



Southwest Energy Efficiency Project

Saving Money and Reducing Pollution through Energy Conservation

PRESS RELEASE

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NV Energy Slated to Save Customers \$495 Million

Las Vegas, NV – NV Energy customers will enjoy \$495 million in future energy savings thanks to the Public Utilities Commission's decision today to approve the utility's 2010-2029 resource plan.

The 20-year plan approved by Commissioners today includes NV Energy's investment strategy for energy-saving programs over the next three years. NV Energy is considered a leader among western utilities in helping its customers save energy. The utility will invest \$210 million on energy-saving programs according to the plan, which in turn will save ratepayers \$495 million over 20 years.

While the \$210 million investment is a 79 percent increase over the utility's energy efficiency spending in 2007-2009, it is still \$40 million below what the company indicated it could do and still save its customers money.

The Southwest Energy Efficiency Project (SWEEP) had proposed to Commissioners that they increase NV Energy's investment in efficiency programs by an additional \$40 million, which would have saved customers \$72 million according to the company's own estimates.

"We are disappointed that the Commission did not take this plan one step further to get an even better deal for NV Energy customers," said Howard Geller, Executive Director of SWEEP.

While a leader in efficiency and local clean energy development, NV Energy is still highly dependent on importing fuel from out of state to produce electricity in Nevada. On average, the utility spends \$1 billion a year in ratepayer money importing coal and natural gas from out of state.

"As an NV Energy customer, I would rather see more of that money stay in state and help me, my family and my neighbors make improvements to our homes, schools and businesses that lower energy bills and create good local jobs," said Steve Wiel, Nevada representative of SWEEP. "Nevada's economy is on the ropes and needs the long-term benefits that energy efficiency provides," he added.

According to the American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy, it costs about four times less to save a kilowatt of energy through investments in efficiency than it does to produce one.

“Energy efficiency is the cheapest, cleanest and least controversial energy resource. The Commission should require utilities to do all that is possible to help its customers save energy and money. Policy makers and the public should demand it.” Geller said.

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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 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.