

GPG Outbrief 11

# LED Downlight Lamps for CFL Fixtures

Emerging Technologies, GPG Program | U.S. General Services Administration | March 22, 2018

The logo for the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA), consisting of the letters "GSA" in white on a dark blue square background.

GSA

# GPG-026 LED Lamps for CFL Fixtures @ gsa.gov

- ❑ Infographic
- ❑ 4-page Findings
- ❑ Full Report
- ❑ Additional Resources

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the GSA website. The page title is "LED Downlight Lamps for CFL Fixtures". The navigation bar includes GSA logo and menu items: TRAVEL, REAL ESTATE, ACQUISITION, TECHNOLOGY, POLICY & REGULATIONS, ABOUT US. The breadcrumb trail is: Home > Governmentwide Initiatives > Sustainability > GPG Program > Published Findings > Lighting > 026. LED Downlight Lamps >. The main content area features a sidebar with a "GPG PROGRAM" menu where "026. LED Downlight Lamps" is selected. The main heading is "LED Downlight Lamps for CFL Fixtures" with a sub-heading "GPG-026, APRIL 2016". The text states: "Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL) evaluated an LED replacement lamp that uses the same four-pin socket and electronic ballast as an incumbent CFL. Results showed energy savings between 40-50%, matching light levels and quality and payback under 3 years. Click on the infographic below to enlarge." To the right, there are links for "READ 4-PAGE FINDINGS [PDF - 556 KB]", "DOWNLOAD FULL REPORT [PDF - 3 MB]", and "ADDITIONAL RESOURCES" which includes links to "Recessed LED Downlights: Solid-State Lighting Technology Fact Sheet (DOE/EERE, 05-2012)" and "Overview: Snapshot: Downlights (DOE/EERE, CALIPER, 03-2016)". Below the text is a large infographic titled "026 APRIL 2016 LED DOWNLIGHT LAMPS FOR CFL FIXTURES". The infographic highlights an "OPPORTUNITY" of "5.7 GWH OF ELECTRICITY PER YEAR" and a "TECHNOLOGY" of "ONE-TO-ONE LAMP REPLACEMENT". It also includes sections for "M&V" and "RESULTS".

LED Downlight Lamps for CFL Fixtures

GPG-026, APRIL 2016

Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL) evaluated an LED replacement lamp that uses the same four-pin socket and electronic ballast as an incumbent CFL. Results showed energy savings between 40-50%, matching light levels and quality and payback under 3 years. Click on the infographic below to enlarge.

**READ 4-PAGE FINDINGS**  
[PDF - 556 KB]

Findings:  
LED Downlight Lamps for CFL Fixtures > [PDF - 556 KB]

**DOWNLOAD FULL REPORT**  
[PDF - 3 MB]

Download LED Lighting Form-Factor Assessment > [PDF - 3 MB]

**ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**

- Overview: Recessed LED Downlights: Solid-State Lighting Technology Fact Sheet (DOE/EERE, 05-2012)
- Overview: Snapshot: Downlights (DOE/EERE, CALIPER, 03-2016)

**OPPORTUNITY**

How much energy could GSA save by converting CFL downlights to LED?

**5.7 GWH OF ELECTRICITY PER YEAR**

If all 95,000 CFL-based downlights within the portfolio were replaced!  
Annual savings of \$600,000 at national average of \$0.11/kWh

**TECHNOLOGY**

How do direct replacement LED downlight lamps work?

**ONE-TO-ONE LAMP REPLACEMENT**

POWERED BY THE EXISTING CFL BALLAST  
Light directed down toward living and work surfaces

**M&V**

Where did Measurement and Verification occur?

**RESULTS**

**PACIFIC NORTHWEST NATIONAL LABORATORY** assessed LED downlight lamps provided by Lunera in three federal buildings: GSA's regional headquarters in Auburn, Washington; the Cabell Federal Building in Dallas, Texas; and the Veterans Administration Center in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

# Upcoming GPG Outbriefs - Thursdays, 12 PM ET

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- April 19 Electrochromic Windows
- May 10 HoneyComb Solar Thermal Collector
- June 7 Variable Refrigerant Flow

## Webinar Recordings

Access all webinars on [GSA.gov](https://www.gsa.gov)

[GSA.gov/GPG](https://www.gsa.gov/GPG)

# Continuing Education Credits

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Complete the post-webinar survey, or contact Michael Hobson,  
[michael.hobson@gsa.gov](mailto:michael.hobson@gsa.gov)



# How to Ask Questions

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Please chat your questions during the presentation for the Q&A segment



# LED Downlight Lamps for CFL Fixtures

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## **Michael Hobson**

Project Manager, Emerging Technologies

[michael.hobson@gsa.gov](mailto:michael.hobson@gsa.gov)

312.353.4871

# Webinar Agenda

- ❑ **Overview of GPG (5 minutes)**  
Kevin Powell, Program Manager, Emerging Technologies
- ❑ **LED Lamps for CFL Fixtures (15 minutes)**  
Eric Richman, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory
- ❑ **On-the-ground Feedback (15 minutes)**  
Marty Novini, GSA Region 10  
Frank Campagna, GSA Region 7
- ❑ **Q & A (15 minutes)**

# Introduction

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## **Kevin Powell**

Program Manager, Emerging Technologies

[kevin.powell@gsa.gov](mailto:kevin.powell@gsa.gov)

510.423.3384

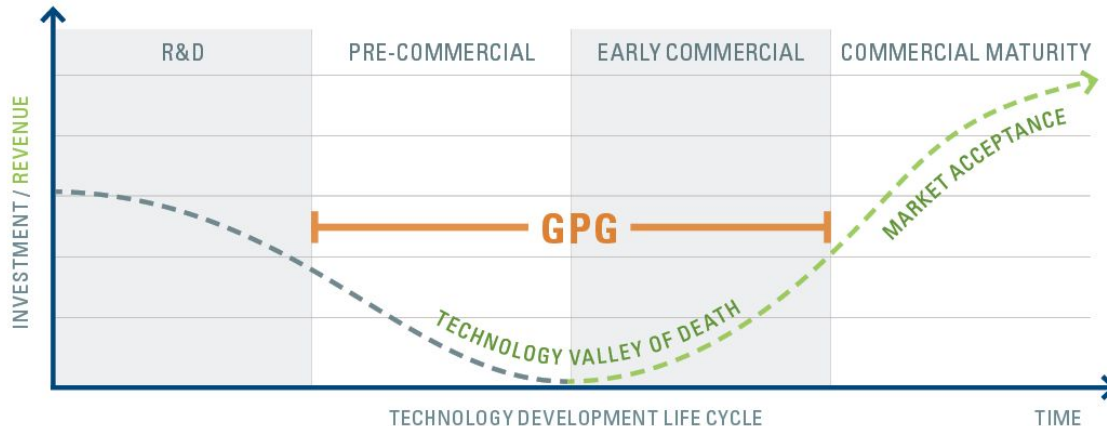




Emerging Technologies' two programs – GSA Proving Ground (GPG) and Pilot to Portfolio (P2P) – enable GSA to make sound investment decisions in next generation building technologies based on their real world performance

# Leading by Example

GSA's Proving Ground accelerates market acceptance by objectively assessing innovative building technologies in real-world environments, and deploying those that deliver. To date, GSA has installed 9 technologies across more than 200 buildings. In aggregate, these technologies are delivering \$7 Million in annual O&M savings.



## GPG Process

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Identify promising technologies at the edge of commercialization



Pilot technology installations within GSA's real estate portfolio



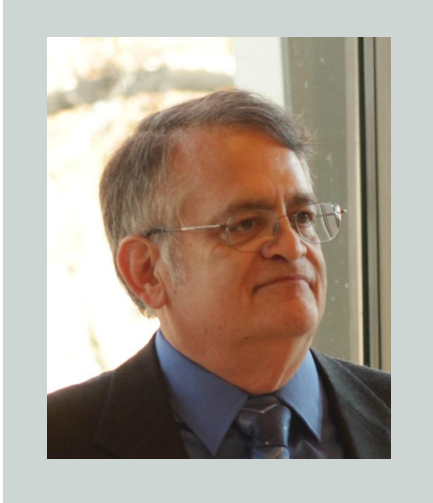
Partner with Department of Energy national laboratories to objectively evaluate real-world performance



Recommend technologies with broad deployment potential for GSA

# Measurement & Verification

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## **Eric Richman**

Senior Research Engineer  
Energy Systems Analysis  
Pacific Northwest National Laboratory

GPG-026

# LED Downlight Lamps for CFL Fixtures

General Services Administration  
Public Buildings Service



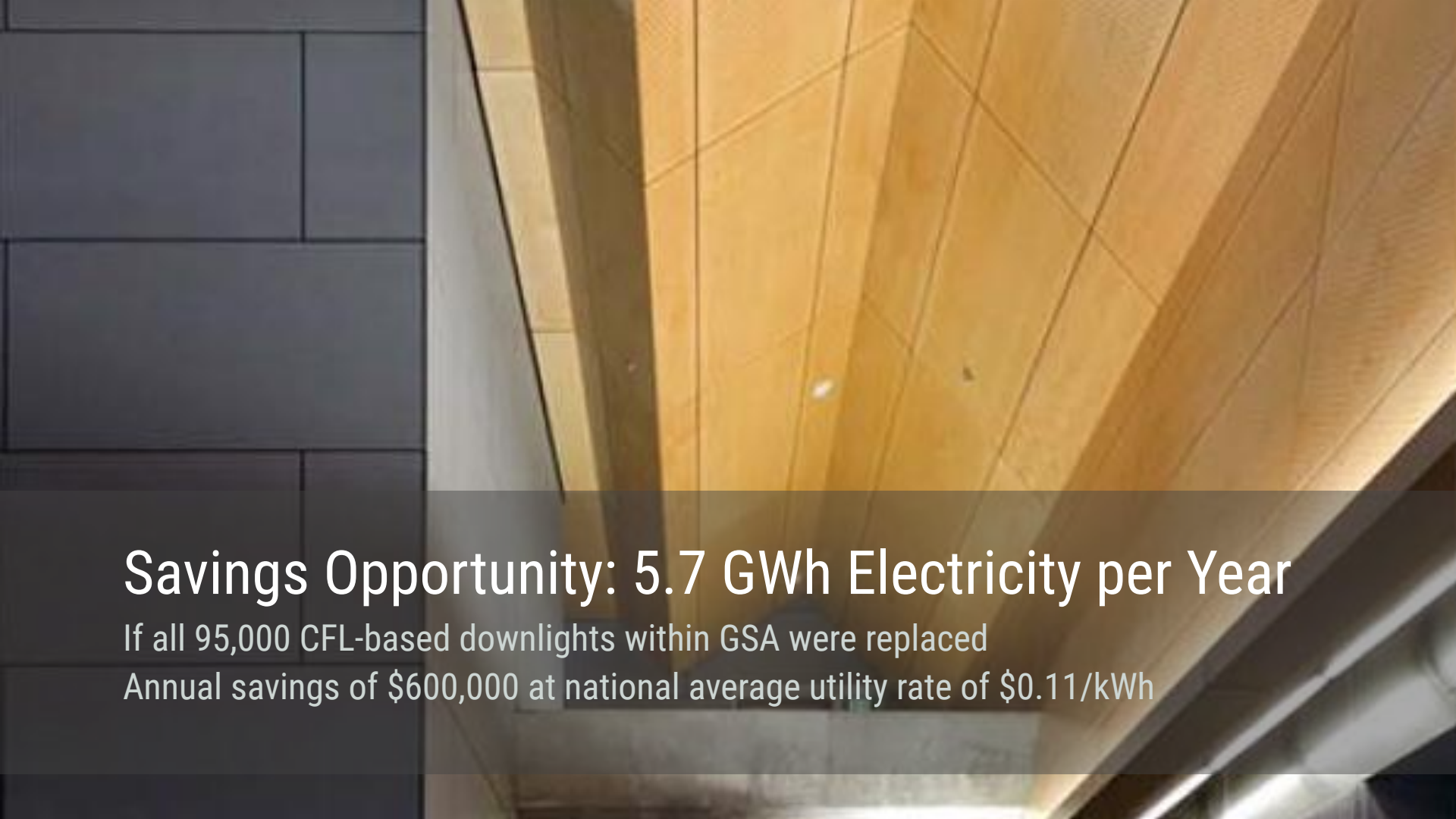
GPG-026 | APRIL 2016

## LED DOWNLIGHT LAMPS FOR CFL FIXTURES



### LED Downlight Lamps Save Energy, Match Pre-Existing CFLs for Light Level and Quality

According to a 2013 U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) survey, the General Services Administration (GSA) has approximately 95,000 compact fluorescent (CFL) downlights in its commercial building portfolio.<sup>1</sup> CFL downlights provide illumination in hallways, lobbies, and other common areas, and are often used as accent lights. Compared with light emitting diode (LED) lamps of similar form factor, however, they are relatively short-lived and therefore require frequent replacement. They also consume considerable amounts of energy. For these and other reasons, replacing CFLs with LED lamps represents a significant cost- and energy-savings opportunity. LED downlight lamps last four to six times as long as CFLs and consume roughly half as much electricity. There are many options for retrofitting pin-based CFLs, and in 2014, GSA's GPG program worked with researchers from the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL) to evaluate the simplest of them—a replacement lamp that uses the same four-pin socket and electronic ballast as an incumbent CFL. In addition to cost- and energy-savings, occupants also received light

A photograph of a ceiling with wooden slats and a dark grey wall. The wooden slats are arranged in a grid pattern and are illuminated from below, creating a warm, golden glow. The dark grey wall is visible on the left side of the image.

## Savings Opportunity: 5.7 GWh Electricity per Year

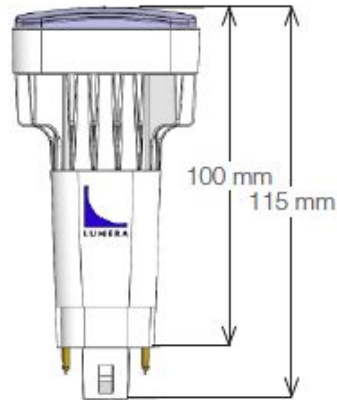
If all 95,000 CFL-based downlights within GSA were replaced

Annual savings of \$600,000 at national average utility rate of \$0.11/kWh

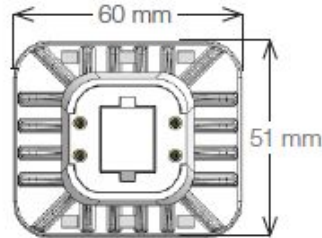
# GPG-026. LED Downlight Lamps for CFL Fixtures

## One-to-One Lamp Replacement Powered by the Existing CFL Ballast

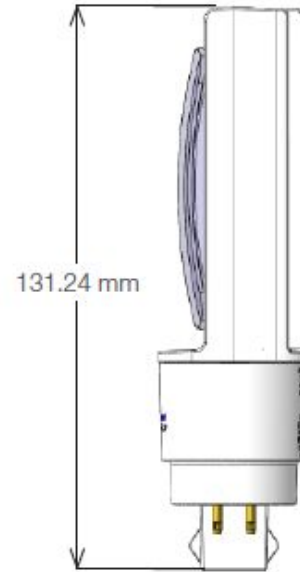
Light directed down toward living and work surfaces; vertical or horizontal orientation



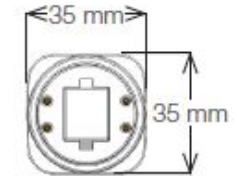
Front View Vertical



Bottom View 4-pin



Side



Bottom View



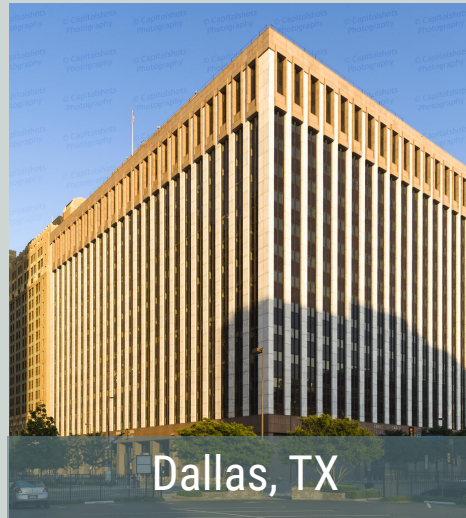
End View

# Measurement & Verification

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## Researchers Monitored Performance at 3 Federal Locations

GSA regional headquarters, Auburn, WA; Cabell Federal Building, Dallas, TX; Veterans Admin Center, Philadelphia, PA





# Basecases

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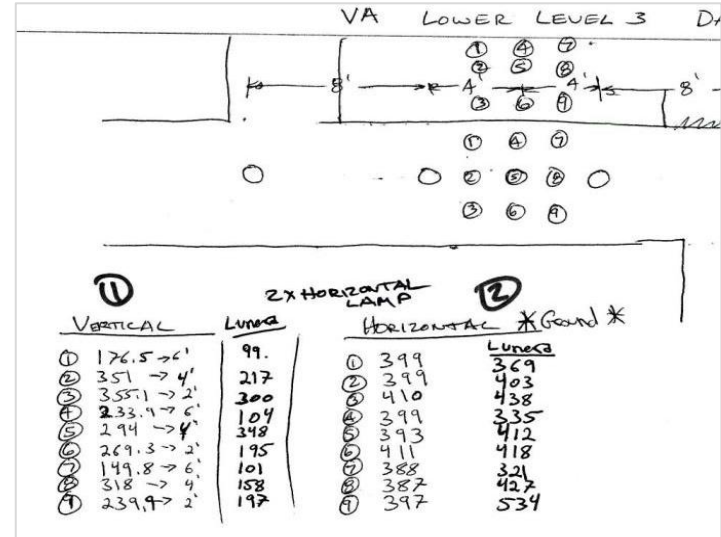
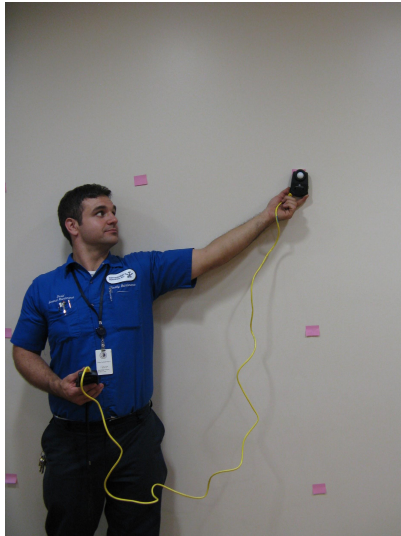
**Auburn, WA**  
6" aperture  
Vertically oriented  
1-lamp, 6' x 6' on-center



**Dallas, TX and Philadelphia, PA**  
8" aperture  
Horizontally oriented  
2-lamp, 4' on-center

# Achieving Desired Light Levels is Key in Retrofits

## Test Plan for Measuring Light Levels—A Grid of Measurements for Each Location



# Light Level Measurements

## Light Levels Between CFL and LED Were Comparable

LEDs approximated CFLs, occupants noticed little difference

Key

- CFL
- CFL AVG. ACROSS TEST BEDS
- LED
- LED AVG. ACROSS TEST BEDS

### Average Horizontal Light Levels

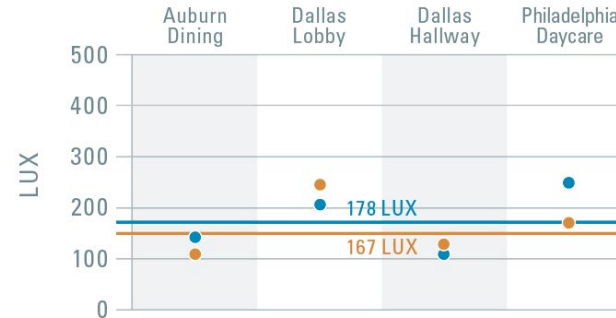
Work Surface or Floor



### Average Vertical Light Levels

Wall

A difference of less than 100 Lux is typically not noticeable by the human eye.



# Testbed Results

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**40-50%**

**ENERGY SAVINGS**

\$6.37 ANNUAL SAVINGS  
Over typical CFL lamp at avg.  
utility rate of \$0.11/kWh

**< 3**

**YR PAYBACK**

AT AVERAGE  
UTILITY RATE

# Replacement Options for CFL Downlights

## Consider Compatibility and Controls When Selecting an LED Replacement

		REPLACE LAMP IF :	INSTALL RETROFIT KIT IF :	INSTALL NEW FIXTURE IF :
COMPATIBILITY	}	CFL ballast is verified to work with LED replacement lamp (per manufacturer or by testing).	Lamp is incompatible with CFL ballast (consult manufacturer specifications).	New construction or renovation.
		CONTROLS	}	No controls are necessary.
		<b>PAYBACK–2.9 years*</b> Cost \$39 Material \$22 <sup>5</sup> , Install \$17  With ballast replacement \$94 (Material \$38, Install \$56) PAYBACK 7.1 years		<b>PAYBACK –10.4 years*</b> Cost \$137 Material \$81, Install \$56

## Downlight Installation Considerations

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- If replacement lamps operate on existing CFL ballasts, verify that the new LEDs will function on all ballast types.
- If existing ballast types are unknown, or it is impractical to verify their compatibility, consider using an LED retrofit kit or new downlight fixture.
- When considering retrofit kits, make sure it fits properly within the existing downlight housing, If a kit sits too low in the recessed fixture, glare might be an issue. Confirm proper fitting with the manufacturer and with a trial installation.

## Issues to Consider When Replacing CFL Downlights

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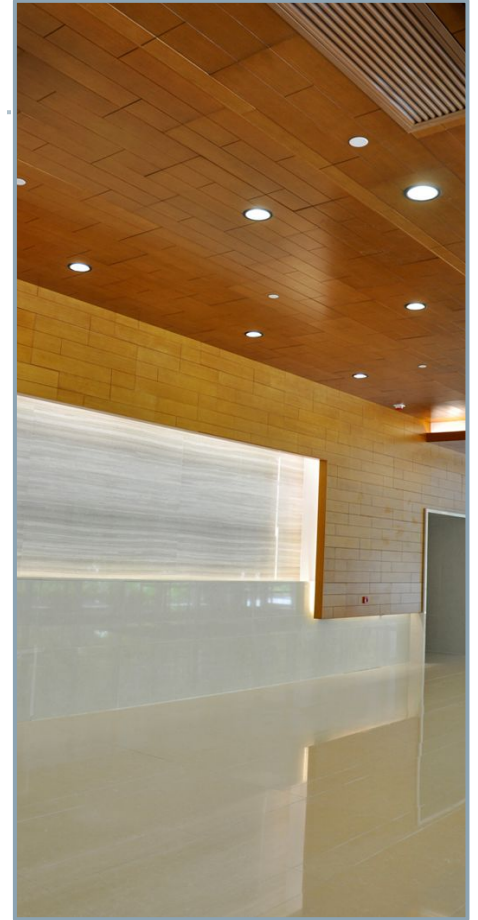
- **Lamp Use:** If used infrequently or a remodel is in the near future, a long-lived lamp might not be cost-effective.
- **Light Output:** Because LEDs are directional in nature, the LED replacement lamp typically only needs 70% of the CFL total lamp lumens to match light levels.
- **Color Temperature:** Temperature ranges between warm white (2700K) to cool white (5000K). Occupant spaces are commonly lighted with warmer color temperatures (3000K to 4100K) because of the truer treatment of skin tones.

# Deployment

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## Best Suited for Broad Deployment Where Advanced Lighting Controls are Not Desired or Useful

- Because this is such an easy technology to install it's literally as easy as plugging in a lightbulb





# GSA Feedback, R10

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**Marty Novini**

Energy Program Manager  
Northwest Arctic Region 10

# Northwest Arctic Region 10—Lessons Learned

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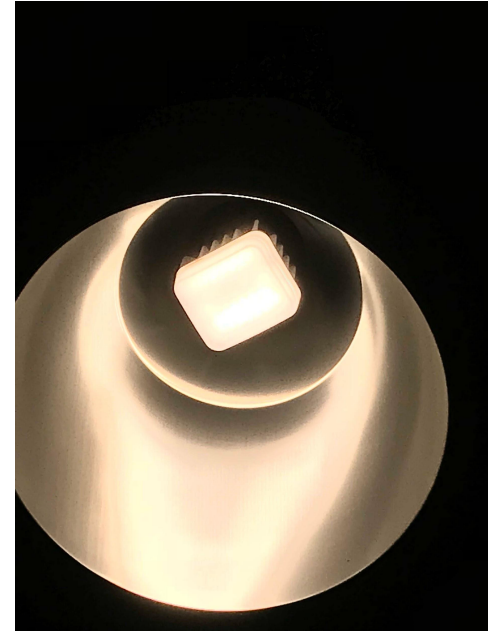
1. Check ballast compatibility. Magnetic ballasts won't work.
2. The height of the bulb inside the can will determine the light spread. If the bulb sits farther inside the can light, it will provide better spread, however, at lower light intensity. If the bulb is sitting too far outside the can light its light spread is limited, but at higher intensity.
3. The same manufacturer sells other retrofit products for HID light fixtures, that we tested and are operating without a glitch.
4. The replacements were accomplished with O&M hours. We purchased the lamps using our BA 63 funds, and asked our O&M crew to replace the bulbs on an ongoing basis.

# Northwest Arctic Region 10—Deployment

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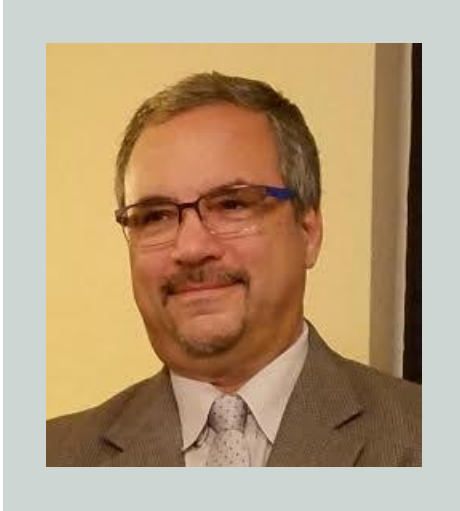
We have not installed many LED downlight lamps for 3 reasons:

1. **Maintenance.** The ballast remains a maintenance issue. If/when the ballast fails, we have to track down and find a ballast that works, which can be a maintenance hassle years down the road.
2. **Utility incentives.** Utilities don't offer incentives for lighting technologies that do not remove the existing ballasts.
3. **Energy savings.** Other retrofit options can provide higher energy savings.



# GSA Feedback—Greater Southwest Region 7

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**Frank Campagna**

Supervisory Energy PM  
Greater Southwest Region 7

# Greater Southwest Region 7–Feedback

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- Good practice to interview facility maintenance before the project to discover how many ballasts have been replaced and how old the system is.
- If failure is higher than 25%, a ballast replacement may be in order before installing the LED lamp. Have seen ballasts fail after installing new lamps.
- Let ballasts cool down for 10-15 minutes before replacing with LED to avoid latency start-up issues with LED lamp.



# Greater Southwest Region 7–Deployment

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1 batch of lamps had a manufacturing defect that caused flickering. Lunera identified the problem and replaced all defective lamps.

Lunera spec'd in several of upcoming projects though there are now other options that meet these specs.

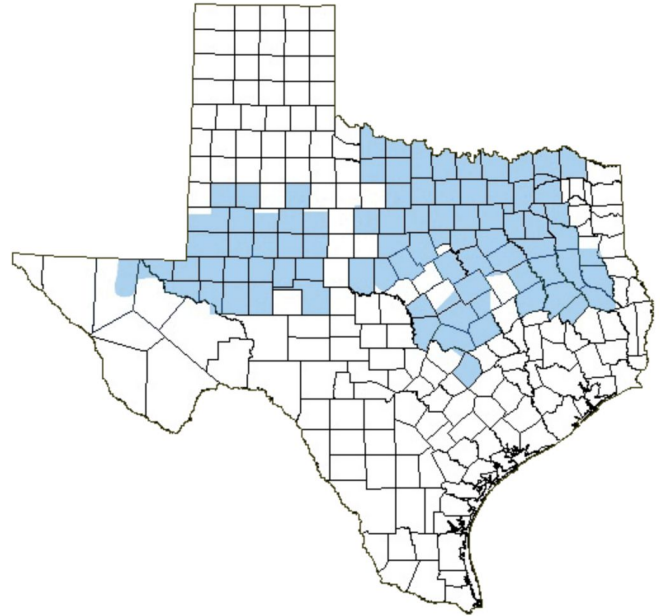


# Greater Southwest Region 7–Deployment

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ONCOR utility incentive in Texas for  
downlight LED lamps, though not for linear  
LED bulbs without the ballast.

1,200 26W CFLs to 13W LEDs  
\$4,200 incentive



Q & A



# Survey and Continuing Education Credit

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Complete the post-webinar survey, or contact Michael Hobson,  
[michael.hobson@gsa.gov](mailto:michael.hobson@gsa.gov)

## GPG Outbrief 11: LED Downlight Lamps for CFL Fixtures

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Email address \*

Your email

Continuing Education Credit

Check here to request a certificate for 1 CE unit.

AIA Number

Your answer

First Name and Last Name

Your answer

The information presented in the Outbrief webinar was helpful.

1 2 3 4 5  
Strongly Disagree      Strongly Agree

I am interested in installing LED Downlight Lamps for CFL Fixtures

- Yes, in the next 2 years.
- Yes, in the next 5 years.
- Maybe
- No

Thank you

For more information: [gsa.gov/GPG](https://gsa.gov/GPG)

Michael Hobson, Project Manager [michael.hobson@gsa.gov](mailto:michael.hobson@gsa.gov) 312.353.4871

Kevin Powell, Program Manager [kevin.powell@gsa.gov](mailto:kevin.powell@gsa.gov) 510.423.3384