



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

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**A COOL THING TO DO THIS SUMMER IS TO USE  
ENERGY WISELY AND SAFELY**

**MERRILLVILLE, Ind.** – With summer officially beginning tomorrow (summer solstice), customers of Northern Indiana Public Service Company (NIPSCO) can stay cool and comfortable while using energy wisely and safely.

The following are suggestions for homeowners looking for simple ways to use energy wisely:

- Make an appointment to have your air conditioning equipment serviced to make sure it's operating properly and safely, and replace furnace filters regularly;
- Thermostats for air conditioning equipment should be installed on an inside wall and where it will not be subject to drafts and excessive sunlight;
- With a cooling system, keep the home at the minimum comfort level. Each degree cooler than 78-degrees uses substantially more energy;
- Seal leaks around doors, windows and other openings, such as pipes or ducts, with caulk or weather-stripping;
- Make sure all sun-exposed windows have draperies in order to keep out the hot sun during warm days;
- Dishwashers, washing machines and clothes dryers always should have full loads before being operated; and
- When purchasing new appliances, compare energy-efficiency ratings and annual operating costs, and look for appliances that have an Energy Star logo.

NIPSCO reminds customers who may be planning outdoor home improvements and gardening projects to contact the Indiana Underground "Call Before You Dig" center at 1-800-382-5544. State law requires individuals to contact Indiana Underground in advance of digging or excavation.

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In addition, one of the most important safety tips NIPSCO recommends this summer is for customers to be prepared for sudden summer storms. Customers should monitor the weather and know what type of weather is forecast for the area. NIPSCO encourages customers to stay away from and never come in contact with downed power lines, which should be reported to NIPSCO at 1-800-4-NIPSCO.

For more information on how to prepare for summer storms and to receive NIPSCO's "99 Ways to Conserve Energy" brochure, connect with NIPSCO at [www.nipsco.com](http://www.nipsco.com).

**About NIPSCO**

NIPSCO, with headquarters in Merrillville, Ind., is one of the 10 energy distribution companies of NiSource Inc. (NYSE: NI). With over 712,000 natural gas customers and 445,000 electric customers across the northern third of Indiana, NIPSCO is the largest natural gas distribution company, and the second largest electric distribution company, in the state. NiSource distribution companies serve 3.7 million natural gas and electric customers primarily in nine states. More information about NIPSCO is available at [www.nipsco.com](http://www.nipsco.com).

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