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EPA NAMES SOUTHWEST ENERGY CONSERVATION 2008 ENERGY STAR[®] PARTNER OF THE YEAR

***Southwest Energy Conservation earns award for protecting
the environment through energy efficiency***

[El Paso, Texas March 1st] – The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has named Southwest Energy Conservation (SENERCON) as a 2008 ENERGY STAR *Partner of the Year* three years in a row for its outstanding contribution to reducing greenhouse gas emissions by its work as a home energy rater analyzing and testing the energy efficiency of homes. Southwest Energy Conservation's accomplishments were recognized at an awards ceremony in San Diego, CA. on February 18, 2008, and are going to be mentioned at an awards ceremony in Washington, D.C. on April 1, 2008.

Southwest Energy Conservation, an ENERGY STAR partner since 2004, is being honored for their work in qualifying new homes to earn the ENERGY STAR. Home energy raters provide the independent third party verification required for ENERGY STAR qualified homes. An ENERGY STAR home gets its qualification thru a building analysis and inspection process which has to comply with the EPA's building guidelines for Energy Efficiency; elements like insulation, windows, heating and cooling equipment, air sealing and other aspects of the home are inspected, concluding with a final diagnostics and tests.

"The growth in market share of ENERGY STAR qualified homes clearly shows that both home builders and home buyers are recognizing the importance of energy efficiency," said L. Javier Ruiz, President of Southwest Energy Conservation. "The ENERGY STAR label on a home means that it will be more efficient, comfortable, and durable; while reducing energy costs and helping to protect the environment."

The 2008 Partner of the Year Awards are given to a variety of organizations to recognize their contribution to reducing greenhouse gas emissions by promoting energy-efficient homes in their community. Award winners are selected from more

than 9,000 organizations that participate in the ENERGY STAR program. ENERGY STAR qualified new homes use substantially less energy for heating, cooling, and water heating – homeowners can expect to save about \$200-\$400 annually on their utility bills. Currently over 5,000 builders across the nation are constructing homes that meet EPA's strict guidelines for energy efficiency. More than 750,000 families now live in ENERGY STAR qualified homes.

"Southwest Energy Conservation is much honored to receive this national award, but the most important thing is to know that with Energy Star we are making a difference in our community and helping our environment one home at a time", said L. Javier Ruiz. "By working with homebuilders, we are able to ensure that consumers get a comfortable and more durable home that lowers their utility bills while protecting the environment."

Last year alone, Americans with the help of ENERGY STAR, saved \$ 16 billion on their energy bills and reduced greenhouse gas emissions equivalent to those of 27 million vehicles.

"ENERGY STAR qualified homes would not be widely available to American home buyers without partners like Southwest Energy Conservation," said Robert J. Meyers, principal deputy assistant administrator for EPA's Office of Air & Radiation. "With the knowledge and expertise that leading Home Energy Raters provide, we are rapidly increasing the number of homes that offer families the best in efficiency, comfort and durability—all while protecting the environment."

About SOUTHWEST ENERGY CONSERVATION

SOUTHWEST ENERGY CONSERVATION, LLC (SENERCON) introduced the Energy Star program to El Paso, Tx. and Las Cruces, NM. in 2004 with great success. Currently SENERCON assists homebuilders and architects with the necessary consulting, training, diagnostics and inspections in order to make homes more energy efficient and environmentally friendly with programs like Energy Star and the US Green Building Council LEED for Homes Program. The Company also assists homeowners to inspect and diagnose their existing homes in order to choose the right upgrades for energy efficiency and higher levels of comfort.

SENERCON strongly believes that by making homes more comfortable and efficient homeowners can save on their energy bills while helping the environment.

For more information go to: www.swher.com

About ENERGY STAR

ENERGY STAR was introduced by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in 1992 as a voluntary market-based partnership to reduce greenhouse gas emissions

through increased energy efficiency. Today, ENERGY STAR offers businesses and consumers energy-efficient solutions to save energy, money and help protect the environment for future generations. More than 9,000 organizations are ENERGY STAR partners committed to improving the energy efficiency of products, homes, buildings and businesses. For more information about ENERGY STAR, visit www.energystar.gov or call toll-free 1-888-STAR-YES (1-888-782-7937).

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Sam Rashkin EPA's National Director for the ENERGY STAR Home Program presents L. Javier Ruiz from SOUTHWEST ENERGY CONSERVATION with the prestigious ENERGY STAR Partner of the Year AWARD 2008