



## *Media Release*

For Immediate Release

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### **Programs Are Available To Help Customers Manage Energy Costs and Help the Environment**

SaskEnergy, along with participating SaskEnergy Network Members and SaskPower continue to offer energy efficiency programs to help customers save money on their energy bills. The ENERGY STAR® Prime Rate Loan Program and a \$15 Programmable Thermostat Rebate are available as of August 1, 2009, and will continue through until March 31, 2010. These programs are specially designed for customers who are upgrading their heating and cooling equipment within their homes through the purchase of a natural gas furnace, air conditioner or natural gas appliance.

The ENERGY STAR Loan Programs offers convenient in-store financing (OAC) at prime +2 per cent through participating SaskEnergy Network Members on qualifying equipment. New to the loan program this year is the option for customers to finance a central air conditioning system at the same time when installing a qualifying ENERGY STAR furnace. By upgrading to a high efficiency furnace customers can save over 30 per cent a year on their heating costs. Plus, they will reduce their household greenhouse gas emissions by 4.1 tonnes per year.

The Programmable Thermostat Rebate provides SaskEnergy customers a \$15 incentive to purchase a thermostat that can automatically turn down the temperature at night or during the day when no one is home. Customers can save up to 2 per cent on their heating bills for every 1°C they turn down their thermostat at night and when they aren't at home. To ensure that heating equipment continues to operate properly and efficiently, SaskEnergy recommends that customers purchase and have their programmable thermostat professionally installed by a SaskEnergy Network Member.

“If you have been considering the replacement of your home heating and cooling system, this is the year to do it. Incentive programs, offered both provincially and federally are available to assist homeowners with their upgrades. For example, you can receive up to \$1,420 in grants for upgrading your furnace. With these initiatives, customers can save hundreds of dollars on their upgrades and know that they are reducing their environmental footprint at the same time,” explains Linda Lawrence, Manager, Customer Solutions, SaskEnergy.

In addition to the ENERGY STAR® Loan Program and the Programmable Thermostat Rebate customers can also participate in the Saskatchewan EnerGuide for Houses Retrofit Grant Program, the federal Home Renovation Tax Credit ([www.cra.gc.ca](http://www.cra.gc.ca)) and PST exemption on qualifying ENERGY STAR equipment

For details about the loan program or to find out about other energy efficiency initiatives, visit [www.saskenergy.com](http://www.saskenergy.com) or contact your local SaskEnergy Network Member.

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