



## NEWS RELEASE

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For more information, contact:  
Melissa Zoeller, Power Creative  
502.297.6625  
502.553.9732 cell  
[mzoeller@powercreative.com](mailto:mzoeller@powercreative.com)

#### **Lennox Hearth Products Sponsors the HPBA Libby, Montana Change-out Campaign**

**ORANGE, CA (May 15, 2006)** – Lennox Hearth Products (LHP) has stepped up to help Libby, Montana as a platinum sponsor of the Hearth, Patio & Barbecue Association (HPBA) Libby Change-out Project.

Libby is a small western Montana town nestled in a valley in the Kootenai National Forest. Residents of Libby have suffered serious health problems resulting from poor air quality issues, including the emissions of asbestos dust generated by a nearby vermiculite mine and large amounts of smoke from wood-burning stoves.

As a result of the poor air quality issues, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) designated Libby as being out-of-attainment with new air quality standards. Consequently, the EPA approached HPBA with a proposal to partner with the Montana Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) and the local Lincoln County Environmental Health Department in a change-out program. The program would replace Libby's old, uncertified wood stoves with the new, clean-burning stoves.

HPBA wholeheartedly agreed to the partnership, and the HPBA Libby Change-out Project was formed. When asked to be involved, Lennox Hearth Products jumped at the opportunity to dramatically demonstrate the environmental benefits of replacing these stoves with new, certified wood, gas and pellet-burning appliances. LHP is helping HPBA and other sponsors replace an estimated 1,300 stoves by donating over \$100,000 for products and installations before November 2006.

"LHP is excited to be involved in a project that will position the hearth industry as a major player in reducing air pollution and improving the quality of life for Montana residents," states Wendy Howells, vice president and general manager of Lennox Hearth Products. "The Libby Change-out Project is just the beginning in displaying the environmental advantages of clean-burning hearth products."

The change-out results in Libby have been tremendous. As of August 2006, 348 installations of new stoves have been completed\*. The program has not only given Libby residents' cleaner air and met the EPA PM<sub>2.5</sub> new air quality standard for Montana; it has also demonstrated what other change-out campaigns could do for the eastern United States out-of-attainment areas.

"This has given us the opportunity to make a meaningful improvement in the lives of Libby residents," states Carter Keithley, HPBA President & CEO. "We are able to use our products for a worthwhile purpose. And we've also made a compelling case for changing out 10 million more dirty-burning stoves throughout the U.S. with our new clean-burning products."

LHP is proud to help Libby, Montana finally have clean air, and proud to showcase LHP environmentally-friendly products – products that are the future for the growing hearth industry.

-more-

Libby Change-Out Project  
Page 2

For more information on the Libby, Montana Change-Out Project, please visit [www.hpba.org](http://www.hpba.org). For more information about the full line of Lennox Hearth Products, call 800-9-LENNOX, or visit [www.lennox.com](http://www.lennox.com).

###

*\*This total includes both Phase I and Phase II installations.*