



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

PRESS RELEASE

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**ENERGY EFFICIENCY AGREEMENT AT APS
WILL BENEFIT ARIZONA CONSUMERS**

(Phoenix, AZ) -- The Southwest Energy Efficiency Project (SWEEP) applauds an agreement announced today to expand energy efficiency programs operated by Arizona Public Service Company (APS). The agreement is part of a rate case settlement proposal submitted to the Arizona Corporation Commission.

If the agreement is approved, APS will spend \$16 million per year on energy efficiency programs starting in 2005. These programs help consumers and businesses adopt cost-effective energy efficiency measures through education, financial incentives, training, technical assistance, and other mechanisms. For comparison, APS is spending only about \$1 million on energy efficiency programs this year.

“The Southwest Energy Efficiency Project (SWEEP) urges the Arizona Corporation Commission to approve this agreement and the increased commitment to energy efficiency in it,” stated Jeff Schlegel, SWEEP’s Arizona representative. “It will greatly expand APS’ energy efficiency programs, thereby saving consumers and businesses money, reducing load growth, cutting water use for power generation, and reducing air pollution and carbon emissions. Increased energy efficiency will also enhance the reliability of the electricity grid and diversify energy resources.”

“The agreement is an important step forward in reducing energy waste in Arizona,” commented Howard Geller, SWEEP’s Executive Director. “By taking advantage of energy efficiency programs and measures, consumers can lower their energy bills even though electricity prices are rising. In addition to supporting this agreement, SWEEP urges other utilities in Arizona to greatly expand their energy efficiency programs as well.”

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. For more information, visit the SWEEP website at www.swenergy.org.