BOULDER, CO—Xcel Energy and the City of Fort Collins Utilities received leadership awards for highly effective energy efficiency programs that are exceeding energy savings goals, in a ceremony held Nov. 21 during the 10th annual Southwest Regional Energy Efficiency Workshop at Millennium Harvest House Hotel. A leadership award was also presented to Patti Lynn Case for her contributions to greater energy efficiency in the industrial sector.

The annual workshop for utility energy efficiency program managers and other stakeholders is hosted by the Southwest Energy Efficiency Project (SWEEP).

“By scaling up their efficiency programs in Colorado, Fort Collins Utilities and Xcel Energy have helped their customers save hundreds of millions of dollars and have cut pollution emissions at the same time. Patti Case has advanced industrial energy efficiency in Utah and throughout the nation. SWEEP is proud to recognize the outstanding contributions of Ms. Case and these two utilities,” said Howard Geller, executive director of SWEEP, who presented the awards.

The City of Fort Collins Utilities is a municipal utility that serves 68,000 customers in the city. The utility has helped its customers save seven percent of total electricity use through energy efficiency programs implemented during 2007-2012. Fort Collins Utilities is the leading municipal utility with respect to energy efficiency efforts in the six-state SWEEP region.

Xcel Energy is an investor-owned utility serving about 1.4 million customers in Colorado. Xcel Energy expanded its budget for electric energy efficiency programs from $20 million in 2008 to $83 million in 2013. Households and businesses served by Xcel Energy will save $760 million as a result of the energy efficiency programs implemented during 2009-2012 alone. In 2012, Xcel exceeded the energy savings goal set the Colorado Public Utilities Commission by nearly 22 percent.
Patti Lynn Case is a principal in the firm ETC Group, based in Salt Lake City. She has led ETC Group's industrial energy efficiency practice since 1988 and has helped businesses implement more than 1,000 energy savings projects and upgrade their energy management practices. During 2003-2012, she also directed the Intermountain Clean Energy Application Center, an initiative promoting combined heat and power, waste heat recovery and district energy in Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming. ##

**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.