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Lisa Patt-McDaniel Announces Launch Date for Ohio Energy Efficiency Appliance Rebate Program *\$11 Million in Recovery Act Rebates to Spur Energy Savings for Ohioans*

Columbus, – Ohio Department of Development Director Lisa Patt-McDaniel, today announced that the \$10.4 million Ohio Energy Efficiency Appliance Rebate Program will launch on March 26, 2010, supplying rebates and spurring energy savings to residential customers for select ENERGY STAR® qualified appliances.

“These resources accelerate efficiency in Ohio households, helping families save on energy and transition to more sustainable appliances,” Patt-McDaniel said. “Purchasing ENERGY STAR® appliances through this American Recovery and Reinvestment Act program creates long-term energy savings and directly stimulates Ohio’s economy.”

Partnering appliance retailers and energy utilities statewide will market the program and a third-party entity, which specializes in managing large-scale rebate programs, will be utilized to process the rebates. Final program information, including details on appliance rebate reservations, will be available in the coming weeks leading up to the program launch.

“This program increases energy efficiency in Ohio homes, lowers families’ electric bills and spurs appliance production in Ohio communities,” said Mark Shanahan, energy advisor to Governor Strickland. “While stimulating Ohio’s retail and manufacturing economies, these energy efficient appliances will benefit our state’s environment for years to come.”

With more than 89,000 rebates available, Ohio consumers can plan to purchase ENERGY STAR® qualified refrigerators, clothes washers, dishwashers, high-efficiency gas storage water heaters, and electric heat pump water heaters from Ohio retailers. Rebate values will range from \$100 - \$250, depending on the ENERGY STAR® qualified appliance selected.

For information on the Ohio Energy Efficiency Appliance Rebate Program, please visit: www.OhioApplianceRebate.com. Participating ENERGY STAR® appliance retailers, vendors, and recyclers are encouraged to visit the site for information. Beginning in

early March, a customer service line will be available 7:00 a.m. - 11:00 p.m. for inquiries at (888) 686-8896.

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