



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MONDAY, APRIL 14, 2008

CONTACT:

Megan Castle, 303.866.2262

GOVERNOR'S ENERGY OFFICE LAUNCHES STATEWIDE ENERGY CODE TRAININGS

The Governor's Energy Office (GEO) today announced it will offer, in partnership with local building departments, statewide residential and commercial energy code training workshops. The training workshops will specifically focus on the 2003 and versions of the International Energy Conservation Codes (IECC 2006 and IECC 2003). Workshops will begin April 22, 2008, and will be offered in 28 locations around the state.

During the 2007 legislative session, House Bill 1146 (HB 1146), was passed to improve the energy efficiency of Colorado's new buildings as part of the New Energy Economy. HB 1146 calls for all jurisdictions that have a building code to adopt a minimum energy code standard by July 1, 2008.

Training will be delivered by a nationally recognized code training organization, International Code Council (ICC), at no cost to Colorado code officials, homebuilders, developers, architects, engineers and other building industry groups. Additionally, all attendees will receive complimentary official code books, work book resources and continuing technical assistance from ICC.

"According to the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), 76% of all power plant generated electricity is used to operate buildings. Also, by 2030, over half of Colorado's buildings will have been built since 2000, which means that the policies we put in place today to conserve energy in our buildings will resonate for generations," said Tom Plant, GEO director.

"While many communities have experience with creating strong local energy efficient codes, others will be working with these energy efficiency codes for the first time. GEO's workshops will provide training to increase the adoption of energy efficiency measures, and ultimately help jurisdictions build better communities."

Plant estimates that 1,400 individuals will take advantage of the 28 statewide workshops. The final workshop is planned for June 20, with the possibility of additional scheduled trainings later in the year.

Adopting energy codes for our commercial and residential sectors are a key component of the Governor's carbon reduction plan outlined in Colorado's Climate Action Plan. GEO has allocated more than \$225,000 of funding from DOE and Colorado's Clean Energy Fund to assist jurisdictions with the energy code adoption process.

E-Star Colorado, a non-profit that provides resources to Colorado code officials on energy issues, is working with GEO to manage the registration process, visit www.e-star.org to enroll in a workshop. For the complete training schedule and for more information on GEO's energy code programs, visit www.colorado.gov/energy.

###