



ENERGY OUTREACH

Colorado

Helping Coloradans afford home energy

How to Successfully Implement a Low-Income Rate and Why

National Energy and Utility Affordability Conference – Denver, Colorado

June 7, 2016

Skip Arnold, Executive Director



Two separate but linked initiatives:

- Statutory Initiative
- Regulatory Initiative

Statutory

- Mountain States Legal Foundation Case (1978)
 - Colorado Supreme Court Decision
- 2007 Environment
 - Colorado House, Senate and Governor all Democratic
 - Dramatic Increase in Natural Gas Utility Prices
- 2007 Legislation (SB07-22)
 - Provided Reasonable Preference to Low-Income Utility Consumers in Billing and Consumer Policies (Public Utilities Commission)
 - Rendered 1979 Supreme Court Decision Moot
- Broad Support/Coalition Building
 - Utilities, Human Service Advocates, AARP, Religious Organizations

Regulatory

- 2009 Environment – Public Utilities Commission
 - Until SB07-22 Bound by MSLF Supreme Court Decision (No Preference for LI Consumers)
 - Three Friendly Commissioners Appointed by Governor
 - Xcel Energy Adopted “Preference” Tariffs
- Initiated Rulemaking Process
 - Draft Rules Authored
 - Roger Colton, Energy Outreach Colorado, Xcel Energy
 - EOC Petition for Rulemaking
 - Rulemaking Process
 - Lengthy
 - Modified Rules Adopted and Implemented in 2012
 - Current Three-Year Review In Process
 - Revised Rules Anticipated in Third Quarter 2016



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