LOUISVILLE, KY MAYOR JERRY ABRAMSON RECOGNIZED AS ENERGY STAR PARTNER OF THE YEAR

Washington, D.C. – Louisville Mayor Jerry E. Abramson was honored by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency as an ENERGY STAR Partner of the Year at its 2010 annual awards dinner, citing his work on the city’s innovative “Kilowatt Crackdown” program, a campaign that challenged building owners to reduce energy use through energy efficiency improvements.

During his remarks at the March 18 event, former Conference of Mayors President Abramson expressed his appreciation to EPA and its staff for their support of the city’s energy and climate initiatives, stating, “Because of their guidance and the collaboration of their ENERGY STAR team, we have been able to pull everybody together to create this green momentum.”

In comments on the EPA award, Conference President Burnsville (MN) Mayor Elizabeth B. Kautz said, “Mayor Abramson is a leader among leaders, and his efforts in Louisville again set an example for other mayors in meeting the challenges before America’s cities and the nation.”

“Louisville, like many other cities, is deploying ENERGY STAR tools and resources to strengthen the leadership of the nation’s mayors on energy and climate issues,” Kautz said.

“America’s mayors are working hard to strengthen partnerships with the federal government on energy and climate protection, through EPA’s ENERGY STAR program, as Mayor Abramson has shown, and the Energy Department’s energy block grants for cities and counties,” said Conference CEO and Executive Director Tom Cochran.

Cochran also pointed out, “Conference surveys show that mayors are incorporating ENERGY STAR into their energy strategies under the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) program which means more success stories are on the horizon.”

For more information on ENERGY STAR, EPA’s voluntary market-based partnership to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through increased energy efficiency, go to http://www.usmayors.org/climateprotection/energystar.

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The U.S. Conference of Mayors is the official nonpartisan organization of cities with populations of 30,000 or more. There are 1,139 such cities in the country today. Each city is represented in the Conference by its chief elected official, the mayor. More information about the Conference is available at usmayors.org.