



**Environmental and Energy Services**  
**CITY OF BOSTON**

**THOMAS M. MENINO**  
Mayor

**JAMES W. HUNT, III**  
Chief of Environmental  
and Energy Services

March 10, 2010

Dear BOMA Boston member:

Following up on the success of **Lights Out Boston** since the fall 2008, the City of Boston, Mass Audubon and the BOMA Boston would like to invite all commercial property owners and managers to continue their participation in the award-winning Lights Out Boston program for the upcoming spring migration season. Lights Out Boston aims to save energy, protect migratory birds and set an example that encourages everyone to use energy more efficiently.

Lights Out Boston is a voluntary program wherein participating commercial property owners and managers turn off or dim all architectural and internal lighting between 11 p.m. and 5 a.m. during the spring bird migratory season ending on May 31<sup>st</sup>. Over 43 buildings in downtown have participated in the program, representing over 40 million sq ft of commercial space.

Lights Out Boston will protect migrating birds, which have difficulty adapting to an urban environment. When a city skyline—especially buildings over 30 stories high—is brightly lit at night, the lights can confuse the birds. Although scientists are unsure of the exact reason for this problem, birds can fly as low as 500 feet during inclement weather, and skyscrapers are the most visible part of the city to migrating birds.

We would also invite you to participate in **Earth Hour 2010** to raise awareness about solutions to climate change with the City of Boston. Organized by the World Wildlife Fund, Earth Hour 2010 will take place on March 27<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 to 9:30 pm and asks participants to extinguish all non-essential lighting during this hour. Boston will be among over 1,100 cities and town worldwide that have pledged to shut off lights for Earth Hour.

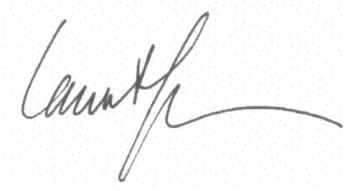
The City of Boston is already nationally recognized as a leader in environmental and energy policy, and partners like you play a significant role in this success. We look forward to continuing to work with all commercial property owners and managers through *Lights Out Boston*, *Earth Hour* and other sustainability initiatives in Boston.

To recognize your leadership, we would like to include your company in our announcement to the press. If you will be participating in Lights Out Boston and/or Earth Hour, please contact Katherine Painter on at [Kathrine.Painter@cityofboston.gov](mailto:Kathrine.Painter@cityofboston.gov) or 617-635-3425. We hope to have everyone's participation again this spring!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jim Hunt". The signature is written in black ink on a white background.

James Hunt,  
Chief of Environment and Energy Services  
City of Boston

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Laura Johnson". The signature is written in black ink on a white background.

Laura Johnson,  
President  
Mass Audubon