



2016 Colorado Electric Resource Plan

Powering our energy future

The Our Energy Future plan for Colorado allows Xcel Energy to better serve our customers across the state who depend on safe, reliable and affordable electricity all day, every day. The 2016 Colorado Electric Resource Plan is part of this overall strategy to meet our customers' needs and wants. It ensures we can provide the electricity you depend on, while keeping your energy costs low in the coming years. Our proposal offers a roadmap to protect power reliability, save customers money, deliver increasingly cleaner energy and invest directly into the state's economy.

Plan Highlights

Ensuring power reliability

- We file an electric resource plan at least every four years to evaluate future customer electric demand and determine the generation resources best suited to meet demand.
- We know customers are looking for more options in how their energy is generated. This plan provides a diversified portfolio of resources—including renewable energy development—while simultaneously maintaining reliability and affordability.
- The 2016 Electric Resource Plan identifies a potential need for additional electric power supplies of approximately 600 megawatts (MW of capacity) by 2023.

Delivering cost effective & increasingly clean energy

- In a separate filing with our regulators, we have requested approval to construct, own and operate the Rush Creek Wind Project. If approved, it would be the single largest wind project in the state, delivering clean, carbon-free power and the lowest cost wind energy on our system—while creating jobs and injecting \$1 billion into the region's economy.
- Because wind energy is variable in nature, Rush Creek's 600 MW of wind will provide 50 MW of firm generation capacity, leaving approximately 600 MW of remaining need to fill.
- The plan also identifies an opportunity for approximately 400 MW of additional utility-scale solar generation in Colorado.
- Xcel Energy will be soliciting proposals for more cost effective, clean, renewable energy to add to our existing power supply portfolio.

Creating a flexible solution for the future

- This forward-looking plan allows for flexibility, and that's important. We need a plan that allows us to adapt to changing conditions and environmental compliance requirements over the next five to 10 years.
- Our approach allows customers to realize substantial cost savings in their power supply portfolio while moving the state closer toward anticipated environmental compliance obligations.



Supporting Colorado's energy needs and economic vitality

- Forecasts show Colorado's population growth will continue at its recent historical pace. Current and projected economic conditions show indicator gains in real personal income, the gross state product, employment and construction.
- We have an obligation to provide all customers with safe, reliable, and affordable electricity today and into the future. Our resource plan details how we continue to do just that by balancing the cost of those resources with the need to meet demand for electricity across the state.

Learn more at xcelenergy.com.