



COLORADO
Energy Office

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Office of Gov. John Hickenlooper

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Colorado Energy Office Joins Better Buildings Clean Energy in Low-Income Communities Accelerator

Dept. of Energy Collaboration Deploys Clean Energy to Expanded Network of Residents

DENVER – May 12, 2016 – The U.S. Energy Department announced three new Better Buildings Accelerators and 50 new partners working together to help the nation seize opportunities to improve critical infrastructure in our communities. As a partner in the [Better Buildings Clean Energy in Low-Income Communities Accelerator](#), the Colorado Energy Office (CEO) will work with the U.S. Department of Energy to support clean energy adoption for low-income communities.

"The Colorado Energy Office's partnership with the Department of Energy continues to support our innovative work on low-income energy efficiency and renewable energy in the state and offers an opportunity to share what we have learned nationwide," said Director of Low-Income Energy Services, Joseph Pereira.

CEO's Weatherization Assistance Program is a national leader, with innovative approaches to reduce energy costs for the state's highest need customers - those who spend more than 4 percent of their income on utility bills. The office recently launched the nation's first low-income community shared solar demonstration project and became the first state weatherization program that will be offering rooftop photovoltaics.

The Better Buildings **Clean Energy in Low-Income Communities Accelerator** supports the President's Climate Action Plan with a goal to accelerate investment in home energy efficiency improvement projects across the country. The focus of the collaboration is to lower energy bills in low-income communities through expanded installation of energy efficiency and distributed renewables. The program will encourage the development of innovative partnerships, best practices and funding models that a state-level agency, local government or utility program could deploy for communities that need it the most. A full list of partners is available [here](#).

"Thanks to a dedicated drive to actively create and share the best energy efficiency solutions, Better Buildings partners have dramatically cut their energy waste and saved more than a billion dollars since the Better Buildings initiative was launched five years ago," said Energy Secretary Ernest Moniz. "As the initiative continues to grow, we are moving the nation forward by reducing energy costs and carbon emissions through energy efficiency."

Better Buildings Accelerators were developed based on high priority issues that organizations and governments across the U.S. are actively working to solve, despite critical policy, financial

and technology challenges. In the recently-released [2016 Better Buildings Progress Update](#), DOE also announced new partners in the [Better Buildings Combined Heat and Power for Resiliency Accelerator](#), aiming to support and expand the consideration of combined heat and power technologies for improved efficiency and enhanced resiliency, and the [Better Buildings Wastewater Infrastructure Accelerator](#), with partners striving toward a 30 percent reduction in their participating energy efficiency water resource recovery facilities and integrate at least one resource recovery measure.

As a cornerstone of the President's Climate Action Plan, the Better Buildings Initiative aims to make commercial, public, industrial, and residential buildings 20 percent more energy efficient over the next decade. This means saving hundreds of billions of dollars on energy bills, reducing GHG emissions, and creating thousands of jobs. Through Better Buildings, public and private sector organizations across the country are working together to share and replicate positive gains in energy efficiency.

For a detailed progress update on Better Buildings Accelerators, and for more information on partners and their energy efficiency work, visit:

<http://betterbuildingssolutioncenter.energy.gov/accelerators>

About Colorado Energy Office

The Colorado Energy Office works to improve the effective use of all of Colorado's energy resources and the efficient consumption of energy in all economic sectors that benefit the economic and environmental health of the state. Visit the website at www.colorado.gov/energy.

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