Con Edison Customers Set Peak Record for 2009 Electricity Use

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NEW YORK, NY, Aug 17, 2009 (MARKETWIRE via COMTEX) -- Con Edison customers broke the 2009 record for peak electricity use when the company delivered 11,937 megawatt hours (MWH) at 3 p.m. today. Usage at 5 p.m. was 11,935 MWH, falling just short of the 3 p.m. figure. Before today, the high for the year was 11,821 MWH, set a week ago.

Today’s preeminent peak demand indicates customers are feeling the heat, but in a year with milder-than-normal average weather, even today’s usage falls short of Con Edison’s peak-demand top 10. (The all-time peak record in the company’s New York City and Westchester County service area is 13,141 MWH, set on Wednesday, August 2, 2006 at 5 p.m.)

Con Edison first reached the 10,000 MWH mark in 1988, hit 11,000 MWH in 1997, and first broke the 12,000 MWH barrier in 2001. The company has since experienced 29 other days with over a 12,000 MWH peak, which includes three days over the 13,000 MWH barrier. (The first time over 13,000 MWH peak consumption was in 2005.)

The company recommends that customers keep cool and save on energy costs by using energy saving tips for homes and businesses that you can find online at www.conEd.com/thepowerofgreen. The site also links to other information about renewable energy and green power.

The Con Edison system delivers energy across a network of 92,000 miles of underground and 33,000 miles of overhead wires to approximately 9 million New York City and Westchester County residents.

Throughout the heat wave, the company continues to monitor its systems around the clock to ensure the safe and reliable delivery of electricity, and urges New Yorkers to use energy wisely.

Customers can report service problems by calling 1-800-75-CONED. They also can report service problems online at www.conEd.com.

Con Edison is a subsidiary of Consolidated Edison, Inc. (NYSE: ED), one of the nation's largest investor-owned energy companies, with approximately $14 billion in annual revenues and $34 billion in assets. The utility provides electric, gas and steam service to more than 3 million customers in New York City and Westchester County, New York. For additional financial, operations and customer service information, visit Con Edison’s Web site at www.coned.com.

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