



MEMBER FOR NOOSA ENCOURAGES COMMUNITY TO EMBRACE EARTH HOUR 2008

Member for Noosa Glen Elmes has signed up and is urging other Sunshine Coast residents to take part in Earth Hour 2008 which will see millions of people uniting around the globe to do what they can to turn the tide on global warming.

"For those who don't know about Earth Hour it started with a question: How can we inspire people to take action on climate change and the answer was: Ask the people of Sydney to turn off their lights for one hour and, on 31 March 2007, 2.2 million people and 2100 Sydney businesses turned off their lights for one hour - Earth Hour.

"Congratulations to the inspirational group who came up with what is in effect, a simple but highly effective plan.

"With Sydney icons like the Harbour Bridge and the Opera House turning their lights off, and unique events such as weddings by candlelight, the world took notice and the collective effort of millions of Sydneysiders last year has now inspired many major global cities to take part this year including Chicago, Tel Aviv, Manila, Copenhagen, Melbourne, Brisbane and Toronto all turning off their lights for an hour with the aim of fighting global warming.

Mr Elmes said that if the greenhouse reduction achieved in the Sydney CBD during Earth Hour was sustained for a year, it would be equivalent to taking 48,616 cars off the road for a year.

"Remember, every single light turned off makes a statement but more importantly, it makes a difference so the action of just one person is all it takes to make a change to halt this alarming threat to our land and lifestyle.

"This year at **8pm on Saturday 29 March 2008** Earth Hour goes global, with cities and towns around the world taking a stand against global warming, simply by turning off their lights and I ask everyone who possibly can to take part and make it a special event with friends and family.

Mr Elmes is encouraging the entire community - businesses included - to be part of making Earth Hour 2008 a huge, global success by including customers, friends and family.

"Sign up with me and millions of others for Earth Hour 2008 by visiting <http://www.earthhour.org/sign-up> and join the movement.

"I think it would be a great idea if we extended the initiative and made a practice of turning the lights off for one hour once a month instead of just once a year," Mr Elmes said.

Further information: Glen Elmes MP - 5449 8988 or 0400 800 114