

# Dixie Conservation Alert Program

Several Washington County utilities in cooperation with the State PowerForward program are operating the Dixie Conservation Alert Program which is designed to reduce the electrical demand during the summer. The PowerForward electricity conservation campaign is a public-private partnership sponsored by the Utah Department of Environmental Quality and Utah's electric utilities. The mission of the PowerForward campaign is to promote an ethic of energy conservation and efficient use of energy in Utah homes and businesses and state-owned buildings.

The Dixie area alert status is based on the projected load for the City of St. George and weather forecasts. It applies to all of Washington County. The City of St. George load is used as it is the largest in the County and when its load is high, other loads in the County will also be high.

Area utilities supporting this program include the following:

- ✦ The City of St. George Energy Services Department
- ✦ Hurricane City Power
- ✦ Washington City Power
- ✦ Dixie Escalante Electric

The alerts will be issued on Monday through Friday, excluding Federal and State holidays from June 2, 2008 through the middle of September 2008. Days will be designated as **Green**, **Yellow** or **Red**.

## **Green** Power Day for the Dixie Region Normal Conservation Needed

- ✦ Set thermostats a degree or two higher. You save 3 percent for each degree the thermostat is set above 72 degree. Use fans to keep the air moving the temperature comfortable.
- ✦ Turn off lights, appliances, and electronic equipment when not in use.
- ✦ Run your dishwasher and clothes washer only when fully loaded.
- ✦ Use "energy-saving" settings on all appliances.
- ✦ Replace incandescent light bulbs with CFL bulbs.
- ✦ Use dimmers, motion sensors, or timing devices on appropriate light fixtures.

## **Yellow** Power Day for the Dixie Region Extra Conservation Needed

**Extra conservation is requested. Consumers are asked to practice the normal conservation and as stated for a Green Power Day and these extra steps:**

- ✦ Avoid using electricity during peak hours, especially large appliances (2 p.m. to 8 p.m.).
- ✦ When air conditioning is used, set thermostats at 78 degrees or higher (if health permits).

- ✦ Cook in a microwave oven or on an outdoor grill instead of using the electric oven.
- ✦ Turn off all unnecessary lights and electronic equipment
- ✦ Avoid high electrical uses during the peak hours of the day (2:00 pm – 8:00 pm)
  - Run the dishwasher and laundry equipment during non-peak hours
- ✦ Operate swimming pool pumps during non-peak hours. You can save energy while maintaining water quality and temperature by using a smaller, higher efficiency pump and operating it less.
- ✦ Commercial customers are asked to reduce lighting load by 50% where possible.

## **Red Power Day for the Dixie Region** **Mandatory Conservation Needed**

- ✦ Turn off all but emergency electric needs.
- ✦ If health permits, turn off air conditioning; keep your home cool by closing drapes and blinds during the heat of the day and opening windows in the evening.
- ✦ Consider coordinating with neighbors to meet at one home where the A/C is set at 80 degrees while other homes the A/C units are turned off. This will lower the electrical load while providing a way for people stay cooler.
- ✦ Prepare food on outdoor grills or select foods that do not require electricity to prepare (such as sandwiches and salads).
- ✦ Those with health problems related to the heat should seek alternative shelter.

RED POWER DAYS – the most critical alert level – occur when power generation and transmission conditions are marginal threatening delivery of electricity supplies or significant voltage problems are expected for Washington County consumers. Conservation is critical to maintain electric system reliability. Consumers should voluntarily reduce their consumption of electricity to avoid involuntary “brownouts” and rolling “blackouts”.

**These advisories are based on the best available data at the time of its release. Grid conditions and weather can change without warning.**