

## **Demand-Side Energy and Water Upgrades Set To Begin; Town Hall Meeting on Lighting Changes Slated for May 6th**

**May 2, 2008**

In March 2008, the university's Demand-Side Energy Management and Conservation (DSEMC) program completed four months of lighting, water and steam trap audits in 12.6 million square feet of education and general buildings across the main and J. J. Pickle Research campuses.

The results of those audits identified several opportunities for savings and established a goal of completing the work by the end of the calendar year to maximize the energy savings:

- **193,000 light fixtures will be retrofitted or replaced.** Anticipated energy savings of 26 megawatt hours/year or 40,300 lbs of CO<sub>2</sub> carbon footprint reduction--the equivalent of planting 44.3 trees or taking 48.3 cars off the road.
- **6,500 plumbing fixtures will be repaired or replaced with water-saving devices.** Anticipated water savings of 140 million gallons/year--the equivalent of 210 Olympic-size pools or a one year supply of water to 1,400 Austin homes in a year.
- **185 steam traps will be repaired or replaced** to gain maximum energy use from the steam before it condenses back into water. Projected steam savings of 27M lbs of CO<sub>2</sub> per year--the equivalent of planting 29.7 trees or taking 32.4 cars off the road.

The next phase of DSEMC will begin no earlier than May 12<sup>th</sup>, with lighting replacements and retrofits. These projects will be structured so as to not disturb students and faculty during final exams. Work will take place usually at night. Plumbing and steam traps upgrades will start at a later date.

Throughout DSEMC implementation, contractors will wear identification, and signs will be posted to inform occupants when work is scheduled to begin in a specific building. Appropriate building representatives will be contacted with more detailed information about the upgrades taking place in their respective buildings.

**Town Hall Meetings to present information and respond to questions about the lighting retrofits and replacements will take place on Tuesday, May, 6, in Painter Hall, room 4.42. Meetings will be held from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m., and again from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.**

*DSEMC upgrades – ad1*

All interested parties are invited to attend. A Town Hall meeting will be announced at a later date for the J.J. Pickle Research Campus.

Overall, the work being done through DSEMC is expected to produce annual energy and water savings of \$3.0 million. Some savings will begin immediately as upgrades in various buildings are completed.

For more information about the upgrades and Town Hall meetings, contact: Al Lewandowski at [al.lewandowski@austin.utexas.edu](mailto:al.lewandowski@austin.utexas.edu), or 512-471-0492.

To learn more about the campus outreach program related to DSEMC, go <http://www.utexas.edu/utakecharge/>.

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