



Navy Energy Holiday Podcast

November 2011



*Transcript of November 2011 remarks by Rear Admiral Phil Cullom,
Director, Task Force Energy and the Chief of Naval Operations Energy and
Environmental Readiness Division*

Hello and happy holidays! I'm Phil Cullom, Director of the Navy's Energy and Environmental Readiness Division, and I've got three challenges for you. Why? For one very important reason: readiness!

When it comes to the holidays, there are two avoidable factors that degrade our readiness: outdated lighting that is an energy hog – and senseless personal tragedies. Therefore, it is with the greatest hopes for a frugal, safe, and happy holiday for all of us that I ask you to accept the following three challenges:

First Challenge: Lighting.

I challenge you to:

- Upgrade all of your holiday lights to energy-efficient ones and to use solar lighting when decorating outdoors. Who doesn't enjoy seeing celebratory lighting on homes, offices, businesses, and ships of all sizes, including aircraft carriers? I know I do – but unless you are using energy-efficient lighting, you're simply wasting electricity.
- Use a lighting timer. That way when you are away from home, your lights will be off during daylight hours and on only in the evening, when needed.
- Turn off your work computers as you leave your office. By doing this, you will save \$80 per year in energy costs. And if you turn them off when not in use during the day, you can save an additional \$15 per year. Now that might not sound like much, but if every sailor did this, the results would be tens of millions in energy savings every year. And that would mean more money to meet our readiness needs. Small actions by many can create big results.

Second Challenge : Recycle.

I challenge you to:

- Use recycled products. Decorating? Wrapping gifts? Sending boxes and cards? Protect the environment by using recycled products and by reusing those same products, when possible.

Third Challenge: Safety Guidelines.

I challenge you to:

- Follow recommended safety guidelines! Misused space heaters and overloaded circuits can – and do – cause fires. If you’ve misplaced that booklet that came with such products, you can find safety instructions online. And if you are aboard ship, before ever using any plug-in electrical heater, contact your electrical safety officer.

Okay, fair is fair. You’ve listened to my challenges. Now, I’d like to hear from you. Please take a few minutes to share holiday tips that you think can help preserve the readiness of our navy. Visit [Facebook.com/NavalEnergy](https://www.facebook.com/NavalEnergy) and leave a message. I’m especially hoping to hear from our sailors on ships and bases that accept my challenge to upgrade your holiday lighting to include solar power.

Oh by the way, I hope those of you judging those shipboard lighting displays factor that into your grading for ‘best ship.’

Thank you. And again, happy holidays to one and all.