



NEWS RELEASE

DON'T LET PHANTOM POWER COSTS HAUNT YOU!

Enersource offers simple tips to help you scare up home energy savings

October 28, 2011 – (MISSISSAUGA, Ontario) – Do you believe in phantoms? How about vampires? Maybe you should rethink your answers. Did you know that you could have phantoms in your home at this very moment. They may not be the type you see in the movies, but they're just as scary – to your wallet. Customers should be aware of phantom power.

What is phantom power?

Many appliances and devices continue to use power even after turned off. Phantom power, also commonly referred to as “standby” or “vampire” power is a growing concern.

According to Natural Resources Canada, approximately 40 percent of all electricity used to power home electronics is consumed while the products are in standby mode. It's estimated that a computer running 24 hours a day uses between \$75 and \$120 worth of electricity each year.

While the consumption of most devices is relatively small, ranging from 0.5 to 25 watts of electricity, the number of devices being used adds up, pushing your bill into scary territory.

How can I banish phantom power from my home?

Enersource wants to help slay your electricity consumption vampires. Here are some simple steps to stop draining the power from your home:

- Use a power bar for entertainment devices such as big screen televisions, game consoles and computers, which are some of the biggest phantom power culprits. Turn the power bar off when these items aren't in use;
- Create a single “charging station” for all of your electronic devices by using a power bar. When not in use, unplug battery chargers as these continue to use energy;
- Take advantage of built-in energy-saving features, such as timers;
- Avoid using a screen saver and don't leave your computer on for an extended period of time;
- Whenever possible, buy energy efficient appliances and devices; and
- To fully ensure a device isn't drawing power, turn it off at the source.

For more information and other helpful conservation tips, visit our website at www.enersource.com.

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