Colorado Energy Plan

Photo courtesy of the University of Colorado.

October 13, 2019
Energy State

Ranking
- Crude Oil Production: 5th
- Natural Gas Production: 6th
- Coal Production: 10th
- Total Energy: 7th
- Natural Gas Prices: 43rd
- Electricity Prices: 23rd
- Wind Capacity: 7th

Source: Energy Information Administration. Photo courtesy of the Colorado Mining Association.
Colorado Net Electricity Generation

Source: Energy Information Administration, Net Generation by State by Type of Producer by Energy Source.
Colorado Net Electricity Generation

Source: Energy Information Administration, Net Generation by State by Type of Producer by Energy Source.
Colorado’s Renewable Portfolio Standard

• 2004: Colorado voters passed renewable portfolio standard (RPS)
  Required utilities serving 40,000 or more customers to generate or purchase 10% of their retail
  electric sales using renewable energy sources by 2015

• 2007: 20% by 2020 (HB1281).

• 2010: 30% by 2020 (HB1001)

• 2013: 20% for rural cooperatives (SB252)

• Xcel Energy:
  • Clean Air Clean Jobs
  • Rush Creek Wind Project
  • Clean Energy Plan

• 100% carbon free by 2050 and 80% less carbon by 2030

Public Utilities Commission - Mission

“The Colorado Public Utilities Commission (PUC) serves the public interest by effectively regulating utilities and facilities so that the people of Colorado receive safe, reliable, and reasonably-priced services consistent with the economic, environmental and social values of our state.”

Source: Colorado Department of Regulatory Agencies, Public Utilities Commission, About the PUC, Mission.
Colorado Energy Plan

- Retire 660 MW of coal-fired generation early
- Reduce carbon emissions 60% by late 2025 (from 2005 levels)
- Cleaner Energy Mix
  - 1,100 MW of new wind
  - 700 MW of new solar
  - 380 MW of existing natural gas
  - 275 MW of battery storage
- Creation access roads, foundations, transmission lines, substations
- Low clean energy prices and tax incentives, save customers ~$200 million

Pueblo MSA
Net Expenditures and Revenue Requirements by Year


Decrease in:
- Capex
- Opex
- Revenue Requirements
Net Economic Impact

![Graph showing Net Economic Impact for Colorado and Pueblo](image)

**Colorado**
- Capital Expenditures
- Operating Expenditures
- Revenue Requirements

**Pueblo**
- Capital Expenditures
- Operating Expenditures
- Revenue Requirements

What Happened?

**Xcel Energy opens huge, billion-dollar wind farm on Colorado’s Eastern Plains**

Rush Creek, state’s largest wind farm, has 300 turbines and spans five counties. It will start commercial operation Oct. 31.

**Colorado regulators green-light Xcel’s plan boosting renewables, cutting coal**

Critics say plan to retire coal-fired plants early will cost ratepayers millions

**Xcel Energy, partners announce deal for large solar facility at Pueblo steel mill**

Agreement is key to keeping EVRAZ in Pueblo, implementing Xcel Energy’s clean-energy goals
More Colorado coal-fired power plants could be closing, but the timing depends on some complex deals

The utility PacifiCorp hopes to retire its Colorado properties, though co-ownership with power-providers Xcel and Tri-State complicates the process.