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# Governor's Energy Office Public Money in Colorado for Energy Efficiency, And Finance Opportunities 9.9.2010





## Welcome





- Overview of Governor's Energy Office Mission
- •Recharge Colorado the campaign
- Finance Opportunities
- Legislation PACE



## Overview of Governor's Energy Office Mission





#### **GEO's Mission**

In general, GEO has three specific guiding principles:

- Access to Information
- Access to Services
- Access to Finance



# Recharge Colorado – A Statewide Initiative





- •Recharge Colorado is **one resource** that provides them with information about energy efficiency and renewable energy including incentive programs from across the state, contractors in their area, and conservation action tips.
- •The program will rely heavily on collaboration with partners (utilities, service providers and local governments) in order to provide complete and **comprehensive** information to residents and businesses no matter in what part of the state they reside.



## Recharge Colorado – A new energy initiative.

- Positions Colorado as the leader in the New Energy Economy
- Challenges every Coloradan to get involved and do their part
- Take small steps that create change
- •Energy adventure—we welcome everyone to engage
- Not replacing the GEO ... augmenting:
   "The GEO's Recharge Colorado campaign."





#### The GEO Campaign



Example of the brand use in out-ofhome advertising







#### RechargeColorado.com



- •Launched April 19<sup>th</sup>
- Personalized experience for consumers or businesses based on location and needs
- Conservation tips and information
- Rebates, incentives & vendors
- Success stories, news, events
- Ability to share information as well as engage with community groups and the GEO



- Opened April 19 for those who have questions on the website or choose the phone for information
- •Call center representatives will be "super-users" of the website
- •Scripts to prompt callers through the website experience and answer any questions, from general information to specific rebate and contractor information



# Finance-Related Opportunities





## "SB 184 Residential Clean Energy Loan Program"

Senate Bill 184 allowed for the promotion of EE/RE residential projects of up to \$12,500.

- •GEO Partners with a vendor to provide a turnkey service for a borrower to provide contractor services and loan origination
- •Treasury, on a quarterly basis, will purchase these loans. Treasury currently has committed \$4 million for this purpose.
- Selection process currently underway



## **Energy Star Mortgage Program**

- •GEO created a pilot program with Bank of Colorado to provide ESM loans for the following purposes:
  - •Refinance existing homes while installing Energy Star appliances
  - •Finance mortgages for Energy Star-certified new homes
- •How it works: Borrower receives one point toward the new/refinanced mortgage. GEO contributes .5 point, and the bank matches .5 point
- •GEO has selected Bank of Colorado, Wells Fargo and First National Bank to promote this larger program (totaling about \$400k.



### "GEO Fund"

- •\$13 Million of GEO's State Energy Plan funds are designated for finance programs that will help leverage energy efficiency and renewable energy.
- •Target Markets to include:
  - Industrial
  - Small Commercial
  - Multifamily
  - •501c3/Non Profit
  - Residential
  - •3<sup>rd</sup> Party Solar
  - Colorado Carbon Fund



## "GEO Fund"

Partnership with the Colorado Housing Finance Authority (CHFA for two loan programs:

- "Green" Colorado Credit Reserve: Leveraging private lenders to promote energy efficiency with a loan loss reserve of 15-20%
- •Direct Lending Program: A revolving loan fund in which the GEO can be the direct lender for larger non-residential loans



# Legislation





# **PACE** Legislation

Property Assessed Clean Energy finance, or PACE, is a new nation wide concept to finance residential and commercial EE/RE improvements, paid through a property assessment.

There are several current and pending legislative items that promote PACE programs:

- •HB 08-1350: In 2008, PACE programs were authorized through HB 1350. Counties would have to create a special district and seek voter authorization to promote program.
- •SB 10-100: Legislation to allow for 1350 county programs to join together for multi-county finance options.
- •HB 10-1328: The creation of a statewide PACE district in which counties can opt-into a more scalable financing mechanism



# **PACE** Legislation

#### Federal Issues:

- •May 5: Fannie Mae posts a letter explaining concern about the first lien position of the PACE program.
- •July 7: After months of discussions, including a dozen letters from state Governors and 65 members of Congress, FHFA releases a letter strengthening its position against PACE finance
- •Current status: White House, Congress, and regulators are currently discussing an array of ideas to ensure the future of PACE programs. This may include a legislative solution.



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