



## Governor's Energy Office

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**CONTACT:**  
Megan Castle, 303.866.2262

**“GOVERNOR’S ENERGY OFFICE ANNOUNCES STATEWIDE RESIDENTIAL SOLAR PROGRAM”**  
*Rebates Offered for Solar Electric and Domestic Hot Water Systems*

DENVER— The Governor’s Energy Office (GEO) is pleased to announce the launch of statewide residential Solar Residential Program. This program was created in response to the growing demand of homeowners to reduce their carbon footprint, participate in the New Energy Economy, and to take advantage of Colorado’s abundant solar resources.

GEO will partner with interested cities, municipalities, utilities, and non-profits by offering matching grants of up to \$25,000 to develop local solar electric and solar domestic hot water rebate programs. In total, this will create a \$1,000,000 fund from which to initiate a solar rebate incentive and training program.

“While publicly regulated utilities such as Xcel offer rebates for solar electric systems, there are many other utilities in the state where incentives aren’t available,” said Tom Plant, director of GEO. “We are initiating this program to open the opportunity to participate in the New Energy Economy to all Coloradans, regardless of where you live.”

The solar electric rebate will be offered outside of Xcel Energy and Aquila service territories. The solar domestic hot water rebate will be offered statewide and program participants may be eligible for both the system rebates.

Homeowner participants of the solar electric rebate will be required to provide documentation that a home energy audit has been performed. “We are proposing an energy audit requirement because efficiency should always come first”, said Plant.

“GEO is also including solar domestic hot water systems in this program, because we believe this is a great way to help homeowners reduce heating costs, energy consumption and reduce carbon emissions,” said Plant. In the average Colorado home, up to 15% of the annual energy consumed is for domestic water heating.

The Solar Residential Program will be administered by the Colorado Solar Energy Industries Association (CoSEIA). CoSEIA, founded in 1989, is a 227 member network of solar electric and solar hot water installers and dealers around the state. GEO is currently collecting Letter of Interest forms for program partners. Solar Program Letter of Interest forms can be found at GEO’s website, [www.colorado.gov/energy](http://www.colorado.gov/energy).

“CoSEIA’s experience positions us to make GEO’s statewide residential solar program be a success. This program will certainly help grow Colorado’s solar industry and help solar to be recognized as a clean, reliable and now, cost-competitive source of power,” stated Lynn Hirshman, CoSEIA’s Executive Director.

Funding for this program was created through the Clean Energy Fund, passed during the 2007 legislative session.

For more information on the Residential Solar Program, contact CoSEIA: (303)333-7342 or [info@coseia.org](mailto:info@coseia.org).

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