



**ENERGY
OUTREACH
COLORADO**
Together We Power Stability

Energy Outreach Colorado is a statewide nonprofit organization whose mission is to ensure that all vulnerable Coloradans can meet their home energy needs, and have affordable access to the vital resources that power their homes. An astounding one in four Colorado households have incomes below the level that qualifies for energy assistance from the Colorado Low-Income Energy Assistance Program (LEAP), based on the most recent census. Many of these households pay a significant percentage of their total income just for home energy.

Energy Outreach Colorado leverages public and private funds to support programs that increase the energy efficiency, health and safety of our clients' homes, and reduce their energy costs. While providing this assistance, we also analyze what energy price volatility and the changing energy generation mix mean for low-income consumers and how we can mitigate negative consequences for these vulnerable customers.

Our role at Energy Outreach is not to take a position on proposed public energy policy but rather to shine a light on the home energy needs of vulnerable households. We consistently monitor energy policy and programs and their impact on the limited-income consumers we represent.

Energy Outreach relies on the partnership of all members of the energy sector to help us serve vulnerable Coloradans. The Colorado oil and gas industry has been good partners, working closely with us over the last 20 years to promote affordable energy.

Beside corporate philanthropy, state severance taxes from the Tier II Operational Account have provided \$142.6M to low-income energy assistance programs since 2000. These funds were distributed to Colorado LEAP (\$73.7M), administered by the Colorado Department of Human Services, the Weatherization Assistance Program administered by the Colorado Energy Office (\$42.7M), and Energy Outreach Colorado (\$26.2M). These funds have been critical to assist families across the state afford home energy.

While we are not providing a position on SB 19-181, we sincerely hope for an amicable resolution that results in strong policies serving all citizens of this state.