

SMUD News Release

Sacramento Municipal Utility District

• News Media Services

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For immediate release

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SMUD helping builders meet new Title 24 standards

Cutting edge lighting systems use less energy and produce less heat

The Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD), working with public agencies, builders, contractors, manufacturers and electricians, has helped develop a novel lighting system to enable builders to meet new state building codes. SMUD is also providing funding assistance to install the new systems.

The California Kitchen Lighting System uses compact fluorescent (CFL) downlights that consume one third of the energy of incandescent downlights. This system costs significantly less than typical CFL systems and provides lighting quality that matches recessed incandescents. The lights are also easy to install and maintain, and can be used in any room in the home.

In October of 2005, new Title 24 energy efficiency standards will raise the bar for homebuilders, new homebuyers and those who are considering remodeling their kitchens. The new 2005 standards will virtually eliminate incandescent lights in residential kitchens, which produce a tremendous amount of heat and waste a lot of energy.

SMUD is providing \$10,000 each to five homebuilding projects in the Sacramento region to jump-start system installations. These include three Elliott Homes communities, Riata, Miramonte, and Chelson, each at Empire Ranch in Folsom; John Laing Homes' Creekside project in North Natomas; and River Park Oak Estates, a River City Construction Company development in Sacramento. SMUD has already provided lighting systems for Cavalli Hills, an Evans Construction Company development and Morrison Homes' Creekside development in Elk Grove.

Five local builders and two electrical contractors were involved in system development and field-testing. Those builders include Morrison, Evans Construction, John Laing, Centex Homes and Dunmore Homes. The electrical contractors are Marticus Electric and L&M Electric.

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2-2-2-2 SMUD helps builders

The California Lighting Technology Center at UC Davis and Lawrence Berkeley National Lab developed the technology in close cooperation with SMUD, through its Customer Advanced Technologies (CAT) program, the California Energy Commission (CEC) and Lithonia Lighting. The CEC provided the funding for the research in an effort to help residential customers meet tighter energy codes.

SMUD is also working with its partners to develop and test a retrofit/remodel system that could be available as early as next year.

For more information about the California Kitchen Lighting System, SMUD's CAT program or any of SMUD's energy efficiency programs, visit www.smud.org and look in the Customer Advanced Technologies section under Energy Education.

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