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**It's "Lights Out" for Broward County Businesses and Residents**

**During "Earth Hour" Saturday, March 27<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 p.m.**

Broward County is joining communities throughout the world who have pledged to participate in "Earth Hour" on Saturday, March 27<sup>th</sup>, from 8:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

During Earth Hour hundreds of millions of people in the United States and around the world will come together in support of action on climate change and toward creating a cleaner, safer and more secure future. They do so by pledging to turn off all non-essential lights for one hour.

2010 marks the third year of the event, which attracted more than 80 million participants in the U.S. last year, and nearly a billion people around the world, as lights dimmed on such global icons as the Eiffel Tower in Paris, Sydney's Opera House, the Great Pyramids of Gaza and New York's Empire State Building.

"Broward County has been a leader in bringing communities together to mitigate the impact of the climate change. Last year, Broward, Miami-Dade, Palm Beach and Monroe counties signed a climate change accord that will unite our efforts as we combat climate change from a regional standpoint," said Broward Commissioner Kristin Jacobs, who also serves as Chair of the Broward Climate Change Task Force. "We can make a difference when we come together toward a common cause."

On Tuesday, March 16th, Commissioner Jacobs will ask the Broward Commission to pass a resolution encouraging all residents, businesses and local governments to participate in Earth Hour. It's estimated that if every American participated in Earth Hour 16,610 tons of carbon dioxide would not be released into the earth's atmosphere.

"This illustrates the difference that one person can make by joining others to create the power of many," said Commissioner Jacobs.

Notable U.S. landmarks such as Mount Rushmore in South Dakota, St. Louis' Gateway Arch, Sea World in Orlando, the strip in Las Vegas, New York's Empire State Building, the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco, Washington D.C.'s National Cathedral, California's Santa Monica Pier and the Space Needle in Seattle are among the hundreds of sites that will turn off non-essential lighting for the hour, in what is expected to be the largest-ever call to action on climate change.

For more information on Earth Hour go to [www.EarthHourUS.org](http://www.EarthHourUS.org). For more information on the Broward County Climate Change Task Force please visit [www.broward.org/climatechange](http://www.broward.org/climatechange). For more information on Broward County Board of County Commissioners please visit [www.broward.org/commission](http://www.broward.org/commission).

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