



## **B 2024 001**

### **EXECUTIVE ORDER**

#### **Amending Executive Order B 2021 001 and Ordering Accountability And Transparency In Achieving Colorado's Climate Pollution Reduction Goals**

Pursuant to the authority vested in the Governor of the State of Colorado and, in particular, pursuant to Article IV, Section 2 of the Colorado Constitution, I, Jared Polis, Governor of the State of Colorado, issue this Executive Order, amending Executive Order B 2021 001 and ordering accountability and transparency in achieving Colorado's climate pollution reduction goals.

#### **I. Background and Purpose**

In 2019, I directed State agencies to develop Colorado's first Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Pollution Reduction Roadmap (Roadmap) to ensure that Colorado continues to make progress toward the GHG emission reduction targets outlined in HB 2019-1261, including achieving at least a 50% reduction in statewide emissions from 2005 levels by 2030. After an 18-month long process of robust stakeholder outreach and analysis, the Roadmap was released on January 14, 2021. The Roadmap outlined an all-of-government approach that articulated the actions needed from the General Assembly and the executive branch from 2021 through 2023 to meet GHG targets. The Roadmap identified a broad suite of regulations, rulemaking authority across relevant entities, investments, incentives, and public-private partnerships. Further, the Roadmap acknowledged that we must ensure affordability, equity, just transition for affected workers, high-quality job growth, and energy system reliability as we pursue our climate goals. In the three years since its release, I am proud that the State has implemented, or is in the process of implementing, more than 95% of the actions outlined in the Roadmap, leading to an estimated reduction in GHG emissions equivalent to 84% of the statutory goal for 2030.

On July 2, 2021, I signed Executive Order B 2021 001, ordering alignment with Colorado's sector-specific climate approach. I took this action to ensure near-term, lasting emissions reductions through an all-of government approach. The combination of sector-specific regulatory, incentive, and technical assistance strategies to achieve emissions reductions is working for Colorado.

Building on our accomplishments, our administration has been working to find ways to go further. In 2023, I signed SB 23-016 into law, which updated our 2019 GHG reduction goals to meet new interim targets between the years 2030 and 2050. The new law also increased

the 2050 GHG emission reduction goal from 90% of 2005 GHG pollution levels to 100% (net-zero emissions). Accordingly, after engagement with hundreds of Coloradans, researchers, nongovernmental organizations, local governments, labor organizations, and businesses, we published a revised GHG Pollution Reduction Roadmap (Roadmap 2.0) focused on additional near-term administrative, regulatory, and legislative proposals to continue reducing harmful climate and air pollution. Unlike the first Roadmap, this new effort relies on a public, open-source model (the Energy Policy Simulator) that allows anyone to review modeling assumptions, track progress, and test the impact of additional proposed policies. Roadmap 2.0 also serves as a backbone for Colorado's application to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Climate Pollution Reductions Grants program that offers the potential for millions of dollars in federal support to accelerate these efforts.

Our administration recognizes the importance of driving continuous progress on reducing GHG emissions and providing Colorado more access to frequent, reliable, and safe public transportation and options for walking, biking, and other modes of transportation. And on November 19, 2024, our administration released the *Colorado Transportation Vision: 2035* identifying additional strategies to complement Roadmap 2.0 focused on further transportation sector emissions reductions associated with modal choice.

This Executive Order amends Executive Order B 2021 001 in light of legislative advancements and my continued expectations to ensure accountability and transparency in achieving Colorado's climate pollution reduction goals.

## **II. Amendments**

Replace Section II.A. of Executive Order B 2021 001 with the following:

The Executive Directors of the Colorado Energy Office, Department of Public Health and Environment, Department of Natural Resources, Department of Agriculture, Department of Transportation, Office of Economic Development and International Trade, Department of Labor and Employment (Office of Just Transition), the Department of Local Affairs, and the Department of Regulatory Affairs (State Agencies) shall submit an annual report to the Governor that outlines progress made on implementation of the Greenhouse Gas Pollution Reduction Roadmap 2.0, its predecessor, Colorado Transportation Vision: 2035, and related efforts. The next report should be delivered to the Governor by June 30, 2025, and each June 30 thereafter.

Replace Section II.B. of Executive Order B 2021 001 with the following:

State Agencies shall ensure their policies are aligned with Roadmap 2.0 and support Colorado's all-of-government and sector-specific climate approach to reducing emissions in a cost-effective and equitable manner, and State Agencies shall engage with federal agencies to advocate for federal policy that aligns with and supports Colorado's climate approach. State Agencies shall focus on executing existing policies laid out in Roadmap 2.0 and in State law.

Add the following to Section II of Executive Order B 2021 001:

D. State Agencies shall update the assumptions and/or forecasts in the Colorado Energy Policy Simulator on a regular basis, at least as often as publication of the State's Greenhouse Gas Inventory, to ensure alignment with the most current state emissions inventories and science, and to reflect the evolving policy and technology landscape.



GIVEN under my hand and the  
Executive Seal of the State of  
Colorado this nineteenth  
day of November, 2024.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Jared Polis", is written over a faint, circular embossed seal that matches the Executive Seal of the State of Colorado.

Jared Polis  
Governor