

NEWS RELEASE

COMMISSIONER BRENT BAILEY MISSISSIPPI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION CENTRAL DISTRICT

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Commissioner Brent Bailey Recognizes Energy Efficiency Day

JACKSON, MS— Central District Public Service Commissioner Brent Bailey announced the recognition of October 4 as Energy Efficiency Day 2023 in Mississippi and the introduction of his <u>Proclamation</u>.

Energy Efficiency Day is a daylong national campaign to increase the public awareness and education of energy efficiency by highlighting the advantages of energy-saving efforts to lower bills, reduce emissions and create jobs.

"Today, on Energy Efficiency Day, we come together to celebrate and promote the tremendous benefits of energy efficiency in our daily lives," Commissioner Bailey said. "Smarter energy use means we don't have to generate as much power to meet our needs, thus reducing fuel costs and avoiding or delaying expensive construction projects. As Mississippi is no stranger to extreme temperatures, hot or cold, it is crucial to recognize the benefits of energy efficiency and adopting simple, yet effective, energy-saving practices in our homes and business to reduce the risk of costly energy bills."

As we prepare for the upcoming winter, now is a good time to take some simple steps to make your home or business more energy efficient.

- Take advantage of the free home energy audits and programs offered by utility companies. Most electric and natural gas utilities offer customer-funded energy efficiency programs that provide a range of services, rebates, direct installs, and technical assistance to residential, commercial, and industrial customers.
- Replace outdated appliances with energy-efficient models. These appliances consume less energy while delivering optimal performance, helping you save money on utility bills.
- Utilize smart home technologies such as programmable thermostats, motion sensor lights, and smart power strips to automatically control energy usage. This ensures that energy is only consumed when needed, leading to significant reductions in energy waste.
- Switch to LED bulbs, which are not only energy-efficient but also have a longer lifespan compared to traditional incandescent bulbs. Additionally, make use of natural lighting whenever possible by keeping curtains open during the day.
- Unplug electronics and chargers when not in use, as they continue to draw power even when turned off.

"Energy efficiency measures are some of the most cost-effective options for homeowners and businesses to lower energy bills," Commissioner Bailey said. "I encourage citizens to take action today. By taking small, yet meaningful steps towards conserving energy, we can collectively drive positive change and build a more sustainable future for ourselves and future generations in Mississippi."

Learn more about the vital benefits of energy efficiency at <u>www.energyefficiencyday.org</u>.

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