

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Village of Perry lights up the holidays with energy efficient LED decorative light strings**

*NYSERDA helps cities and towns across New York to use energy efficient  
lights for holiday displays*

**Perry, NY – December 6, 2008:** With help from the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) and a grant from the Municipal Electric and Gas Alliance (M.E.G.A.), the Village of Perry is making the holiday season a little greener by investing in energy efficient Light Emitting Diode (LED) decorative lights to complement its festive decorations.

The Village of Perry will use 4,158 C6 LED lamps for its “Holiday DeLights Festival.” Perry purchased these lights from web-based retailer EnvironmentalLights. The Village of Perry’s tree lighting ceremony and DeLights Festival will be held Saturday, December 6 from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm on Main St.

The Village of Perry is using commercial grade LEDs to decorate the Village’s Holiday Trees, but this year consumers can also find ENERGY STAR® qualified LED decorative light strings for their homes. ENERGY STAR qualified LED decorative light strings last up to 10 times longer and use 75 percent less energy than traditional incandescent lights. They produce almost no heat, last for up to 11 seasons, will not overload indoor or outdoor circuits, and come in a variety of shapes, sizes, lengths and colors. LED decorative light strings are constructed with solid-state chips that convert electricity into

light without using a filament or glass bulb, which makes the lights more durable and shock-resistant than traditional lights.

“Using energy efficient LED decorative light strings will help the Village of Perry save energy and reduce costs for years to come,” said Bob Callender, Vice President for Programs for the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA). “These long-lasting lights are a smart way for all New Yorkers to celebrate the holidays efficiently and help the State reach its goal of reducing electricity consumption 15 percent, by 2015.”

The energy efficient LED decorative light strings will draw a total of only 330 watts of power for the entire holiday season. The 18 holiday trees in Perry’s downtown district will be illuminated for 69 days from November 24<sup>th</sup> through February 1<sup>st</sup>. The Village of Perry will save about \$225 each year by using these new, energy-efficient LED lights.

“I’d like to thank NYSEDA, M.E.G.A., and Horizon Wind Energy for being instrumental in our using energy efficient LED decorative light strings this holiday season. I want to give credit to the Village of Perry’s Mayor, Howard Wood, and to Lee Loomis of Finger Lakes Energy Smart Communities, for bringing this opportunity to our attention,” said Village of Perry Trustee, Mandi Harvey, also a member of the Holiday Lights Committee.

New York residents can also save over \$30 this holiday season by decorating their own homes with a variety of energy efficient lighting choices that are easy, safe, and last longer than traditional holiday lighting. Other holiday lighting options include:

- **Fiber optic holiday lights** – These cool-to-the-touch lights are a good choice for paths, trees, decks, patios and vaulted ceilings because fiber optic cables make it easier to access and maintain lights in hard-to-reach areas.
- **Rope lights** – These lights last more than 20,000 hours and make a safe choice for decorating trees, doors and windows.

- **ENERGY STAR Candelabra Compact Fluorescent Lamps (CFLs)** – These CFLs use about 75 percent less energy, produce the same lumens, and generally last 10 times longer than the average incandescent bulb. They can be used in candlesticks and menorahs instead of an open flame.

For a list of statewide retailers that sell energy efficient lighting products, visit [www.GetEnergySmart.org](http://www.GetEnergySmart.org) or call toll-free 1-877-NY-SMART.

The New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) uses innovation and technology to solve some of New York's most difficult energy and environmental problems in ways that improve the State's economy.

M.E.G.A., serving 20 upstate New York Counties and over 100 municipalities and school districts, aggregates these individual and municipal energy customers into a larger group and uses this buying power to obtain lower energy prices, for both electricity and natural gas. M.E.G.A. has provided a \$1,250 grant to the Village of Perry, one of its members, toward the purchase of these energy-efficient LED holiday lights.

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