



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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# **Air Conditioners and Furnaces Now Included in California's Cash for Appliances Rebate Program**

*HVAC systems installed by state-licensed contractors qualify for up to a \$1,300 rebate and can combine with Federal Tax Credits (up to \$1,500)*

**IRVINE, CA**—In a surprise move, the California Energy Commission added HVAC units to its Cash for Appliances rebate program. On a first-come, first-served basis, approximately \$19 million in rebates is available for California residents who purchase the approved heating and cooling units and have them installed by a state-licensed contractor.

"This is fantastic news for homeowners that are considering a new heating or cooling system," said Brett Knox, President of GreenHomes America, the nation's leading provider of home performance contracting services. "Combined with other incentives, such as Federal tax credits, homeowners can save thousands off the cost of a more modern and efficient HVAC system."

Due to the considerable sum of money still available in the program's allotted budget, officials decided to add the new appliances in order to increase consumer participation and ultimately move closer to California's energy reduction goals. In total, there are thousands of air conditioners, water

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heaters and furnaces on the state's list of qualifying appliances for the revamped program – now called Cash for Appliances PLUS. The new rebates went into effect on July 29, 2010 and consumers have up to 120 days from the date of purchase to submit their rebate applications.

Consumers who act quickly can also benefit from Federal tax credits which expire after December 31, 2010. Combined with this Federal tax credit of up to \$1,500, consumers who purchase an approved furnace (up to \$300) and air conditioning unit (up to \$1,000) can receive up to \$2,800 total cash back from the purchase of their new energy-efficient appliances. This does not include solar hot water heaters (\$750 cash back), which are also included in the program.

When replacing an entire HVAC system in your home, it is important to consult experts on the best possible system to efficiently and comfortably service your home. State-licensed contractors specializing in HVAC work, such as those from Irvine-based GreenHomes America, will be able to work with homeowners to help them choose the right system for their homes, as well as ensure they receive their full entitlement of rebates. "Many homes in California have insufficient insulation, thereby allowing outside air into the homes and reducing the overall efficiency of the HVAC system," said Knox. "Once these are corrected, smaller heating and cooling units can be installed. This saves homeowners money upfront and thousands of dollars on their utility bills over the life of the equipment."

California consumers should also be aware of all the guidelines, restrictions and rules for qualifying for appliance rebates. For example, the HVAC appliance must be installed in one's home prior to the submittal of the completed rebate form and the removed appliances must be recycled. And, all ducts in the home have to be properly sealed and tested. Upon submission of the rebate form, the consumer grants permission for an inspector to enter their residence to verify that all terms have been met in accordance with the program rules (should the home be audited).

More information about the new Cash for Appliances PLUS program can be found on the program's official website, [www.cash4appliances.org](http://www.cash4appliances.org). Program details are summarized at:

<http://bit.ly/amBD7t>

Irvine-based GreenHomes America is the premier industry-accredited, single-source provider of home performance contracting (HPC) in the U.S., with locations nationally. GreenHomes America offers an award-winning home improvement service that significantly enhances the comfort, energy efficiency, and air quality of existing single- and multi-family homes. GreenHomes America delivers a full line of home performance and HVAC services including comprehensive home energy audits, windows and doors, high-efficiency furnaces, boilers, and water heaters, insulation and air-sealing, indoor air quality, and solar systems. We guarantee to save homeowners at least 25% on their energy usage. GreenHomes America works with *Home Performance with ENERGY STAR*, is a Building Performance Institute (BPI) accredited organization, and is a founding member of Efficiency First. For more information on GreenHomes America, call 1.877.867.2833 or visit [www.greenhomesamerica.com](http://www.greenhomesamerica.com).