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## **Kentucky Continues Efforts to Save the Environment**

*Commonwealth Office of Technology finds innovative ways to save energy and resources*

**FRANKFORT, Ky.** – The Commonwealth Office of Technology (COT) has joined the Climate Savers Computing Initiative<sup>SM</sup>, a nonprofit organization that is working to reduce the energy consumption of computers by 50 percent by 2010.

For several years, COT has been working to increase computer and technology efficiency throughout the Kentucky state government. For example, the COT was able to reduce waste by converting state government information to electronic files and databases. By joining this initiative, COT is taking the next step by committing to increase the efficiency of the computers running these systems. By decreasing the amount of energy used to run computers and other equipment, COT is not only conserving resources by saving energy, but also saving money in the process.

“It is really important to do all we can to help reduce the costs of energy consumption, both financially and environmentally,” said Governor Steve Beshear, who has made energy efficiency and environmentalism priorities for his administration. “Using recycled paper, cutting back on the amount of paper and ink we use, and making our computers run more efficiently all reduce emissions and energy use in Kentucky and save money, too.”

Started by Google, Intel, Microsoft and the World Wildlife Fund in 2007, the Climate Savers Computing Initiative’s goal is to reduce global CO2 emissions from the operation of computers by 54 million tons per year, equivalent to the annual output of 11 million cars or 20 coal-fired power plants. Participants in the initiative commit to producing and/or purchasing products that meet or exceed certain power-efficiency targets and using computer power management.

“We’ve been working really hard to reduce our carbon emissions,” said Jonathan Miller, secretary of the Finance and Administration Cabinet. “We are changing our habits throughout state government to do our part to save our environment and be more energy efficient. From the Governor’s Mansion to the Capitol, and all across the state, we are making great strides to save energy, reduce costs and protect the world around us.”

The Finance and Administration Cabinet is also working with First Lady Jane Beshear on her Green Team Kentucky initiative, a statewide effort joining state officials and everyday citizens with the mission of promoting environmentally friendly and sustainable practices in government and in private homes and businesses.

“Governor Beshear stated that reducing carbon emissions must be a guiding principle as we produce an energy strategy for the state,” said Len Peters, secretary of the Energy and Environment Cabinet. “This initiative will help us in meeting that goal.”

The Climate Savers Computing Initiative has more than 300 members. Other state members include Kansas, Colorado, Michigan, Minnesota and Oregon.

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### **About Climate Savers Computing**

The Climate Savers Computing Initiative is a nonprofit group of eco-conscious consumers, businesses and conservation organizations dedicated to reducing the energy consumption of computers. More than 300 companies and organizations have joined the initiative since its launch in June 2007, and thousands of individuals have pledged their support. The initiative is led by Dell, Google, HP, Intel, Lenovo, Microsoft and the World Wildlife Fund. Sponsors include Acer, AMD, Delta Electronics, Fujitsu, Hitachi, Lite-On, NEC, Sun and Supermicro.

For more information and to pledge your support, visit [www.climatesaverscomputing.org](http://www.climatesaverscomputing.org).

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