



# STATE OF UTAH

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## **Governor Huntsman supports national energy efficiency efforts**

**Salt Lake City** – Governor Jon Huntsman joined the Leadership Group of the National Action Plan for Energy Efficiency on Monday, continuing Utah's energy efficiency program launched earlier this year.

"This is something we have spotlighted in Utah. However, it is vital that each state continue to focus on reducing energy consumption," Governor Huntsman said. "This program can help coordinate efforts at all levels to ensure the realization of energy efficiency."

The Governor set a goal to increase the State's overall energy efficiency by 20 percent by the year 2015. Utah is committed to realizing substantial gains in energy efficiency as articulated in its "Policy to Increase Energy Efficiency in the State".

"We view energy efficiency as an important component of Utah's economic development plan as it increases Utah's competitiveness, creates new high-tech markets, and creates opportunities for quality job growth," said Dr. Laura Nelson, energy advisor to Governor Huntsman.

The Leadership Group of the National Action Plan for Energy Efficiency, comprised of more than 50 leading organizations across the country, recommends adoption of a new National Action Plan for Energy Efficiency. They recommend it be delivered through electric and gas utilities, to meet the nation's growing demand for energy in our homes, buildings, and industries.

U.S. consumers could save hundreds of billions of dollars on their utility bills throughout the next 10 to 15 years through greater use of cost-effective energy efficiency.

Utah supports the Action Plan recommendations for overcoming barriers to energy efficiency. Leading organizations from across the country also pledged commitments to help implement the Action Plan.

The action plan, if fully implemented, could help defer the need for 40 new 500 megawatt power plants, avoid the greenhouse gas emissions equivalent to those of more than 35 million vehicles, lower the cost of air pollution controls, and reduce prices for natural gas. Reference:

[www.epa.gov/cleanenergy/eeactionplan.htm](http://www.epa.gov/cleanenergy/eeactionplan.htm)

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