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GOV. RITTER CONGRATULATES COLORADO SPRINGS AND FOREST CITY STAPLETON FOR ENERGY STAR AWARDS

Gov. Bill Ritter today congratulated two Colorado organizations, Colorado Springs Utilities and Forest City Stapleton, for being selected by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of Energy as 2008 ENERGY STAR Award winners.

The EPA and DOE honored businesses and organizations earlier this month for their outstanding contributions to reducing greenhouse gas emissions through energy efficiency. Colorado Springs Utilities was selected as a "Partner of the Year" and Forest City Stapleton received an "Award for Excellence." The award winners were selected from among more than 12,000 organizations that partner in the Energy Star program.

"Congratulations to Colorado Springs Utilities and Forest City Stapleton for being recognized as national leaders in energy efficiency," Gov. Ritter said. "Energy efficiency is a cornerstone of the New Energy Economy, and one that makes an immediate impact on overall energy consumption and protects the environment."

Colorado Springs Utilities is a community-owned organization that provides natural gas, electricity, water and wastewater services. It received the award for outstanding efforts to improve the energy efficiency of new residential construction in the Colorado Springs market. The goal of this program is to achieve electric and natural gas savings by transforming the market for ENERGY STAR qualified homes.

Forest City Stapleton is the master developer of Stapleton, the largest urban redevelopment project in the nation. Forest City has undertaken an impressive set of activities to make this redevelopment project a leading example of energy efficiency, and among its many achievements is making 100 percent of its new homes ENERGY STAR certified.

ENERGY STAR offers businesses and consumers energy-efficient solutions to save energy, money, and help protect the environment for future generations. For more information about Energy Star, visit: <http://www.energystar.gov/awards>.

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