

Sept. 15, 2017

# News Release

west virginia



department of environmental protection

**Contact: Jake Glance**

**Office: 304-926-0499 ext. 1335; Mobile: 304-993-0473**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **WVDEP Saving State \$42,000 Per Year With High Efficiency LED Bulbs**

### *WVDEP Works With Appalachian Power To Change 10,000 Light Bulbs*

CHARLESTON, W.Va. – The West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection (WVDEP) is saving the state approximately \$42,000 per year on energy costs by switching thousands of compact fluorescent light bulbs to LED light bulbs.

Approximately 10,000 bulbs in the agency's Kanawha City headquarters have been changed, and the recently completed field office in Fayetteville was constructed with LED light bulbs already included.

The new LED bulbs have an expected life span of nearly 50,000 hours. If the light bulbs are burned for 8 hours per day, five days per week, that means the bulbs will last approximately 20 years.

The WVDEP purchased the bulbs at a cost of \$118,000, but thanks to a \$28,376 rebate from Appalachian Power the investment in this project is approximately \$90,000. The new bulbs will save WVDEP an estimated \$42,000 per year, meaning the LED bulbs will pay for themselves in energy savings in two to three years.

"This project shows how the simplest changes can make a huge difference both for the amount of energy that is consumed and how much money is spent by the state," **said WVDEP Cabinet Secretary Austin Caperton.** "The WVDEP not only talks the talk but also walks the walk when it comes to helping to save energy and make sure that we are good stewards of the taxpayers' money."

The bulbs that were removed from WVDEP headquarters are being used in other state office buildings.

*-More-*

*"Promoting a healthy environment"*



For more DEP news and information, go to [www.dep.wv.gov](http://www.dep.wv.gov). Also, be sure to connect with the agency on all social media platforms. Follow [@DEPWV](https://twitter.com/DEPWV) on Twitter and find us on YouTube by searching “[Environment Matters.](#)” For specific information about our REAP (Rehabilitation Environmental Action Plan), West Virginia Project WET (Water Education for Teachers), West Virginia Watershed Improvement Branch, Youth Environmental Program and Human Resources initiatives, connect on Facebook.

Appalachian Power has 1 million customers in Virginia, West Virginia and Tennessee (as AEP Appalachian Power). It is a unit of American Electric Power, one of the largest electric utilities in the United States, delivering electricity and custom energy solutions to nearly 5.4 million customers in 11 states. AEP owns the nation’s largest electricity transmission system, a more than 40,000-mile network that includes more 765-kilovolt extra-high voltage transmission lines than all other U.S. transmission systems combined. AEP also operates 224,000 miles of distribution lines. AEP ranks among the nation’s largest generators of electricity, owning approximately 26,000 megawatts of generating capacity in the U.S. AEP supplies 3,200 megawatts of renewable energy to customers.

###