



Governor's
Energy Office

E-NEWS

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January 2008

Greetings!

Happy New Year from the Governor's Energy Office (GEO)! We hope you enjoy this month's issue of the GEO E-News.

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About the GEO

Happy New Year from GEO!

Happy New Year from the GEO staff! It's a great time to look back at the many changes the Ritter administration ushered in in 2007 as well as our exciting plans for the year to come.

In 2007, Governor Ritter gave the state of Colorado a renewable energy and energy efficiency wakeup call. The energy office got a new name and mission, developed new programs, and secured state funding for the Clean Energy Fund. Partnering with the Legislature, we passed a doubling of the renewable portfolio standard, a new energy code for the state and a funded effort to increase the efficiency of K-12 schools within every district in the state. The Governor led the charge for an increase in energy efficiency by mandating that our government agencies increase their energy efficiency by 20% in the next five years.

In April 2007, Gov. Ritter charged the newly minted Governor's Energy Office (GEO) with the mission of advancing Colorado to a New Energy Economy through energy efficiency, renewable and clean energy resources. GEO has developed programs to partner with communities throughout the



state and our regional representatives are meeting with local governments, utilities and local organizations to ensure we can deploy programs throughout Colorado.

Looking toward the new year, we're excited to be offering these new programs:

GEO's Residential Energy Program offers support and matching funding for the [ENERGY STAR for New Homes](#) and [Insulate & Seal Colorado](#) programs to communities. Energy efficiency is the fastest way to curb energy costs, usage and the associated carbon emissions. GEO is also looking at how renewable energy technologies can be cost-effective with fossil fuels. With the passage of legislation such as [HB1281](#) to double the Renewable Energy Portfolio for the state, solar energy is now more affordable and wind farms are a part of our electrical production portfolio.

Our Residential Energy Program is also helping to train code officials throughout the state in the latest advances in energy efficiency codes and help local governments finance insulation rebate programs to increase the efficiency of our existing residential buildings.

GEO is working with the [Public Utilities Commission and utilities](#) on implementing the best energy efficiency measures through demand side management programs. We've hired several regional experts to help communities partner on programs tailored for our diverse state economy: methane gas capture systems for agriculture and landfills, pine-beetle forest health issues, and developing a statewide [biofuels infrastructure](#). Also, the state of Colorado is being held accountable to reduce its impact in waste, energy and resources under Gov. Ritter's [Greening Government](#) goals.

We already have [performance contracts](#) to increase efficiency in our K-12 system in the process in 30 different school districts and continue to increase the reach of this important and innovative program.

All of these efforts have resulted in stimulated economic opportunity throughout the state, including rural areas. The New Energy Economy is securing Colorado's energy future, providing jobs and economic opportunities, and benefiting Colorado's environment for generations to come.

What is next in 2008? Please help us write that story by continuing to be our partner in advancing Colorado to a New Energy Economy. We look forward to sharing successes and working in partnership with the communities, organizations, businesses and individuals of this state.

Happy 2008 from all of us at the Governor's Energy Office!



GEO Releases Report on State's Renewable Energy Resources 11/9

In compliance with Senate Bill 2007-091, GEO worked with a task force to map Colorado's renewable energy resources. Members from utilities and the renewable energy community were appointed by the Governor and legislative leadership to produce "Connecting Colorado's Renewable Resources to the Markets." The purpose of the report is to identify renewable energy resources in the electricity sector that will advance Colorado to a New Energy Economy.

The task force reports that Colorado's abundant renewable resources provide great opportunities to improve the state's energy, economic, and environmental conditions. Also, Colorado will continue to benefit by adding more renewable energy and expanding its limited transmission infrastructure to serve its population and what may evolve as a regional electric power marketplace.

"Connecting Colorado's Renewable Resources to the Markets" has been distributed to legislators, utilities, the Clean Energy Development Authority and other interested parties. For more information as well as a complete downloadable copy of this report, visit the GEO website, www.colorado.gov/energy.

GEO Employment and Funding Opportunities

GEO is now accepting applicants for a number of employment and funding opportunities. Please visit the [Opportunities section of GEO's website](#) for more information.

Code Training Proposals Now Being Accepted

The State of Colorado is currently accepting proposals from all qualified code training organizations to conduct statewide IECC 2003 & IECC 2006 training for code officials, homebuilders, contractors, architects, engineers and related parties between February 2008 and June 2008. The selected code-training partner will work closely with GEO.

Proposals must be submitted no later than January 17, 2008. More information can be found in the [Funding Opportunities section on GEO's website](#).

GEO Multifamily Building Project Success

Village Place in Longmont, Colorado, is a 72-unit apartment building that houses senior citizens. Over 55% of Village Place's residents meet or exceed GEO's Weatherization Program's eligibility requirements to receive no cost energy efficiency measures.



The property is owned and operated by Longmont Housing Authority (LHA). In December 2006, LHA contacted GEO seeking financial assistance with energy efficiency improvements that were being planned for the building.

GEO was able to contribute a total of \$150,687 towards the following measures:

- Replace five standard efficiency boilers with three high efficiency modulating boilers
- Install a solar thermal water heating system to provide 1/3 of the building's

hot water needs

- Replace common area incandescent light fixtures with T-8 fluorescent light fixtures and LED exit lighting
- Upgrade to high efficiency roof top heating/cooling units

The work began in July 2007, and was finalized in October 2007. In addition to providing a more comfortable environment to its residents, LHA will see an estimated \$11,500 in energy savings each year - that's \$11,500 more per year for LHA to put towards achieving its mission of providing a broad range of safe, decent, affordable housing and services to income qualified households in the Longmont community.

Governor's Biofuels Coalition Update

The Governor's Biofuels Coalition (GBC) is proud to announce that there are now 51 stations selling biodiesel and E85 in Colorado. Thanks to the hard work of the GBC and its partners, the number of biofuels stations in Colorado quadrupled in 2007.

In addition the GBC has finalized its strategic plan and is determined to double the amount of biodiesel and E85 stations in the state in 2008 as well as increase funding for station retrofits.

If you would like more information on the funding available for station retrofits or would like to see the locations of current stations, please visit the [GBC section of GEO's website](#).

GEO Supporting Anaerobic Digestion & Woody Biomass Projects

GEO supports Colorado farmers, ranchers and other agricultural groups that are interested in developing an anaerobic digester project. An anaerobic digester breaks down organic materials, such as agricultural wastes and manure, and creates and collects methane gas. This methane gas can be used to generate heat or power for on-site usage or sale. More information is available in the [Biomass section of GEO's website](#).

GEO is also working with multiple state agencies and local community members to increase the usage of woody biomass for heating. Funding is currently available for feasibility studies, capital costs and technology purchases. Parties interested in retrofitting an existing building or including wood heating for new projects should contact GEO's [Biomass Program Manager](#), Stacey Simms, for additional information.

Governor's Excellence in Renewable Energy Awards

In Gov. Ritter's 2007 State of the State Address, he announced the creation of the "Governor's Excellence in Renewable Energy Awards" to recognize individuals, businesses, institutions and nonprofits that are advancing renewable energy in outstanding ways in Colorado. We are pleased that the winners of the first annual award will be announced on Thursday, January 10, 2008, by Gov. Ritter during his State of the State Address. On January 10, GEO will post a press release with the award winners in the [Media section of its website](#).

News from the Denver 2008 Convention Host Committee

The Denver 2008 Convention Host Committee and the Alliance for Sustainable Colorado have added a Green Business Designation to the Democratic National Convention's official Vendor Directory - the first-ever green recognition process for a national political convention. More information can be found at www.DenverConvention2008.com.

In addition, the Denver 2008 Convention Host Committee and the Denver Mayor's Office Greenprint Program have partnered to offer several greening workshops this winter to help businesses start down the "path to sustainability." The first workshop is slated for January 10, in Denver, and it will be geared toward greening Colorado's restaurant industry. A second workshop around greening of the hotel industry is scheduled for January 29, and a third workshop will involve event planners at a date still to be scheduled. More information can be found on [GEO's website event calendar](#).

Igniting Creative Energy Challenge

The National Energy Foundation has announced the seventh annual Igniting Creative Energy Challenge. The Challenge is an educational competition designed to encourage students to learn more about energy and the environment and demonstrate that understanding.

Students are encouraged to express their ideas in any creative form such as science projects essays, stories, artwork, photographs, music, videos, web site projects, etc. They may also submit recent service projects.

This year national winners will receive valuable educational experiences that include a trip to Hawaii and a chance to meet national leaders and energy policymakers in Washington, D.C. In addition to national winners, there are more opportunities for more students to win awards in other ways. For more information visit the [For Kids section of the GEO website](#).

January Events

For more information about these events, visit [GEO's Trainings and Events website section](#).

1/7 - 1/18/2008

Woody Biomass Utilization Short Course
Fort Collins, Colorado

1/10/2008

Going Green! Improving Your Restaurant's Environmental Practices Denver, Colorado

1/14 - 1/16/2008

Biodiesel Finance & Investment Summit
New York, New York

1/15/2008 Not So Big: The First Step in Sustainable Happiness
Denver, Colorado

1/23 - 1/25/2008

Wind Interconnection Workshop
Golden, Colorado

1/23 - 1/25/2008

Biomass Finance & Investment Summit
Miami, Florida

1/23 - 1/24/2008

Developing a Climate Change Strategy for Businesses and Public Institutions
Madison, Wisconsin

1/23 - 1/25/2008

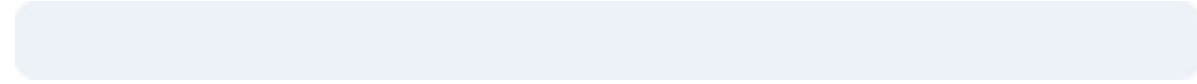
Green Power, A Green Power Marketing & Sustainable Brand Building Summit
Houston, Texas

1/28 - 1/31/2008

National Energy Services Conference

Clearwater Beach, Florida

1/29/2008
Green Hotel Workshop
Denver, Colorado



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