

Colorado Energy Office Annual Performance Report

Strategic Policy Initiatives

The Colorado Energy Office has identified several strategic policy initiatives for FY 2014-15 and beyond. For this evaluation report, the agency selected a few initiatives that best capture some of the agency's strategic and operational priorities and reflect the overall direction as identified by agency leadership. The initiatives also provide context for much of the day-to-day work, which is highlighted in the measures section of the report. Additional detail for these, and other, strategic policy initiatives is available in the agency's performance management plan, which may be accessed here.

Affordable Low-Income Residential Energy – Increase the affordability of residential energy for low-income Coloradans.

While the average Colorado household expends 3-6 percent of household income on energy, low-income households on average expend 10-15 percent of household income on energy. Investing in cost-effective energy efficiency improvements can reduce the energy burden into a more manageable range. When combined with utility bill payment assistance (the Low-Income Energy Assistance Program administered by Colorado Department of Human Services, as well as nonprofit-provided assistance), low-income households no longer live in "energy poverty."

Energy Efficient Facilities – Increase the number of entities across all economic sectors in Colorado (residential, commercial, industrial, agricultural, governmental, etc.) that either purchase or make improvements that lead to highly energy efficient facilities.

Expenditures on energy affect all sectors of Colorado's economy. Cost-effectively reducing energy use improves business profitability, makes better use of public resources and increases the discretionary income in households. The greatest opportunity to improve Colorado's energy utilization is by increasing the energy efficiency of its building structures. Residential and commercial building structures consume an estimated 42.2 percent of the total energy in Colorado. To address this issue, Colorado provides training, resources, technical assistance and proven financing mechanisms within the residential, public and commercial sectors.

Alternative Transportation - Improve the diversification of Colorado's transportation fuel usage.

According to the U.S. Department of Energy, natural gas has consistently been the lowest cost fuel available, averaging just over \$2.00 the equivalent of a gallon of gasoline. With Colorado ranking third in the nation in natural gas reserves, promoting the compressed natural gas (CNG) market also directly affects Colorado's economy. Powered through the electric grid, electric vehicles produce zero tailpipe emissions and provide significant fuel savings. By expanding alternative transportation infrastructure (CNG and EV stations), consumers are more likely to consider the lease/purchase of alternative-fueled vehicles. Through this market transformation, Colorado can lower transportation fuel costs and reduce emissions.



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Renewable and Innovative Electric Generation Development – Support the development of renewable and innovative electric generation technologies in Colorado.

The state's Renewable Energy Standard (RES) was revised in 2013 to include additional technologies that utilities can use to comply with the RES. There are now several emerging technologies conducive for use in Colorado. The development of these technologies offers reduced greenhouse gas emissions, local economic development and a more resilient electric system through generation diversity. Through technical assistance and facilitation of partnerships, Colorado is supporting small hydro and micro hydro, anaerobic digestion, pyrolysis-based waste-to-energy, and geothermal generation.

Operational Measures

Major Program Area – Weatherization Assistance Program Process - Inspection of sub-grantee closed housing units

Measure	FY12 Actual	FY13 Actual	FY14 Actual	1-Year Goal	3-Year Goal
Percent of home retrofits meeting or exceeding performance standards	New measure	New measure	100%	100%	100%
for weatherization	For FY14	for FY14			

The weatherization program inspects 5 percent of weatherized homes for quality assurance.

Major Program Area – Programs and Initiatives Process - Targeted Stakeholder Engagement

Measure	FY12 Actual	FY13 Actual	FY14 Actual	1-Year Goal	3-Year Goal
Number of stakeholders that successfully complete training	New measure	579	1,063	1,300	4,875
	For FY13				

The training program for real estate stakeholders supports the appraisal valuation of high performance residential buildings.



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Major Program Area – Policy, Research and Legislation

Process - Analysis of market and regulatory impediments to accomplishing CEO's mission, and proposed policy solutions

Measure	FY12 Actual	FY13 Actual	FY14 Actual	1-Year Goal	3-Year Goal
Percent of identified market and regulatory impediments for which	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
solutions were proposed					

Major Program Area – Finance and Operations Process – Initiating and executing procurements

Measure	FY12 Actual	FY13 Actual	FY14 Actual	1-Year Goal	3-Year Goal
Percent of procurements executed within seven business days of request	New measure	New measure	70.0%	85.0%	100%
(i.e. internal request initiated by the receipt of a Contract-PO Request	for FY14	for FY14			
Form)					

Major Program Area – Communications

Process – Selecting and publishing informational content (external)

Measure	FY12 Actual	FY13 Actual	FY14 Actual	1-Year Goal	3-Year Goal
Number of web-hits per published story/case-study/article	New measure	New measure	2,380	5,000	6,000
	for FY14	for FY14			