

# Demand Response

**Reducing Energy Use,  
Preventing Brownouts and Blackouts,  
and Protecting Our Environment**

To help achieve the City of New York's ambitious climate goals and ensure the reliability of the city's electricity grid, DCAS-managed buildings (and other partnering facilities) participate in the Demand Response program. On days when electricity demand reaches peak levels, such as days with extreme heat, participating facilities reduce energy use to help prevent brownouts and blackouts. In addition to protecting the city's electricity grid, this reduction in electricity use helps energy providers avoid tapping dirtier, high-polluting energy sources to meet the surging demand. In exchange for doing its part, the city gets paid by utility companies and New York state's grid manager. This money is then re-invested in energy efficiency upgrades.

## What Does this Mean for Our Tenants?

On days when Demand Response kicks into action, facilities reduce energy use in a variety of ways. This may include reduced overhead lighting, reduced elevator service, and increased building temperatures. By making small changes, we can make a big difference for our environment and our fellow New Yorkers.

## How Can You Help?

There are simple steps we can all take to reduce our energy consumption every day, but especially on our Demand Response days. You can help by:



**Lowering shades to block sunlight, helping reduce the need for air conditioning**



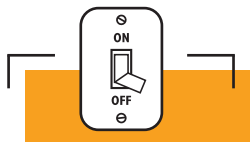
**Turning off computer monitors, copiers, and other electronic equipment when not in use**



**Unplugging unused chargers from outlets**



**Turning off overhead lights in areas where daylight is sufficient or desk lighting is available**



**At night, turning off lights not required for security purposes**



**Removing anything that blocks air vents, maximizing air circulation**



**Taking stairs instead of elevators**