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Colorado Energy Science Center Partners with Xcel Energy To Award Over \$50,000 in Home Energy Improvements during Energy Makeover Contest

LAKEWOOD, CO -- Colorado Energy Science Center (CESC) and Xcel Energy are partnering for the third consecutive year to award two Xcel Energy customers with energy-related home improvements worth over \$25,000 each. The contest begins July 15, 2006 and ends September 22, 2006. Contest entry forms and details are being distributed through Xcel Energy's August bill newsletter and online at www.SmartEnergyLiving.org.

Two Xcel Energy customers with higher-than-average home energy bills will be chosen from among the contest entry forms. CESC and contest co-sponsors, who donate the equipment and labor required for a complete home energy makeover, will select the contest finalists. Consideration will be based on an analysis of the homeowners' energy bills over the last 12 months and other criteria such as which homes will best showcase a complete energy efficiency retrofit.

The contest is designed to bring attention to the many options homeowners have to reduce their energy bills, improve home comfort, and address indoor air quality and durability concerns. The first contest launched in September 2004 yielded over 9,000 applicants and the second contest saw a 70% growth in applications to more than 16,000. Applicants receive free energy efficiency information from CESC and Xcel Energy.

Last year's energy results are being published regularly in Xcel Energy's bill newsletter, through segments on the Comcast On Demand, and CESC's magazine Smart Energy Living. One 2005 winner saved 70% percent on their energy costs and the other winner saved 62%. A complete report of last year's winners, contest rules and an application is available online at www.SmartEnergyLiving.org.

CESC is a non-profit energy education organization dedicated to educating consumers about home energy efficiency. The organization holds regular consumer workshops, publishes a semi-annual magazine called Smart Energy Living, and also runs a contest with Colorado Springs Utilities.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Colorado Energy Science Center, www.SmartEnergyLiving.org
Xcel Energy, www.xcelenergy.com

