

A Process and Legislation to Address Community Energy Goals

Cities and businesses with renewable energy goals need a way to reach them

The problem:

- Over one million Coloradans live in cities that have adopted the near-term goal of obtaining 100% of their electricity from renewable energy sources. Many businesses also have ambitious renewable energy goals.
 - These communities and businesses deserve a practical, cost-effective solution.
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The solution:

- An inclusive stakeholder process led by decision-makers to evaluate the options and identify the best solution(s) and the required legislative and regulatory changes. For example:
 - A legislative interim committee (or other lawmaker-led forum)
 - A Governor's select committee on community and corporate electricity options
 - An investigatory docket at the Public Utilities Commission
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Six possible solutions are described in the white paper:

"A Strategy and Six Ways to Address Community Energy Goals"

- Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) – as in California
 - CCA in a fully competitive state – as in Illinois
 - Community Energy Act (HB18-1428), with improvements
 - Municipalization – a city takes over its electricity system
 - Utility-provided 100% renewable energy for everyone – feasibility examined
 - Green tariffs – adapting programs for large corporations to cities
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The recommended approach:

- No single solution is advocated. Instead, a process is recommended to identify the best solution(s) – a transparent and inclusive stakeholder process led by decision-makers, to ensure that conclusions are well-informed and will be widely accepted.
 - Relevant stakeholders include: cities with energy goals; business interests; environmental and consumer advocates; utilities; independent power producers; and the general public.
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Downloads: EnergyFreedomCO.org (full paper; executive summary; example bill title)