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NEWS RELEASE

January 4, 2012

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Utah Home Performance hits Milestone with 1,000 efficiency retrofits

Salt Lake City, Utah – In 2011, over 1,000 Utah homes underwent energy efficient upgrades under the Utah Home Performance program that offers rebates to homeowners who make energy-saving home improvements.

The Utah Home Performance with ENERGY STAR[®] is administered through the Office of Energy Development (OED) and funded through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act to offer up to \$2,000 in cash rebates as an incentive to homeowners making the upgrades as recommended in a Home Performance Assessment (HPA). In addition, the program leveraged Rocky Mountain Power and Questar's Demand Side Management programs, averaging \$450 in rebates per home.

The program is projected to complete nearly 1,300 home upgrades by the time all funds are spent, expected in spring 2012. So far, these improvements are saving homeowners a total of more than \$500,000 in energy costs per year.

"It was an eye opener just knowing so much energy was going right up through the roof," said Kerry Davis, a Utah Home Performance participant from Riverton. "Working with Utah Home Performance, we've lowered our bills by more than 20 percent, which makes a difference for our family financially."

Utah Home Performance, designed by the Portland, Ore.-based nonprofit PECCI specifically for Utah, has also created jobs – training 31 people to the Building Performance Institute certification. Of the 85 participating partners conducting HPAs, 82 percent said their business increased and 64 percent indicated they added employees due to their participation.

"These energy efficiency industry jobs will provide a boost to Utah's economy, and homeowners can continue to take advantage of other energy efficiency upgrade incentives offered through their local utilities," said Samantha Mary Julian, director of OED.

For those interested in making high-efficiency upgrades, go to www.utahhomeperformance.com or call 877-298-4675

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