

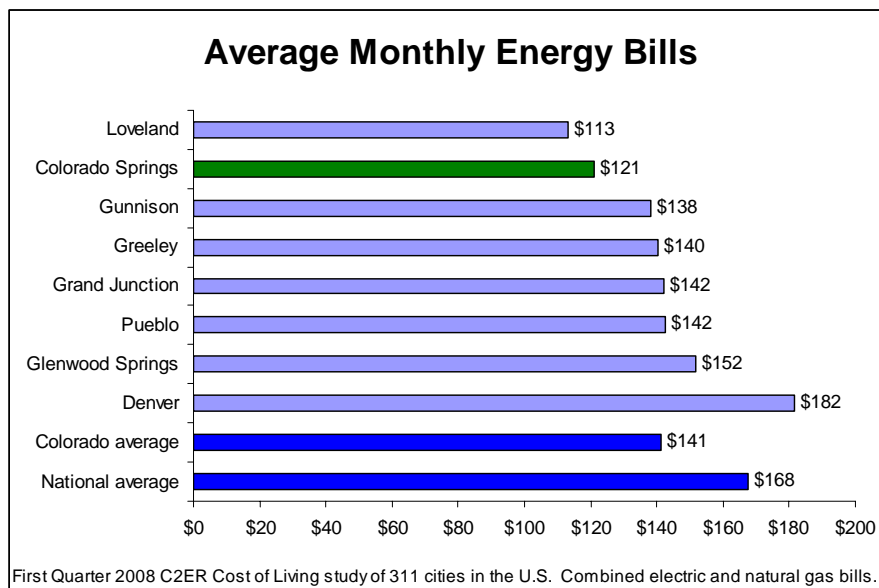


Contact: Dave Grossman, 668-3848

May 19, 2008

Colorado Springs energy bills second lowest in Colorado Eighth lowest in the nation

Colorado Springs residents pay less for energy than all other major cities in Colorado except for Loveland. Typical combined electric and natural gas bills here are \$121 a month compared to an average of \$141 for the Colorado cities included in the first quarter 2008 study. The average bill amount for the 311 cities included nationally was \$168.



Bill amounts are determined by energy consumption and rates. Average energy use in Colorado Springs is somewhat lower than many parts of the country due to a relatively moderate climate. Springs Utilities keeps its electric rates low by generating most of the electricity for the community at its local power plants. A proactive hedging program, long-term contracts and use of underground storage help keep natural gas rates relatively stable.

Springs Utilities is proposing changes that would result in a net decrease to electric bills. If approved by City Council, residential customers will see a \$.66 drop in their bill effective June 1.

C2ER, a nonprofit research group based in Arlington, VA reports quarterly cost of living figures for approximately 300 cities in the United States.