



Southwest Energy Efficiency Project
Saving Money and Reducing Pollution through Energy Conservation

PRESS RELEASE

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SWEEP ANNOUNCES 2010 ENERGY EFFICIENCY AWARD WINNERS

(Phoenix, AZ) – The Southwest Energy Efficiency Project (SWEEP) is pleased to announce that the Arizona Corporation Commission, Chairperson Kristin Mayes of the Arizona Corporation Commission, and Nevada State Senator Michael Schneider are the winners of its 2010 Leadership in Energy Efficiency Awards. The awards are given annually to individuals or organizations who demonstrate a strong commitment to advancing energy efficiency in the Southwest.

During the past year, the Arizona Corporation Commission (ACC) adopted energy efficiency standards for electric utilities and rural electric cooperatives that are among the strongest energy savings requirements in the nation. Investor-owned utilities will be required to save the equivalent of 22% of their electricity sales from energy efficiency programs by 2020. The ACC also adopted energy efficiency standards for natural gas utilities. SWEEP's Leadership in Energy Efficiency award is being presented to all members of the Arizona Corporation Commission as well as to its Chairperson, Kristin Mayes. Under Ms. Mayes' leadership, the ACC has made increasing energy efficiency and reducing customer utility bills a top priority.

Senator Michael Schneider from Clark County, Nevada served in the Nevada Assembly 1993-95 and in the Nevada Senate from 1996 through the present time. He is the Chair of the Senate's Energy, Infrastructure, and Transportation Committee. In that capacity he has sponsored and supported numerous policies that will increase energy efficiency in Nevada including lighting efficiency standards, building energy code provisions, promotion of energy-efficient mortgages, utility energy efficiency policies, and utility accounting for future regulation of carbon emissions.

This year's awards were presented at the Southwest Regional Energy Efficiency Workshop organized by SWEEP and held in Las Vegas, Nevada. The awards were presented by Howard Geller, SWEEP's Executive Director. "The energy efficiency policies adopted or advanced by the Arizona Corporation Commission, ACC Chair Kristin Mayes, and Nevada Senator Michael Schneider will save consumers and businesses billions of dollars. SWEEP is proud to recognize these outstanding contributions to improved energy efficiency in the Southwest," Geller said.

About SWEEP: The Southwest Energy Efficiency Project (SWEEP) is a public interest organization dedicated to advancing energy efficiency in Arizona, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming. To learn more, visit www.swenergy.org.