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## Indiana Rolls Out Geothermal Heat Pump Residential Rebate Program

*Program will make \$500,000 available for Hoosiers replacing existing heating and cooling systems with geothermal*

For Immediate Release

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(Indianapolis)--- The Indiana Office of Energy & Defense Development has rolled out a Geothermal Heat Pump Residential Rebate Program to promote the use of this energy efficient heating and cooling system. The \$500,000 program will offer rebates to homeowners who replace a traditional heating and cooling system.

A Geothermal Heat Pump (GHP) uses the natural heat storage capacity of the earth to provide energy efficient heating and cooling. A GHP unit draws warmth from the earth to heat a home in winter, and discharges heat into the ground in the summer. Because a GHP moves heat instead of creating it, it uses less energy to heat a home than traditional systems. The earth's constant temperature is what makes a GHP one of the most efficient, comfortable, and quiet heating and cooling technologies.

The rebate program is being administered by the Indiana Office of Energy & Defense Development using U.S. Department of Energy funds as part of a program to increase the use of renewable energy in Indiana. Studies show that approximately 70 percent of the energy used in a geothermal heat pump system is renewable energy from the ground. The use of renewable energy is an integral part of the State's strategic energy plan, *Hoosier Homegrown Energy*.

Homeowners wishing to apply for the rebate must do so online at [www.energy.IN.gov](http://www.energy.IN.gov). A list of guidelines and an application are available. The amount of the rebate will be based on the size of the GHP system installed, with a maximum rebate of \$2,000 per installation. The program will be active until the \$500,000 fund is exhausted.

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The Office of Energy & Defense Development (OED) was created in December 2005 as an extension of the Indiana energy office. Under the leadership of Lt. Governor Becky Skillman, OED is responsible for the state's energy policy. The office leads Indiana's efforts to develop alternative fuels for the U.S. military and assists in the development of Indiana's defense, aerospace and homeland security industries. For more information visit [www.in.gov/energy](http://www.in.gov/energy).

For updates from the Lt. Governor and the agencies she oversees, please sign up at [www.in.gov/lgov/](http://www.in.gov/lgov/).

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