



SWEPCO Earns 2017 ENERGY STAR® Partner Of The Year – Sustained Excellence Award For Arkansas Energy Efficiency Program

FAYETTEVILLE, Ark. (April 6, 2017) – Southwestern Electric Power Company (SWEPCO) has been named a 2017 ENERGY STAR Partner of the Year – Sustained Excellence Award winner for the company's Arkansas energy efficiency program. SWEPCO's accomplishments were recognized in Washington D.C. by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Department of Energy.



This is the third consecutive year SWEPCO has received this recognition, which reflects continued leadership in protecting the environment through superior energy efficiency achievements.

SWEPCO's Home Performance with ENERGY STAR program promotes the use of ENERGY STAR certified products and technologies that help improve energy efficiency and comfort. In 2016, SWEPCO weatherized 1,812 single-family homes through the program, an increase of 236 percent over 2015. The program captured 5,747 MWh in net evaluated energy savings, an increase of almost 300 percent over 2015. Many of these homes were joint projects with Black Hills Energy Arkansas, also a Home Performance with ENERGY STAR partner.

"Home Performance with Energy Star has been a very successful program, and we're pleased to be recognized for sustained excellence," said Phil Watkins, Energy Efficiency and Consumer Programs Manager for SWEPCO Arkansas. **"The award recognizes the work of the SWEPCO staff, the implementation team from CLEAResult, and the network of contractors who work every day to help customers improve the comfort and energy efficiency of their homes."** SWEPCO has been a Home Performance with ENERGY STAR partner since 2012. For information on SWEPCO's energy efficiency programs, visit SWEPCOgridSMART.com

The 2017 Partner of the Year – Sustained Excellence Awards are bestowed upon organizations that have demonstrated continued leadership in energy efficiency. Winners hail from small, family-owned businesses to Fortune 500 organizations representing energy-efficient products, services, homes and buildings in the commercial, industrial and public sectors. For a complete list of 2017 winners and more information about ENERGY STAR's awards program, visit energystar.gov/awardwinners.

SWEPCO, headquartered in Shreveport, Louisiana, serves 530,000 customers in western Arkansas, northwest and central Louisiana, northeast Texas and the Texas Panhandle. SWEPCO is a unit of American Electric Power, one of the largest electric utilities in the United States, delivering electricity to nearly 5.4 million customers in 11 states. Additional information about SWEPCO can be found at SWEPCO.com.

ENERGY STAR has 16,000 partners working to protect the environment through greater energy efficiency, including manufacturers, retailers, public schools, hospitals, real estate companies and home builders. Since 1992, ENERGY STAR and its partners have saved American families and businesses \$430 billion on their energy bills, 4.6 trillion kW of energy, and 2.8 billion metric tons of greenhouse gas emissions. For 25 years, EPA's ENERGY STAR program has been America's resource for saving energy and protecting the environment. Join the millions already making a difference at energystar.gov.

Residential CoolSaverSM A/C Tune-up Program

After running a CoolSaver A/C Tune-up pilot program in 2016, SWEPCO has fully committed to incorporating the program into their offerings for 2017. This year, SWEPCO has trained ten contractors with the goal of performing at least 250 tune-ups throughout the year.

The CoolSaver A/C Tune-up program offers a consistent protocol for each customer. This protocol aims to improve efficiency and performance by performing five tasks on an as-needed basis: 1) clean condenser, 2) clean evaporator coil, 3) clean blower, 4) adjust airflow, and 5) adjust refrigerant charge to manufacturer's specifications.

SWEPCO provides contractor rebates of \$100 (1.5 to 2.5 ton) or \$150 (3 to 5 ton), with the expectation that the money will be passed along to customers as a low- or no-cost A/C tune-up.

There is still a need for contractors to participate in the program, especially in Central and Southwest Arkansas. Please contact Ted Weintraut at Ted.Weintraut@clearesult.com for more information or to participate.

Home Performance Coalition Conference

Mid - March found many home performance professionals in "Music City," Nashville, TN, for the Home Performance Coalition's (HPC) [2017 National Home Performance Conference and Trade Show](#), one of the most comprehensive conferences in the industry. While enjoying great food and live music, the SWEPCO program team networked with industry veterans and newcomers alike, learning best practices in energy efficiency and healthy/safe homes. This year saw the broadest cross-section of people from the industry, including utilities, contractors and program implementers.

As a residential contractor you would find that attending the [2018 HPC Conference](#) next year in Philadelphia would be well worth the time and investment. There are typically 18+ different tracks offering something for everyone at every level. Philly is also the home of the cheesesteak, which might be motivation enough. We hope to see you there next year!



Health Benefits of Home Performance

There is a growing realization that we must combine homeowners' health with our energy efficiency efforts. According to the CDC, "Asthma cost the US about \$56 billion in medical costs, lost school and work days, and early deaths in 2007." While health and safety steps have historically been a part of a home energy assessment, there is a burgeoning industry that will specifically focus on the health and safety of home. There are many new products and tools available to quantify what is happening in a home's biosphere. According to the U.S Department of Energy (DOE) report, "[Home Rx: The Health Benefits of Home Performance](#)", research shows that home performance upgrades can improve the indoor air quality and provide a full array of health benefits to homeowners. Our current knowledge, combined with additional training, gives us an opportunity to stand on the forefront to overcome these issues for homeowners and have real impact.

Staff Spotlight

Tanner Freeman Project Specialist



Where else have you lived? *Houston, Durango, Fort Collins*

Would you rather have Morgan Freeman narrate the rest of your life, or have a studio audience cheer for you every time you enter a building? *Morgan Freeman (my uncle).*

Do you have any pets? *No pets, however the neighborhood cats and deer are always in my front yard.*

Are you messy or organized? *Organized.*

Describe yourself in one word. *Focused.*

What is your favorite food? *Brisket.*

Growing up, who was your celebrity crush? *Hmm, there are so many. Winnie Cooper from The Wonder Years, Samantha from Who's the Boss, Katie Holmes.*

What do you like to do in your free time? *Trail running, mountain biking.*

Visit the [Contractor Center](#) at SWEPCOgridSMART.com for rebate forms, program manuals and full information on all our programs.