligible at a later date.) within the service area of an electricity distributor. For information

please visit [www.everykilowattcounts.com/roundup](http://www.everykilowattcounts.com/roundup) or contact the Ontario Power Authority Customer Care Centre at 1-877-797-9473.

*The Great Refrigerator Roundup Program* is designed to remove energy intensive appliances from the Ontario power grid. Appliances not in working condition are not eligible for pick-up.

### **Recycling Other Appliances**

During the life of The Great Refrigerator Roundup program collection of other appliances such as washers and dryers will still be available to household from City of Windsor Public Works, Environmental Division and the Essex Windsor Solid Waste Authority. Pickups in the City of Windsor can be arranged by calling 311.

#### **About ENWIN Utilities Ltd.**

ENWIN Utilities Ltd. is Windsor's Local Distribution Company, responsible for the distribution of electricity and the servicing and maintenance of Windsor's powerline infrastructure. As well, ENWIN Utilities Ltd. is a management services company providing fleet, billing, collections, credit, financial, human resources, customer service; and information technology services to the Windsor Utilities Commission and the City of Windsor.

Over the last three years ENWIN has been heavily involved in the energy conservation initiative, with the launch of Energy Savings 101 (radio campaign in partnership with AM800CKLW); Energy Audit and Retrofit Grant Program; Windsor C'Rocks (crock) Crockpot Cookbook; The Refrigerator Retirement Pilot Program unveiled in July of 2006; The Blackout Anniversary Mayor's Challenge on August 13, 2006; The residential CFL giveaway program (in conjunction with Home Depot); and 'Keep Cool' (room air conditioner and halogen floor lamp exchange program in conjunction with the Summerhill Group and Clean Air Foundation)

#### **About the Ontario Power Authority**

In pursuit of its mandate of ensuring an adequate, long-term supply of electricity for Ontario, the OPA creates and implements conservation and demand management programs, ensures adequate investment in new supply infrastructure, performs long-term electricity system planning, and facilitates the development of a more sustainable and competitive electricity system.

### **Media Inquiries:**

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