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April 22, 2008

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## **Unico Properties LLC and Mayor Verner Celebrate Earth Day and Commitment to Sustainable Operations Unico “Turns Out The Lights” at Bank of America Financial Center**

### **Unico Distributes Complimentary Fluorescent Light Bulbs to Encourage Energy Conservation**

**SPOKANE, Wash.** (April 22, 2008) – Unico Properties LLC, a real estate investment and operating company and owner of the Bank of America Financial Center (BAFC), a premier Class A, downtown office property in Spokane, Wash, celebrates Earth Day and energy conservation with Spokane Mayor Mary Verner. Located in Spokane’s central business district (CBD), the 20 story, 330,000 square foot Bank of America Financial Center represents the CBD’s largest and most prestigious asset. Today, Unico “turned off all the lights” in BAFC for one hour as a symbol of its commitment to energy conservation. This hour saved approximately 250 kilowatts of energy, enough to power one home for two days.

BAFC building tenants turned off their lights from Noon to 1 p.m. today during an event held in the building’s main lobby atrium. Additionally, Unico distributed complimentary Compact Fluorescent Light bulbs (CFLs) to all event attendees. Designed to replace incandescent light bulbs, CFLs use less power and have a longer rated life.

“We’re proud to be part of the Spokane community and we appreciate this opportunity to join with the Mayor on Earth Day 2008,” said Unico President & CEO and Spokane native Dale Sperling. “Where building green used to be an optional environmental statement, now it’s an essential business strategy for all of us.”

Unico purchased BAFC in early 2007. As the new owner, Unico is implementing improvements to the building, including significant capital upgrades to the common areas and elevators and providing a facelift to the lobby entry. Unico’s goal is to develop and operate environmentally-responsible buildings because this creates superior buildings that operate at 25 to 50 percent lower costs with better use of water, electricity, and daylight.

“Unico is obviously committed to a sustainable future for Spokane,” says Spokane Mayor Mary Verner. “As the tenants within the Bank of America Building turn off their lights for an hour on Earth Day, I expect they’ll be turning on many ideas throughout the community on how to conserve resources and improve our community.”

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Some of the efforts that Unico is implementing to ensure BAFC functions more efficiently include: replacing all incandescent bulbs with CFL bulbs; using environmentally-friendly products; recycling programs; low emissivity window film; new heating, ventilating, and air conditioning (HVAC) controls; gang cleaning to reduce lighting use for cleaning crew; atrium lighting timers to reduce high draw lighting on times and new showers for tenant-use to encourage alternative commuting. These efforts could earn the building an EPA Energy Star rating this year.

“We are conscious of the long-term effect buildings have on our world and we are committed to making continual steps to reduce the environmental impact of our buildings over their entire lifecycle,” added Sperling.

“Ensuring a healthy working environment is the driving force in transitioning our industry to building green,” said Sperling. “We want to make our buildings better places to work and to make our tenants more successful by improving their environment.”

Unico is a real estate investment and operating company headquartered in Seattle, Washington. The company, which owns and operates nearly nine million square feet of premier properties in the western United States, is an industry leader for green and sustainable building practices. Unico produces superior returns for its institutional partners by anticipating and addressing the real state needs of its customers with environments that enhance the success of the people, business and communities it serves. For more information about Unico, please visit the firm’s website at [www.unicoprop.com](http://www.unicoprop.com).

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