

## **Colorado Dream Homes Inc.**

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Dear Alliance to Save Energy:

Since 1994 Colorado Dream Homes Inc. has saved our clients over 56% on their energy costs for the life of their home. We have built over 200 high-energy efficient homes in and around Pagosa Springs, CO (elevation 7,500 ft.).

One of the biggest obstacles we have had to overcome has been our clients desire to see mountain views toward the north. We overcame this obstacle by creating a super insulated envelope around our homes so that our clients could orient their home in any direction. We utilize conventional technology, i.e., stick frame construction, fiberglass insulation, energy efficient windows, on demand water heater, etc. In addition we incorporate resource efficient building products such as Trex decking, wood engineered I joists and laminated beams wherever possible. The “shining star” of this concept is a unique double 2”x4” exterior wall which creates a 12” deep cavity which we fill with R38 fiberglass insulation. This enables our clients to save money on their utility bills, cut down on global green house gases and save valuable natural resources all without sacrificing convenience or aesthetics. We include all of this for less than what other builders charge in our area. This same concept would also work in warmer climates to save money and energy on cooling costs.

We have had over 60 homes tested by an independent certified energy rater and have received an EPA Energy Star Certificate for each home tested. By calculating and averaging the savings listed on these certificates we have determined that our company has saved our clients over 1.5 million dollars of real money in energy costs and has prevented 1,740 tons of CO2 emissions from entering the atmosphere to date.

We were named the 1999 EPA Energy Star Small Home Builder of the Year and have received three NAHB Research Center EnergyValue Housing Awards including two gold metals for the Best Production Home in a Cold Climate Region in the country. We were also the first “Built Green” homebuilder in southwest Colorado.

It is our belief that if everyone built their homes like ours, it would double the amount of available natural resources. Now that’s really something worthwhile for future generations.

Sincerely,

Tegan Brown  
Vice President