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Keynote Speakers for Great Plains Energy Codes Conference Announced October 16-18 in Omaha

Lincoln, NE -- The Nebraska Energy Office and Omaha Public Power District announced keynote speakers for the Great Plains Energy Codes Conference to be held October 16-18 in Omaha. Dave Karmol, Vice President of External and Federal Affairs for the International Codes Council and Kym Carey, Building Energy Code Deployment Manager for the US Department of Energy's Building Technologies Program will headline the event.

Karmol will detail how building energy codes have emerged as the growth area, providing opportunities and benefits for consumers, realtors, builders and utilities. He will explain how this new movement in the generally dull area of building codes is transforming the housing market and dramatically reducing the cost of home ownership across the nation. At the Codes Council, Karmol has responsibility for managing the Council's relationships with Congress, federal agencies, and outside organizations. Prior to joining the Codes Council, Karmol was the Standards Advisor to Iraq for the National Institute of Standards and Technology, Department of Commerce. He previously served as Vice President, Public Policy and Government Affairs at the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and has held several positions in the federal government. He was member of the Ohio General Assembly before coming to Washington. Mr. Karmol is an attorney, licensed to practice law in Ohio, Virginia and the District of Columbia.

Carey will discuss the increasing focus on building energy use in the last 40 years at the national, state and local level that continues to challenge not only the building industry particular, but the nation's population at large. She will address where the industry has been on codes, the progress made, where the industry is going in regards to codes, and why it's important. At the federal Energy Department's Building Technologies Program, Carey's focus is on successful implementation of building energy codes. She also participates on the ASHRAE 90.2 (residential) committee as a voting member. Prior to joining the federal government, she was the Resource Development and Outreach Program Manager at the Alliance to Save Energy's Building Energy Code Project where she created an online information sharing website for the codes community.

**Registration and additional information about the Great Plains Energy Codes Conference is at:
<http://www.neo.ne.gov/codesconf/>.**

The Nebraska Energy Office was created in 1977 to promote the efficient, economic and environmentally responsible use of energy in Nebraska. In 2008, the Energy Office became a stand-alone agency within state government with the Director serving as a member of the Governor's Cabinet.

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