

COLORADO CLEAN ENERGY PLAN

PHASE II

INFORMATION SHEET
COLORADO

DELIVERING AFFORDABLE, LOW-COST CLEAN ENERGY
OPTIONS TO SUPPORT OUR CUSTOMERS, COMMUNITIES AND
WORKFORCE

SEPTEMBER 2023



Colorado continues to be a national leader in the clean energy transition. Xcel Energy's Colorado Clean Energy Plan will help to further reduce carbon emissions as we proactively work to keep costs low for our customers while providing safe, reliable and increasingly clean energy, with approximately 80% of customers' electricity coming from renewable sources by the end of the decade.

Approved by the Colorado Public Utilities Commission in 2022, our Clean Energy Plan will:

- Reduce carbon emissions more than 80% by 2030 (from 2005 levels).
- Add unprecedented amounts of renewable energy to the grid.
- End our use of coal by the end of 2030.
- Drive investment and economic development across the state.
- Provide a just transition for communities with retiring coal plants.

Building the future

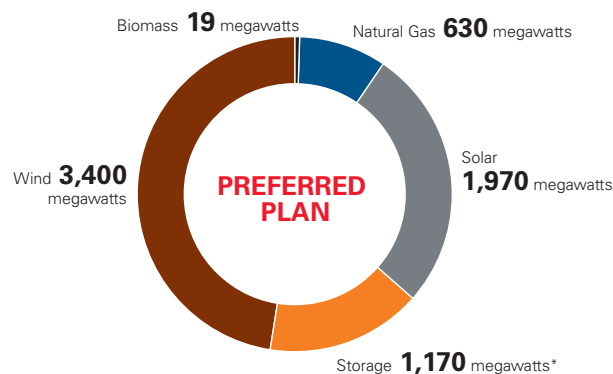
To help make our clean energy plans a reality, we launched a competitive bid process in late 2022 soliciting new generation resources and received more than 1,000 energy project proposals from developers.

Now we are taking the next step forward by providing the Commission with several project portfolios to consider. **Xcel Energy is recommending approval of a Preferred Plan, which includes 22 projects and would double the amount of renewable energy on our system, investing \$14 to \$15 billion across Colorado to deliver more affordable and low-cost clean energy options.** The plan also includes additional investments in transmission infrastructure to enhance reliability in the Denver metro area and throughout the state.

The proposed plan keeps costs low for customers, with an average annual rate impact of 2.3%. This means that adjusted for inflation, the average residential customer's monthly bill in 2030 will be about \$10 more than today.

A balanced energy mix

We are transitioning our energy portfolio using every tool we have, in a flexible way. The Preferred Plan presents a balanced mix of energy generation resources, including dispatchable "always available" resources and energy storage solutions to strengthen electric grid reliability and resiliency. If approved by the Commission, our plan will meet forecasted electric needs from 2023 through 2028.



*Includes capacity from both stand-alone storage and solar plus storage resources



A new carbon-neutral resource

As part of our plan to reduce carbon emissions, we are proposing a new biomass facility at Hayden Generating Station to support the local community and workforce as we fully retire all Hayden coal units by the end of 2028. The facility will use forest waste from fire prevention activities and Rocky Mountain pine beetle-kill wood as a sustainable biofuel. The Hayden Biomass Facility project will:

- Provide enough carbon-neutral generation to supply over 36,000 Colorado homes annually.
- Employ 26 full-time, long-term operations employees.
- Provide a market for byproducts from forest management activities, contributing to reduced wildfire risk, diverting land fill waste and aiding in maintaining healthy forest ecosystems.

Serving local reliability needs

The Preferred Plan includes a limited amount of new, strategically located and highly flexible natural gas combustion turbines at existing brownfield sites to back up wind and solar resources when they are not available. These units are insurance policies – the gas units will run only when system conditions, customer demand or renewable generation requires them – and will not have a significant impact on the overall emissions from our system.

- With the retirement of Xcel Energy’s existing Alamosa combustion turbine in 2025, we’re proposing a new 28 MW combustion turbine to ensure reliable electric service in the San Luis Valley by backing up existing energy generation in the area.
- Our proposed Fort Lupton combustion turbine will support the current system constraints in the Denver metro area. As the existing units at that site are scheduled for retirement in 2026, this project would develop new firm dispatchable generation to help during times of high energy use when customers need electricity the most.

Delivering new energy economy benefits to rural Colorado

Colorado’s Power Pathway, a “transmission highway” currently under construction in eastern Colorado, provided developers new opportunities for proposed projects that tap into the abundant wind and solar resources right in our own backyard. The Preferred Plan projects span the state, with a concentration of proposals located along the Pathway transmission corridor. These projects will bring new economic benefits to rural Colorado via landowner lease payments, job creation and local tax revenue.

A just transition

Our Clean Energy Plan includes workforce transition plans and community assistance commitments for the workers and communities that have supported operations at our retiring power plants over their collective decades of service in Colorado. As every community is unique, each transition requires special attention and consideration. Our Preferred Plan invests in communities across the state, focusing on those with retiring coal plants to ensure they receive support as we transition to a cleaner energy future.

