



NEWS RELEASE

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August 18, 2011

## **NYSEG and RG&E Refrigerator/Freezer Recycling Program: 4,500<sup>th</sup> Energy-Hogging Unit Taken Off the Grid**

**Rochester, NY** – In just three months, 4,500 older, inefficient refrigerators or freezers have been unplugged and carted away for environmentally-responsible recycling under a NYSEG and RG&E program.

Removing these units will save program participants an estimated \$675,000 a year. The carbon dioxide emissions avoided as a result of the electricity no longer used by these units is equal to taking 9,000 cars off the road for a year.

“Every milestone we reach with this recycling program further increases energy efficiency in upstate New York,” said Mark S. Lynch, president of NYSEG and RG&E. “By removing these inefficient appliances from the grid, customers are saving up to \$150 a year in energy costs, and they get a \$30 incentive check.”

JACO Environmental, NYSEG and RG&E’s contractor for the recycling program, removes the appliances from participating customers’ homes. The units are transported to a dismantling and recycling facility in Syracuse where toxins are safely removed and destroyed. Up to 95% of the metals, glass and plastics in each appliance are recycled.

Typically, the units being recycled are used for extra refrigerator or freezer space in garages or basements. What many people don’t realize is that older refrigerators and freezers use as much as three times more electricity to run than newer, more efficient models (1,655 kilowatt-hours per year vs. 450).

The recycling program covers the removal of up to two refrigerators and/or stand-alone freezers per household. Appliances must be in working order and have an inside volume of between 10 and 30 cubic feet.

For more information and to schedule a free pickup, NYSEG and RG&E customers can call 1.877.691.0021 (toll-free) or visit [www.nyseg.com/energyefficiencyprograms](http://www.nyseg.com/energyefficiencyprograms) or <http://www.rge.com/energyefficiencyprograms>.

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**About NYSEG, RG&E and Iberdrola USA:** NYSEG and RG&E are subsidiaries of Iberdrola USA. NYSEG serves 878,000 electricity customers and 261,000 natural gas customers across more than 40% of upstate New York. RG&E serves 367,000 electricity customers and 303,000 natural gas customers in a nine-county region centered on the City of Rochester. Iberdrola USA, a subsidiary of global energy leader Iberdrola, S.A., is an energy services and delivery company with more than 2.4 million customers in upstate New York and New England. We are a team of dedicated individuals working as one to deliver value to our customers, employees and shareholders. By providing outstanding customer service and exceptional reliability, while holding safety and the environment in high regard, we aspire to be a world-class energy company. For more information, visit [www.nyseg.com](http://www.nyseg.com), [www.rge.com](http://www.rge.com) and [www.iberdrolausa.com](http://www.iberdrolausa.com).

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