



LONG PRAIRIE GREY EAGLE SCHOOLS
LEARN & EARN EVENT
FEBRUARY 10 – MARCH 17, 2007

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**Students promote energy conservation and special lighting sale to raise
money for school program**

(Long Prairie, MN)—If every Minnesota household replaced one incandescent light bulb or lamp with an ENERGY STAR® qualified lighting product, enough electricity would be saved each year to power more than 11,000 homes. That's just one fact students will discover through **Learn & Earn**, an energy-conservation education program that will help them raise funds for their school – and help the public save money.

This partnership -- between Long Prairie Grey Eagle (LPGE) Schools, Minnesota Power, Stearns Electric Association, Todd-Wadena Electric Cooperative, Long Prairie Ace Hardware and Long Prairie Fleet Supply -- challenges students to learn and promote the benefits of a variety of energy-efficient compact fluorescent light (CFL) bulbs, desk and floor lamps, and fixtures in their homes and communities. These products use 75% less energy, last up to 10 times longer than incandescent lighting, fit in most light sockets and have a positive impact on the environment. For example, if everyone in the U.S. replaced one incandescent bulb with a CFL, it would be equivalent to taking 1.3 million cars off the road.

Learn & Earn includes a special sale on ENERGY STAR® qualified lighting products to be held Feb. 10 through Mar. 17, while supplies last, at Long Prairie Ace Hardware and Long Prairie Fleet Supply (only CFLs available). For every product sold during this campaign, Minnesota Power, Stearns Electric Association, or Todd-Wadena Electric Cooperative will donate \$1 to \$5 to the school to help fund LPGE's FFA, up to a total of \$5,000.

Normally, CFL bulbs sell for \$3 to \$4 each and ENERGY STAR lamps and fixtures cost well over \$30. With instant rebates provided by the utility sponsors, plus store discounted prices, these products can be purchased at prices ranging from 99 cents to \$13.99, plus tax.

Through the program's classroom component, students are enjoying hands-on experiments using watt meters to measure the energy performance of various products. They're also conducting research and developing strategies to share their energy knowledge with fellow students, family members and the community.

A display of energy efficient lighting products will be featured at FFA's meeting, which is open to the public, Tues., Feb. 20, at 7:30 p.m. at LPGE High School. Speaker Fred Daniels of Franklin Energy Service will address current energy conservation issues.

Contact LPGE's Keith Olander at 732-2194, ext. 1705, to learn more about Learn & Earn, and to arrange photographs and interviews with students, teachers, or utility representatives.

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