

Southwest Energy Efficiency Project

Saving Money and Reducing Pollution through Energy Conservation

2010 Annual Report

2010 was another successful year for the Southwest Energy Efficiency Project (SWEEP). Funding for electric utility energy efficiency programs in the region reached approximately \$272 million in 2010, a 14% increase compared to funding in 2009. Three southwest states – Arizona, New Mexico, and Utah – were recognized as "most improved states" in the ACEEE 2010 State Energy Efficiency Scorecard, with Utah rising to a tie for 12th place among all states in the nation. Other 2010 highlights include Arizona completing adoption of stringent electric energy and natural gas efficiency standards, New Mexico adopting a strong statewide building energy code, and SWEEP and partners launching the innovative Colorado Industrial Energy Challenge program. In addition, SWEEP significantly expanded its staff in 2010.

Utility Program

SWEEP continued to play a major role in the expansion of utility energy efficiency programs in the southwest region in 2010. Total funding for electric utility demand-side management (DSM) programs in the region increased from about \$238 million in 2009 to \$272 million in 2010 (see Table 1 below). Of particular note were the increases in Arizona, Colorado, and New Mexico. If utility efficiency programs continue to be funded at the level of \$272 million per year (a conservative assumption since DSM budgets will continue to grow), utility programs will reduce the need for multiple new power plants by 2015.

| | DSM program budget (million \$ per year) | | | | | | |
|--------|---|------|------|------|------|------|--|
| State | 2002 | 2004 | 2006 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | |
| AZ | 4 | 4 | 19 | 40 | 50 | 82 | |
| СО | 11 | 21 | 18 | 28 | 53 | 66 | |
| NV | 3 | 11 | 30 | 55 | 58 | 45 | |
| NM | 1 | 1 | 1 | 10 | 16 | 24 | |
| UT | 9 | 16 | 27 | 36 | 60 | 52 | |
| WY | ~0 | ~0 | ~0 | ~0 | 1 | 3 | |
| Region | 29 | 54 | 95 | 169 | 238 | 272 | |

Table 1 - Electric Utility DSM Spending in the Southwest, 2002-10

SWEEP advocates for increased funding for utility energy efficiency programs as an intervener in proceedings before state public utility commissions. In addition, we work collaboratively with utilities on the design of energy efficiency programs and provide advice to regulators and state policy makers. In 2010, we helped Arizona Public Service, Nevada Power Company, Sierra Pacific Power Company, PacifiCorp, Public Service of New Mexico, Salt River Project, Tucson Electric Power, and Xcel Energy with the design of their demand-side management (DSM) programs. These programs are leading to the adoption of more efficient appliances, efficient new homes, and efficiency improvements in commercial buildings and industries.

Table 2 estimates the total energy savings, net economic benefits, and avoided CO_2 emissions from DSM programs implemented by utilities during 2003-2010. In total, we estimate that households and businesses throughout the region will realize about \$2.9 billion in net economic benefits from DSM programs implemented by utilities in the region during 2003-2010. Likewise, we estimate these programs cut CO_2 emissions by about 4.9 million metric tons in 2010 alone, with about 14.7 million metric tons of avoided CO_2 emissions during 2003-2010. Thus, with strong support by SWEEP, utility DSM programs are now providing significant economic and environmental benefits in the southwest region.

| | | Energy | Net Economic | |
|-------|------------|--------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| | First-year | Savings from | Benefits from | Avoided CO ₂ |
| | Energy | Cumulative | Annual | Emissions ² |
| Year | Savings | Programs | Programs ¹ | (1000 metric |
| | (GWh/yr) | (GWh/yr) | (Million \$) | tons) |
| 2003 | 175 | 175 | 113 | 122 |
| 2004 | 240 | 415 | 146 | 290 |
| 2005 | 350 | 765 | 189 | 535 |
| 2006 | 625 | 1,390 | 256 | 973 |
| 2007 | 930 | 2,320 | 332 | 1,624 |
| 2008 | 1,400 | 3,720 | 459 | 2,604 |
| 2009 | 1,510 | 5,230 | 649 | 3,661 |
| 2010 | 1,725 | 6,955 | 742 | 4,868 |
| Total | 6,955 | | 2,886 | 14,677 |

| Table 2 - Electricity Savings, Net Economic Benefits, and Avoided CO ₂ Emissi | ons |
|--|-----|
| from Electric Utility DSM Programs in the Southwest | |

- Notes: 1) Assumes that the total investment in energy efficiency measures is 1.8 times the utility program cost and that programs have a benefit-cost ratio of 2.5 on average using the Total Resource Cost test.
 - 2) Assumes 700 metric tons of avoided CO₂ emissions per GWh of electricity savings on average based on avoiding an equal share of coal-fired and natural gas-fired generation.

<u>Arizona</u>

SWEEP worked directly with the utilities and appeared before the Arizona Corporation Commission (ACC) on numerous occasions in 2010. Funding for electric utility DSM programs increased from about \$50 million in 2009 to \$82 million in 2010. We advised all three major utilities – Arizona Public Service Co. (APS), Salt River Project (SRP), and Tucson Electric Power (TEP) – as they developed new and expanded energy efficiency programs in the context of higher energy savings goals and the newly adopted energy efficiency standards approved by the ACC. As a result of program expansion, both APS and TEP achieved more than 1% savings as a fraction of retail sales from DSM programs implemented in 2010. This was the first time the utilities exceeded this threshold.

In July 2010, the ACC completed approval of long-term energy savings requirements for electric utility energy efficiency programs. As a result, APS and TEP are required to achieve 20% electricity savings by 2020, with interim savings requirements each year starting in 2011. This is one of the strongest energy efficiency standards in the country. SWEEP provided much of the framework and details for these rules including proposing numerous amendments that were approved by the ACC. This was a major victory for SWEEP and our allies!

The ACC also adopted energy savings requirements for investor-owned gas utilities in 2010. This standard requires gas utilities to achieve 6% energy savings by 2020, three-fourths of which must be achieved through utility efficiency programs. The remainder can come from support for codes and standards and combined heat and power projects. This is a challenging natural gas savings requirement for a state with minimal space heating load.

The ACC approved new Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) rules that will require utilities to conduct periodic planning of their future resource requirements in 2010. SWEEP actively participated in the workshops and rulemaking process to ensure that energy efficiency will be fairly considered by utilities in the development of their integrated resource plans. Last but not least, the ACC unanimously approved a policy statement that that supports full decoupling of utility recovery of authorized fixed costs and energy sales. The policy encourages investor-owned electric and gas utilities to file specific decoupling proposals in their next general rate cases. SWEEP played an instrumental role in supporting the decoupling policy.

During 2010 SWEEP also helped Arizona utilities develop energy efficiency financing programs. In particular we assisted UniSource Energy, (the parent company for Tucson Electric Power, UNS Gas and UNS Electric) to develop an energy efficiency loan program for its residential customers. The program will provide loans to customers at about 7% interest rate and with terms going out to 12 years. These loan terms will result in low and affordable monthly payments, thereby facilitating implementation of more costly home retrofit projects.

<u>Colorado</u>

SWEEP helped the main electric utility in Colorado (Xcel Energy) as it expanded its DSM programs in 2010. We provided numerous recommendations that influenced its 2010 DSM programs, and in mid-2010 we provided input concerning the company's 2011 DSM plan. We also helped Xcel Energy secure more favorable shareholder incentives tied to the performance of their DSM programs in 2010 and 2011. This action resulted from a docket in which SWEEP developed a compromise proposal that was accepted by both customer representatives and the utility. In addition, SWEEP began working in 2010 on a docket regarding Xcel's long-term energy savings goals and shareholder incentive mechanism. This docket concluded in 2011 with the Colorado PUC adopting SWEEP's recommendation regarding electric energy savings goals.

In 2010, SWEEP also participated in an Xcel Energy rate case in which we advocated for strong inverted block rates. The PUC adopted inverted block rates for residential customers, although the rate differential across blocks is not as great as SWEEP advocated; i.e., this was a partial victory.

SWEEP worked on expanding the energy efficiency programs of municipal utilities and rural electric co-ops in Colorado. In particular, we advised Tri-State Generation and Transmission Company as they prepared a DSM potential study and an Integrated Resource Plan (IRP). The potential study shows substantial cost-effective energy savings potential in the service areas of the rural electric co-ops served by Tri-State. During preparation of the IRP, we advocated that Tri-State maximize implementation of clean, low-cost energy resources prior to investing in any new fossil fuel-based resources going forward. The IRP shows that moving from low investment to high investment in DSM programs could save Tri-State and its members \$280 million. Tri-State expanded the energy efficiency programs it offers in partnership with its members in 2011.

<u>Nevada</u>

Nevada Power Company and Sierra Pacific Power Company spent about \$45 million on their demand-side management (DSM) programs in 2010, down somewhat from the level in 2009. The reduction was due mainly to the delay in approving Nevada Power Company's new DSM plan as well as the severe recession in the state. Nonetheless, the utilities are implementing comprehensive programs and achieving substantial energy savings. Nevada Power Company, the main utility in the state serving the metro Las Vegas area, reduced load growth by about 1.3% per year as a result of DSM programs implemented in 2010 alone. Nevada Power continues to be the leading utility in the region with respect to energy savings from DSM programs.

SWEEP helped the Nevada utilities plan new and expanded efficiency programs in 2010. At the same time we intervened in two important dockets—one regarding Nevada Power's new Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) and 2010-2012 DSM plan, the other regarding Sierra Pacific Power's new IRP and 2011-2013 DSM plan. We advocated that the utilities implement stronger and better-funded DSM programs compared to what the utilities proposed, and we helped to fend off the funding cuts proposed by the staff of the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada (PUCN). While we were not successful in convincing the PUCN to support all of our proposals, in both cases the Commission approved increased funding for DSM programs relative to the funding levels in previous three-year DSM plans.

SWEEP participated in other dockets before the PUCN in 2010. These included dockets on resource planning and on providing utilities with compensation for net lost revenues from DSM programs. The latter was in response to a policy enacted by the legislature in 2009. In addition, we petitioned the PUCN to invite Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory to conduct analysis of different approaches to rewarding the shareholders of Nevada Power and Sierra Pacific Power for implementation of effective DSM programs for their customers. The PUCN approved our petition and this work will go forward in 2011.

New Mexico

Electric utilities in New Mexico are ramping up their DSM programs with statewide DSM expenditures increasing about 50% between 2009 and 2010. SWEEP helped the utilities develop new and enhanced DSM programs during this period. We also participated in DSM dockets for all three investor-owned electric utilities in the state: Public Service Company of New Mexico (PNM), Southwestern Public Service Company (SPS), and El Paso Electric (EPE). In these dockets SWEEP served as an expert witness on behalf of the Coalition for Clean and Affordable Energy (CCAE). In the cases of SPS and EPE, settlement agreements were reached and approved by the New Mexico Public Regulation Commission (PRC). The settlements included a number of recommendations made by SWEEP.

In the case of PNM, the utility accepted most of our recommended program additions and enhancements. The PRC will reach a decision in this case in 2011. If our recommendations are approved, PNM's total DSM budget will grow from \$12 million in 2009 to about \$19 million per year with about a 60% increase in annual energy savings.

We also participated in a rulemaking initiated by the PRC to work out the details of how shareholder disincentives and incentives are to be addressed in New Mexico. In particular we helped to develop a consensus proposal that the utilities, PRC staff, and other clean energy advocates all supported. This consensus proposal, which included interim incentive formulas, was approved by the PRC. We continue to provide input on the issue of a permanent policy on disincentives and incentives in New Mexico.

Last but not least, SWEEP intervened in PNM's general rate case in 2010. Our intervention focused on supporting decoupling as well as the four-block tiered rates proposed by PNM for its residential customers. Unfortunately neither of these policies was included in a settlement agreement reached by PNM, Staff of the Commission, and the state's consumer advocate. The PRC will reach a decision in this case in mid-2011.

<u>Utah</u>

In Utah, SWEEP and its partner/contractor Utah Clean Energy (UCE) continued to advise Rocky Mountain Power (RMP), the main electric utility, on DSM programs and policies including advocating for a new information feedback program to drive changes in consumer behavior. SWEEP and UCE also supported decoupling and shareholder incentives, as well as other policies that would maintain strong utility support of cost-effective energy efficiency programs. In 2009-2010, RMP boosted its DSM budget to \$50-55 million per year and increased energy savings by nearly 40% relative to what was achieved in 2008.

Questar Gas Corporation, the natural gas utility in Utah, also greatly expanded its energy efficiency programs in 2009-10 with a budget and energy savings levels that are both more than double the levels in 2007. With support from SWEEP and UCE, Questar has become a leading gas utility in terms of energy efficiency efforts. The specific DSM programs that we advised Questar and RMP on in 2010 include a comprehensive Home Performance with ENERGY STAR home retrofit program, a retrofit program for multifamily housing, residential new construction programs, and education and behavior change-oriented programs including home energy reports that expected to be launched in 2011.

In addition, SWEEP took the lead in writing a paper for the 2010 ACEEE Summer Study on Energy Efficiency in Buildings titled "*The Utah Story: Rapid Growth of Utility Energy Efficiency and Load Management Programs in the Intermountain West.*" The paper reports on the growth of energy efficiency programs by the investorowned electric and gas utilities in Utah, the policy drivers for this growth, and the positive impacts that the energy efficiency programs are having. The paper should be helpful to other energy efficiency advocates especially those working in conservative states.

Wyoming

SWEEP was not actively engaged in utility energy efficiency policy or program matters in Wyoming in 2010. However, SWEEP intervened in a docket in early 2011 pertaining to RMP's DSM programs in the state (RMP is the largest electric utility in Wyoming). This docket is expected to result in significant expansion of RMP's energy efficiency programs in the state.

Buildings Program

The SWEEP buildings program team and regional representatives promoted the adoption of the 2009 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) and green building codes for communities that have already adopted the newer IECC. SWEEP also supported the adoption of the 2012 version of the IECC by the International Codes Council by educating code officials in the region and encouraging them to participate in

code adoption hearings. In addition, SWEEP advocated and supported programs to encourage beyond-code new construction in 2010.

In Arizona, SWEEP provided training on the 2009 IECC to a group of code enforcement officials and city representatives at the Arizona Building Officials Educational Institute. SWEEP continued to promote the adoption of the 2009 IECC at the local level and through continuous discussions with the state energy office, cities and counties, and Arizona Building Officials. SWEEP also worked at the Arizona Corporation Commission to advance energy codes as part of utility energy efficiency programs. The new Energy Efficiency Standards (described above) allow a utility to count a portion of energy savings from codes towards achievement of the standards if the utility supports code adoption and/or implementation. SWEEP also worked with the City of Phoenix in support of their adoption of the International Green Construction Code in 2011 and supported the City of Mesa with preparation of an outreach plan in support of their adoption of the 2009 IECC.

In Colorado, SWEEP developed regional standards for green building in the Denver metropolitan area with a regional task force comprised of building officials, trade associations, homebuilders, policy advocates, and others. SWEEP also was actively engaged with the Governor's Energy Office (GEO) on the development of an Executive Order that would require local jurisdictions with building codes to adopt an energy code at least as stringent as the 2009 IECC. The Executive Order was drafted with input from SWEEP and supported by GEO, but it was not issued by Governor Ritter prior to his leaving office at the end of 2010. We continue to advocate for issuance of this Executive Order in 2011.

In Nevada, SWEEP supported the adoption of the 2009 IECC at the regional level, most notably in the greater Las Vegas area. All jurisdictions in Clark County adopted the 2009 IECC; the new code will take effect July 1, 2011. In addition, SWEEP worked with the Nevada Energy Commissioner on multiple fronts to advance energy efficiency in buildings. This work included assisting with a plan for adoption of an energy code that applies to new buildings that are constructed outside of jurisdictions with local energy codes, as well as providing substantial input as the Energy Commissioner developed rules for implementing a state law requiring energy performance disclosure at the time of home sale. However, the final rules were not satisfactory in our view as they only required disclosure of utility bills and home characteristics, not a home's energy efficiency rating. SWEEP also assisted the Director of the State Office of Energy in developing a system for monitoring and assessing the efficiency of state-owned buildings.

In New Mexico, SWEEP worked with the New Mexico Building Code Change Committee to drive the adoption of a new version of the New Mexico Energy Conservation Code. This code is based on 2009 IECC but includes additional requirements to reach the state's goal of 20% increase in efficiency over the 2006 IECC. SWEEP's New Mexico representative Tammy Fiebelkorn led the Code Change Committee that approved the residential and commercial code packages and sent them to the Construction Industries Commission (CIC) for final approval. New Mexico completed adoption of its new statewide energy codes in September 2010. This was a significant victory.

In Utah, SWEEP and its contractor Utah Clean Energy (UCE) actively promoted the adoption of the 2009 IECC. We carried out extensive analysis, outreach and advocacy of the 2009 IECC over the past year and we were successful in convincing the Uniform Building Code Commission and the state legislature to approve the 2009 IECC for new commercial buildings. However, due to opposition from some home builders, we were not successful in convincing the legislature to adopt the 2009 IECC for new residential buildings. This fight continues in 2011.

In Wyoming, SWEEP was successful communicating with the Wyoming Business Council (the state's energy office) on the importance of energy codes and building energy-efficient buildings. Working with NASEO and others, SWEEP was able to have five individuals from Wyoming attend the ICC code hearings in Charlotte, NC in late October. This effort led up to major changes in the state's interest in and support for energy codes starting in 2011.

In addition, the SWEEP buildings team prepared a report on utility new construction programs in the southwest region in 2010. The report, issued in February 2011, discusses the details of the various utility new construction programs in the region and their impacts, and provides conclusions and recommendations.

Transportation Program

The *Colorado Transportation Blueprint for the New Energy Economy* (completed in 2009) demonstrated that the strategies available to state and local governments with the greatest potential for reducing GHG emissions from the transportation sector are 1) policies that reduce vehicle miles traveled (VMT); 2) policies that accelerate the introduction of electric and hybrid electric light duty vehicles to replace gasoline vehicles; and 3) a reduction in the speed limit in high speed corridors to 55 mph.

The economic analysis that SWEEP performed for the Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG) demonstrated that \$4.4 billion in fuel cost savings alone could be achieved from regional development policies that channeled 80% of new housing and jobs within walking and biking distance of the region's FasTracks transit stations. In response, the Board adopted new planning goals for the region that include reducing per capita VMT 5% by 2020, and achieving a 40% reduction in GHG emissions. The DRCOG also appointed SWEEP's transportation program director to its workgroup responsible for developing the criteria to determine which transportation projects will receive federal funding. The Board subsequently adopted project selection criteria that include many of SWEEP's recommendations.

SWEEP briefed the Colorado Transportation Commission on the benefits to the State's economy if the State adopts policies that reduce VMT and CO2 emissions. We

also presented the results of an analysis showing that federal fuel economy standards would reduce revenues received from the gasoline tax by 10% between 2010 and 2035. This will exacerbate the funding shortfall for transportation. To complete the major transportation investments planned for the I-25 and I-70 corridors, we urged the Commission to adopt user fees to both generate the necessary funds, and to fulfill its obligation to reduce GHG emissions by reducing VMT.

To provide broader support for the adoption of highway user fees to pay for a proposed fixed guideway transit system linking Denver to the mountain towns along the I-70 corridor, SWEEP prepared an economic analysis of the effects that higher gasoline prices would likely have on travel to the mountain ski resorts. The analysis demonstrated that higher fuel prices would be expected to suppress discretionary travel and reduce economic activity in the mountain towns, but that if the proposed transit system were built the cost of travel to the mountain towns would remain affordable for most travelers. The analysis was submitted to Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT).

SWEEP developed for the Regional Air Quality Council (RAQC) an analysis of the strategies analyzed in the *Colorado Transportation Blueprint* for their potential to also reduce ozone precursor pollutants. The RAQC is the lead planning agency for the development of air quality control plans for the Denver Metro area. If these strategies are integrated into the new State plan for the implementation of EPA's revised national air quality standard for ozone, they will become enforceable obligations under the Clean Air Act. The analysis identified four strategies that could achieve significant reductions in ozone pollution: 1) reduce the speed limit on high speed corridors to 55 mph, 2) adopt user fees to fund the operation of the regional highway system, 3) complete the regional FasTracks system and link new development to FasTracks stations, and 4) accelerate the replacement of gasoline vehicles with electric vehicles.

SWEEP also prepared for the RAQC an analysis of the comparative benefits of converting gasoline vehicles to natural gas, electricity and biofuels. We are working with RAQC staff to develop a public campaign to promote the availability of federal and State tax credits to encourage the purchase of these alternative fuel vehicles. In 2008 SWEEP helped win passage of legislation that establishes a 75% income tax credit to help offset the incremental cost of high efficiency electric vehicles.

In 2010 SWEEP also completed development of a detailed legislative proposal for a revenue neutral program to accelerate the replacement of older gas guzzlers with new high efficiency vehicles. This program is designed to accelerate the normal rate of vehicle replacement, and to increase the market demand for the most efficient new vehicles. Patterned after the highly successful federal cash-for-clunkers program, the program is funded by an emissions impact fee on new vehicles that are less efficient than federal fuel efficiency standards. This proposal was presented to legislative leaders in Nevada, New Mexico and Colorado, but has not been introduced as legislation so far.

In the latter part of 2010 SWEEP worked on an in-depth *Nevada Transportation Blueprint*, building upon and going beyond the *Colorado Blueprint*. The Nevada

Blueprint was released in February 2011. It includes 15 major policies that could save the state \$4-6 billion in fuel costs by 2020 and \$38-57 billion by 2050. The report includes analysis of the potential economic and environmental benefits of each policy. We believe it will be very useful for years to come as Nevada addresses issues such as growing road congestion, rising transportation costs, and clean air requirements.

Industrial and Combined Heat and Power Program

SWEEP launched a new industrial efficiency program in March 2010 upon receiving a three-year contract from the Colorado Governor's Energy Office (GEO). The contract funds a state industrial energy efficiency program called the Colorado Industrial Energy Challenge (CIEC). The CIEC recruits industries and provides services to participating companies including free technical assistance, training workshops, and networking opportunities. Participating companies are required to set a five-year energy efficiency goal and to report energy consumption data annually. In addition, participating companies receive recognition from the Governor of Colorado. SWEEP leads the CIEC while partner organizations provide technical assistance to member companies.

Under SWEEP's leadership, the CIEC held its first recognition event for 13 participants with Governor Bill Ritter in July 2010. As of the end of 2010, the CIEC program had 18 industrial participants, each spending an average of \$6 million per year on energy. We also held two successful networking meetings, one training workshop, and completed or began energy assessments for several member companies in 2010. The program continued to gather momentum and began showing significant results in 2011.

SWEEP is also participating in a statewide industrial efficiency program in Utah. In this case we are helping to plan and organize training workshops (e.g., compressed air, steam systems). In addition, SWEEP received a foundation grant to encourage industrial energy efficiency in working with utilities and state energy offices in Arizona, Nevada, New Mexico, and Wyoming. Last but not least, we began helping the Western Governors Association organize a workshop on industrial efficiency in 2010. The workshop was held in Boise, ID in March 2011. In addition to helping to plan the workshop, SWEEP staff co-authored a white paper on industrial energy efficiency and associated state policies.

Our work promoting clean and efficient combined heat and power (CHP) in the Southwest also had a productive year. The U.S. DOE continued funding SWEEP to colead the U.S. DOE Intermountain Clean Energy Application Center which encourages the installation of well-designed and cost-effective CHP and waste heat recovery systems. The Center made progress in 2010 in convincing utilities and their regulators to recognize CHP as a utility DSM measure, thus acknowledging CHP's inherent energy efficiency. In particular, the Arizona Commission approved CHP as an eligible measure for meeting both the electric and gas energy efficiency standards adopted in 2009-10. Following this action, SWEEP worked directly with Arizona utilities to design pilot CHP incentive programs. The center also worked with rural electric co-ops and Tri-State G&T in Colorado on evaluating and encouraging projects that turn waste heat into electricity. These projects not only make efficient use of energy but also count towards Colorado's renewable energy standards.

To build a stronger base for our CHP policy work, SWEEP pursued other educational and outreach efforts including launching a modernized and upgraded website for the Center (www.intermountaincleanenergy.org), co-leading workshops in Phoenix and Tucson on CHP for commercial and industrial customers of Southwest Gas, writing project profiles of successful projects, and sending e-newsletters with CHP incentive and policy updates. In addition to our CHP policy and education work, SWEEP's partners provided more than a dozen individual businesses with feasibility assessments to help determine if CHP is a good technical and economic fit for a facility, answers to specific technical or regulatory questions, and assistance in navigating and removing barriers that would have otherwise prevented individual projects from moving forward.

Regional Activities

SWEEP along with other regional energy efficiency organizations initiated a new project in 2010 to provide technical assistance to American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) grantees. This technical assistance effort is funded by the U.S. Department of Energy through Oak Ridge National Laboratory. Technical assistance is provided to cities, counties and states as they implement ARRA-funded energy efficiency and renewable energy projects. In 2010, SWEEP responded to numerous technical assistance requests and began providing concentrated assistance to Boulder County. This jurisdiction is implementing a major buildings retrofit program with ARRA funding. In addition, SWEEP organized and presented webinars for ARRA grantees on the topics of green building codes and programs, energy code compliance and enforcement best practices, and preparing for the arrival of electric vehicles. SWEEP's contribution to this national technical assistance effort received praise from ARRA grantees as well as federal officials.

SWEEP organized its **Seventh Annual Southwest Regional Energy Efficiency Workshop** in Las Vegas in 2010. The workshop provided a forum for discussion of the latest developments regarding utility DSM programs in the region, state and federal policy efforts, and emerging energy efficiency technologies. The 2010 workshop featured presentations by the Chairman of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and the heads of the U.S. DOE and EPA energy efficiency programs. Presentations from the 2010 workshop are available at <u>http://www.swenergy.org/events/annual/2010/index.html</u>.

In addition, SWEEP made numerous presentations at local and state forums as well as national conferences in 2010. These presentations and papers are helping to educate policy makers, energy professionals, and other stakeholders about energy efficiency opportunities and potential in the Southwest.

Publications

The following reports along with legislative reports and selected presentations are available on the SWEEP web site, <u>http://www.swenergy.org/publications/index.html</u>

G. Dilworth. *Energy Efficiency in Colorado's New Energy Economy: Business Case Studies*. January 2010.

Utah Clean Energy. *Building the Clean Energy Economy: A Study on Jobs and Economic Development of Clean Energy in Utah.* January 2010.

M.C. Salisbury and R.E. Yuhnke. Nevada Transportation Blueprint. February 2011.

J.C. Martel. *Residential New Construction Programs Offered by Utility Companies in the Southwest.* February 2011.

N. Kolwey and A. Chittum. *Industrial Energy Efficiency Programs and Supporting Policies: A White Paper*. March 2011.

Webinars that SWEEP developed and presented to ARRA grantees are available at: <u>http://www1.eere.energy.gov/wip/solutioncenter/webcasts/default.html</u>.

Supporters

SWEEP received financial support from the following organizations in 2010:

Anonymous Foundation
Battelle Memorial Institute Pacific Northwest Division
Colorado Governor's Energy Office
Edwards Mother Earth Foundation
Energy Foundation
Hewlett Foundation
Nexant, Inc.
NV Energy
OPOWER
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U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Vermont Energy Investment Corporation (U.S. DOE funding)
Xcel Energy

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