EMERGENCY ENERGY CONSERVATION PLAN

Rising energy prices are straining limited State resources. Last winter’s record natural gas prices dramatically increased the State’s heating costs. Emergency conservation measures instituted during the winter heating season allowed the State to avoid nearly $5 million in additional heating costs.

The success of this effort suggests that additional savings may be realized through a similar summertime energy conservation program to help reduce cooling costs.

This Administrative Order directs each of the State agencies under the supervision of the Governor to comply with the Energy Conservation Plan developed by the Department of Central Management Services. This plan requires most State facilities to raise their daytime temperatures to 74 to 78 degrees. At nighttime and during off-hours, State facilities not open to the public or to employees working routine schedules will raise their thermostats to between 80 and 84 degrees. Residential State facilities such as prisons and military barracks will raise their temperatures to 74 degrees around the clock.

This Administrative Order does not apply to and will not affect temperatures of in-patient State health-care facilities, homeless shelters and other buildings housing vulnerable populations or where temperature-sensitive public safety and law enforcement operations are conducted.

The Emergency Energy Conservation Plan will be in effect from July 10, 2006 through September 30, 2006.