HIGHLIGHTING LOCAL GOVERNMENT LEADERSHIP ON CARBON REDUCTION

The County of Los Angeles develops carbon reduction policies and coordinates energy efficiency, conservation, and sustainability programs within its Internal Services Department (IDS), through its Los Angeles County Office of Sustainability (COS). The COS is the lead in coordinating and implementing energy and environmental policy programs and activities by all County of Los Angeles departments.

COST SAVINGS INITIATIVES

To achieve its energy and cost-savings goals, the COS partnered with its local utility to implement a comprehensive plan of heating, ventilating, and air conditioning energy efficiency projects. These projects involved retro-commissioning 39 major county administration, hospital, and courthouse facilities, including the following:

- Public Library Headquarters in Downey
- Harbor Hospital-UCLA Medical Center in Torrance
- Sheriff’s Department Headquarters in Monterey Park
- Airport Courthouse

As a direct result, the County benefited from over 22 million kilowatt-hours in annual savings – a reduction in annual greenhouse gas emissions that equals 3,000 passenger vehicles. In addition, these projects reduced operating costs, enhanced building operations, and improved occupancy comfort.

REDUCING GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

The County of Los Angeles also plans to retrofit up to 18,000 homes, leading to an average 20% reduction in energy use. These energy savings will result in the elimination of 20,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide greenhouse gas emissions – the air quality improvement equivalent of planting approximately half a million trees – and creating about 2,000 new green jobs in the County.

The Cool Planet program provides utility business customers with education and technical training to measure and manage their energy use and greenhouse gas emissions. The Cool Planet program is funded by California utility rate payers and administered under the auspices of the California Public Utilities Commission, through a contract awarded to The Climate Registry. California customers who chose to participate in this program are not obligated to purchase any additional services offered by the contractor. This program is offered on a first-come, first-served basis from 1/1/2013-12/31/2014 or until funds are depleted. Terms and conditions apply. The trademarks used herein are the property of their respective owners.