

Lights for Learning is an education-based outreach and fundraising program sponsored by the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) and ComEd. The program is designed to develop children's awareness of energy efficiency and its vast resources. The three-part program motivates children to promote responsibility for saving energy through the sale of compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs), stimulates awareness utilizing instructional assemblies and presentations, and further educates children by providing a math and science curriculum for teachers.

The Lights for Learning program offers fundraising opportunities that assists students in raising much needed funds for the classroom or organization while providing them a platform to educate others in their communities. Through the fundraising program, children sell ENERGY STAR® qualified CFLs at competitive prices. Through the program's design, the value and benefits of CFLs are reinforced.

The educational assemblies and presentations focus on the use of energy saving CFLs, home energy conservation, and the national ENERGY STAR® campaign. The presentations are tailored to educate children ranging in age from Kindergarten through grade 12 and assist the students in a better understanding of the CFL bulbs and their energy savings.

The Lights for Learning program has also developed an age-appropriate classroom curricula for science, math and language arts which echoes that National Education Standards as well as the Illinois Learning Standards. The curricula focus on Applications of Learning, Problem Solving, Making Connections, Communicating, and Using Technology.

Over 20,000 students, educators, parents, and administrators have been educated through the Lights for Learning program in Illinois. In turn, the students have sold over 35,000 CFLs since the program's inception in 2003. The most notable program growth has occurred during the present school year. Between September 2007 and February 2008, the students participating in the Lights for Learning fundraiser have sold 18,141 CFLs. The savings equate to 1,063,040 kWh annually and a lifetime savings of 8,159,438 kWh. The lifetime monetary savings amount to \$285,580.00.

The Lights for Learning program goals have risen exponentially, over 800%, since the Program's inception. New program goals have been established for the next three years in which the number of fundraisers will grow from 80 for current school year to over 240 for the school year representing 2010-2011. Success will be measured by key market indicators including sheer CFL sale totals, MWh totals tied to the CFL sales, and annual and lifetime monetary savings.