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**Lighting conversion saves MoDOT money**

JEFFERSON CITY – Converting lighting in the Missouri Department of Transportation’s Jefferson City facilities from conventional fluorescent tubes to LED (light-emitting diode) is saving the agency more than $400,000 per year.

MoDOT has been able to make the switch by utilizing Ameren energy-efficiency rebates. Since MoDOT’s General Services Division made the decision to switch to LED light several years ago, the agency has seen a reduction in energy consumption of 4.5 million kilowatt hours which is equivalent to $405,000.

“The LED lights are much cleaner and perform more consistently,” Facilities Manager Dave Belanger said.

They have maintenance advantages, too. Belanger said an exterior LED light has the potential to run for 80,000-130,000 hours, compared to the old fixtures that had to be replaced every 3,000-6,000 hours.

About 80 percent of the lights at MoDOT facilities in Jefferson City are now LEDs, and Belanger said, “We intend to continue to use Ameren rebates into the future as long as their availability remains.”

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