



For Immediate Release
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Contact: Mike Klemens
217 782-3128

SPRINGFIELD – The Department of Revenue today urged last minute tax filers who are expecting refunds to choose electronic filing to get their refunds fast instead of filing on paper and waiting and wondering when their refund will arrive.

The department, as it has since for the last six years, will pay accurately filed electronic refunds in a week, while it will take months to process the 2 million paper tax returns filed at the last minute.

Each year the department receives thousands of calls in May and June from taxpayers asking when they will receive their refunds, a problem that can be eliminated if taxpayers file their electronically.

Taxpayers can tell their tax professionals to file their returns electronically, they can use tax preparation software (like TaxCut or Turbo Tax) to file electronically, or they can file for free on the department's web site at www.tax.illinois.gov.

Electronic filing cuts out mail delays, along with the time spent in manually opening, sorting, and keying in information from paper returns. So far this year more than 2.4 million taxpayers have filed electronically.

Electronic filing allows taxpayers confidential tax information to flow from their computers to ours; electronic filers get a confirmation number to prove that they have filed; and electronic returns also have fewer errors because of checks built into the software and because the software does the addition and subtraction.

Many taxpayers can file their federal tax returns for free on line at www.irs.gov and nearly all taxpayers can file their Illinois returns for free at www.tax.illinois.gov.

The 2007 tax filing deadline is midnight on Tuesday.