

Contact: Steve Getz
NWCCOG
Phone: 800.332.3669
X103
Fax: 970.468.1208

PO Box 2308
Silverthorne, CO 80498
www.nwc.cog.co.us

**NORTHWEST COLORADO COUNCIL
OF GOVERNMENTS**

PRESS RELEASE

NWCCOG Announces Opportunities Resulting From Stimulus *Energy Management Program Seeks Subcontractors in 13 Counties*

Silverthorne, CO, April 26, 2009: Northwest Colorado Council of Governments is pleased to announce the expansion of their weatherization services. This expansion is due to an increase in funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 – the Stimulus Package. Through the act, the national weatherization budget will increase to \$5 billion, with a goal of serving 1 million households within a year. Colorado agencies will receive an additional \$80 million over the next three years. This abrupt increase has resulted in opportunities for private companies throughout the region. NWCCOG is currently seeking bids from subcontractors including insulation, pellet stove, energy auditing, heating, electrical and plumbing companies.

Weatherization begins with an energy audit of residential properties, including health and safety issues such as mold, gas leaks and carbon monoxide problems. Energy efficiency needs are then addressed by such means as insulation, storm windows, caulking and weather stripping, and new energy-efficient furnaces and refrigerators.

NWCCOG is a local administering agency under the Weatherization Assistance Program. Weatherization has helped preserve affordable housing units in the region. With reduced energy consumption and heating costs, families have more income available to spend within their local communities.

Energy Management Director Steve Getz views the current state of weatherization as one of the most exciting times in his 30 year career. "This is a once in a lifetime opportunity for our agency, private companies and residents alike to take advantage of this unique and beneficial program. This funding allows us to help create the most energy efficient housing stock in our region's history, while providing additional jobs and financial relief to the community in a time of need."

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NWCCOG anticipates doubling its production from 200 homes serviced throughout the region in 2008 to 450-500 in 2009, resulting from increased federal funding as well as higher federal poverty level guidelines, which now accept an income of \$44,100 for a family of four.

NWCCOG is currently inviting bids for residential work in all, or portions of, the following counties: Chaffee, Clear Creek, Eagle, Garfield, Grand, Jackson, Lake, Moffat, Park, Pitkin, Rio Blanco, Routt and Summit. To obtain a bid packet please contact NWCCOG at 800.332.3669 X103, sgetz@nwc.cog.co.us, or PO Box 2308, Silverthorne, CO 80498. All bids due 05/27/09.