



# AUSTRALIAN HOTELS ASSOCIATION

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## MEDIA RELEASE

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### LIGHTS OUT IN HOTELS FOR EARTH HOUR

Lights, neon signs and various electrical appliances will be out of action in hundreds of major accommodation hotels across Australia for Earth Hour tonight.

The AHA estimates as many as 80% of these hotels are participating in the environmental initiative.

"Australia's accommodation hotels are enthusiastically supporting Earth Hour 2009," said AHA National Corporate Affairs Manager, Hamish Arthur.

"Many are serving dinners by candlelight, many are turning off lights and neon signs, while almost all guests checking into a hotel this weekend can expect to receive a special letter outlining how they can do their bit.

"There are even wedding receptions being held in hotels tonight where the couples have chosen to celebrate their special occasion with little or no electrical lighting."

The high level of participation within the industry is further evidence of its commitment to environmental sustainability.

"While Earth Hour is important, it is one of a number of measures hotels have in place to minimise the amount of energy and water they use," Mr Arthur said.

"The vast majority of hotels give guests the option of not having their sheets and towels laundered every day and they also utilise water-saving shower-heads and energy-saving light bulbs."

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