

**From:** Margaret McCall [<mailto:margaret@environmentcolorado.org>]

**Sent:** Monday, April 7, 2014 8:00 AM

**To:** [bruceleland@sopris.net](mailto:bruceleland@sopris.net)

**Subject:** Energy savings rollback letter for New Castle

Dear Councilor Leland,

I'm writing to ask you to sign a letter not to let Xcel roll back their successful energy savings programs, since Xcel serves residents of New Castle. I'm Margaret McCall, the energy associate with Environment Colorado; we're an environmental advocacy group with members all around the state, including a good number in New Castle.

Over the past five years Xcel has done a great job reducing energy waste—their programs have actually provided over \$900 million in net benefits to Coloradans and have avoided a million tons of carbon pollution. Unfortunately, despite beating their energy savings goals every year, Xcel is proposing to roll back these incredible energy savings programs. The difference between their proposed energy savings goals and what we think they can do is \$600 million--that is, adopting Xcel's goals would deprive residents and businesses of over \$600 million in utility bill savings. The Public Utilities Commission, who will decide this issue, is taking letters of comment until April 21.

The letter is below; please respond to this email if you'd like to sign on or if you have any questions. If I don't hear from you, I'll give you a call later on this week. Please join us in urging Xcel to do everything they can to save energy for the sake of your constituents and all Coloradans--your support will make a big difference.

Sincerely,  
Margaret McCall  
Energy Associate, Environment Colorado  
303-573-3871 x 340



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15 April, 2014

Dear Public Utilities Commission,

As an elected official representing customers in your service area, I'm writing to encourage you not to let Xcel roll back their successful energy savings programs. This will help residents and businesses in Xcel's territory reduce their energy bills.

Utilities should be doing as much as they can to reduce energy waste. Over the past five years, Xcel's energy savings programs have been incredibly effective. According to SWEEP (Southwest Energy Efficiency Project) the programs implemented during 2009-2013 will provide about \$950 million of net benefits to Colorado's businesses and consumers and eliminate as much carbon pollution as taking 215,000 cars off the road.

These programs reduce the bills of Xcel customers who participate in these programs, but they reduce the bills of the rest of Xcel's customers as well because there is less demand for the utility to purchase expensive new energy. Furthermore, it also helps the local economy since 91% of energy efficiency jobs stay in local communities.

With these benefits in mind, I urge you not to let Xcel roll back these incredibly successful energy savings programs. Xcel is proposing to reduce the energy savings goals for its traditional energy efficiency programs by 28% between 2014 and 2020—adopting these reduced energy savings goals for 2015-2020 rather than the higher goals proposed by SWEEP would deprive households and businesses of \$600 million in utility bill savings. Achieving SWEEP's proposed goals can be done very cost effectively by increasing support for newer energy savings measures and by increasing participation in current programs.

Xcel has consistently exceeded energy-savings expectations, and I urge you to keep raising the bar and not let them roll back their successful programs. Because Xcel serves so many homes and businesses, their actions will have a meaningful impact in our community.

The cheapest form of energy is the energy we don't use.

Sincerely,

Frank Breslin, Mayor  
Town of New Castle  
[fbreslin@newcastlecolorado.org](mailto:fbreslin@newcastlecolorado.org)