



**CRES**  
**Colorado Renewable  
Energy Society**

*Your Renewable Energy Resource*

## **Colorado Local Clean Energy Policy Guide**

*A Guide to Innovative Policies  
from Across the State Promoting  
Renewable Energy and Energy  
Efficiency*

**April 2011**



## Contents

Colorado Clean Energy Policy Guide Overview .....	3
Key Terms .....	4
Colorado Counties: Innovating RE & EE Policy for Citizens & Businesses .....	5
Colorado Municipalities: Using Collaboration to Support EE and RE .....	16
Rural Electric Associations: Making EE and RE Cost Effective .....	23
Activities by Organization .....	32
Contact CRES .....	34

© 2011 Colorado Renewable Energy Society

The Colorado Renewable Energy Society (CRES) is a nonprofit membership organization whose members work to increase awareness of the economic and environmental benefits of renewable energy and energy efficiency technology and support the sensible adoption of these technologies by Colorado businesses and consumers.

CRES would like to acknowledge Tony Frank, Executive Director, for his conception and vision of this project. In addition, our thanks go to Leslie Martel Baer, MA, project lead, and Ruth Gaulke, MS, MA, project editor. We express our appreciation to Kyle L. Williams of Booz | Allen | Hamilton for cartography services. We would like to acknowledge the data collection efforts and thoughtful feedback of our Policy Committee members, led by Legislative Chair Becky English. Thanks to CRES President Larry Christensen for continuing to lead the charge.

# Colorado Clean Energy Policy Guide Overview

Over the last several years Colorado has done much at the state level to give local communities a framework and “toolbox” for pursuing and developing renewable energy (RE) and energy efficiency (EE) programs. This toolbox represents a “floor” – rather than a ceiling – for what communities can do to develop clean energy. Because local organizations generate ideas by acting upon near-term goals with local leadership and community support, they provide agility and localization leading to innovations not yet occurring at other levels of government. The next critical step in Colorado, and perhaps in the nation, is to document and track these local level policies and citizen efforts to promote RE and EE. The Colorado Local Clean Energy Policy Guide creates a “living” resource to showcase and monitor these innovations and activities. We intend to support our members and Colorado energy consumers in better understanding the opportunities for advancing renewable energy and energy efficiency projects within their own territories, and to provide individuals, businesses, and organizations with resources and ideas upon which to draw.

## Process

To begin an inventory and examination of these policies, the Colorado Renewable Energy Society (CRES) Policy Committee identified the State’s 64 county governments, 29 municipal utilities (munis), and 22 rural electric associations (REAs) as some of the key players in local energy policy development. In the summer of 2010, the committee members created a survey of five open-ended questions, designed to allow each organization to tell its story and demonstrate the unique nature of resources and projects in its region:

- What policies, incentives, programs or new ideas can you tell us about in your area related to renewable energy, efficiency and sustainability?
- Has your organization supported any type of resource assessments or feasibility studies to advance projects?
- What finance innovations or partnerships are in your area to support renewable energy, efficiency and sustainability?
- Can you tell us of any actual renewable energy or efficiency projects in your area? Do you have any projects near or under development?
- What are your organizations barriers and/or what policies are needed to support renewable energy and energy efficiency projects in your area?

## A Work in Progress

The Guide should be viewed as a work in progress, a living document. It is not a comprehensive list of local innovations. We certainly have missed some. However, the Guide does represent the launch of an important resource that will be improved upon and expanded to help local communities learn from each other and better understand what they can do to create projects that will support their local economies and the environment through clean energy development. *We look forward to receiving your contributions of information on local policies, as well as your feedback regarding this effort.*

## How to Use this Guide

This guide contains alphabetical sections for counties, municipal utilities, and rural electric associations; these sections describe programs and activities for each organization supporting RE or EE. Page 4 provides definitions of key industry terms and acronyms. These are generally not repeated in the remainder of the document, so refer to this page as needed. At the back, a table indicates which organizations have programs in the following 5 categories: *Strategy, Assessment & Benchmarking, Defined Targets, Installations and Incentives*. Use the alphabetical listings and the by-category table together to locate the information you need for your home or business.

## Key Terms

**ACRE:** Advancing Colorado's Renewable Energy, a program of the CDA

**CDA:** Colorado Department of Agriculture

**CFL:** Compact fluorescent light bulb (a lighting technology that uses significantly less energy than incandescent bulbs)

**CREB:** Clean Renewable Energy Bonds

**CRES:** Colorado Renewable Energy Society (the publisher of this document)

**DADS:** Denver Arapahoe Disposal Site

**DG:** Distributed generation

**DOE:** Department of Energy

**DSM:** Demand-side management (managing energy usage from the user's end through efficiency and timing)

**EE:** Energy efficiency (e.g., appropriately applied measures such as installation of insulation, efficient lighting, efficient appliances to make reduce the amount of energy required to produce the desired result)

**EECBG:** Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant, a program of the U.S. Department of Energy

**Energy Audit:** An assessment of the energy used to accomplish specific operations; in the case of a residential or home energy audit, the focus is typically on how efficiently energy is used to serve functions such as heating and lighting the home, producing hot water, and running appliances; in the case of a commercial or industrial energy audit additional factors, such as energy used in manufacturing lines, will be included

**FERC:** Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

**GEO:**(Colorado) Governor's Energy Office

**Geothermal:** a category of energy technologies through which heat is captured from subsurface formations to produce space/water heating (e.g., district heating) or—at high temperatures—to produce electricity; if temperatures in formations are not sufficient to provide heating or electricity, the temperature differential between the ground and the air can be used to produce a “heat pump” for space conditioning purposes

**GHG(s):** Greenhouse gas(es)

**GRI:** Global Reporting Initiative

**LED(s):** Light-emitting diode(s) (a technology used to produce high-efficiency lighting)

**Muni:** Municipal utility

**MRF:** Materials recovery facility

**Net Metering:** a electricity distribution billing policy through which utility customers with their own electricity generator (e.g., wind, solar, fuel cell), will see their meter run backward when their generator is producing more power than their building is using, and run forward when their generator is producing less power than required (and, therefore, the customer is drawing from the utility)

**PACE:** Property Assessed Clean Energy (a means of financing EE and RE projects through a lien that stays with the property via the property tax assessment)

**Performance Contracting:** under a performance contract, the installer will pay for the costs of installation and the customer will then pay the installer off of savings realized over time

**PPA:** Power purchase agreement

**RE:** Renewable energy (e.g., biomass/biofuels, geothermal, hydro, solar, and wind)

**REA:** Rural electric association

**REC(s):** Renewable energy credit(s), an instrument through which one entity can purchase the environmental attributes of power renewably generated by another entity

**RPS:** Renewable Portfolio Standard, a regulation or other rule setting the amount of generation or other energy that must come from specifically defined renewable resources

**Solar PV:** Photovoltaic (a technology through which energy in sunlight is directly converted into electricity)

**Solar Thermal:** Technology through which sunlight energy is captured in the form of heat for the purposes of heating (space or water) or, by the production of steam, producing electricity

**USDA:** United States Department of Agriculture

## Colorado Counties: Innovating RE & EE Policy for Citizens & Businesses

In many ways counties are a main access point to information and resources on renewable energy and energy efficiency in Colorado. County employees often have good access to information about programs operating at all levels – federal, state, local, as well as through utilities and other organizations. Frequently, employees are enthusiastic about disseminating this information, if not formally charged to do so by a county sustainability plan or a green team.

Counties can impact individuals and businesses in a variety of ways. In this section you will find information about RE and EE programs from 16 counties across the state including the following:

- Adams County
- Boulder County
- Chaffee County
- Clear Creek County
- Crowley County
- City and County of Denver
- Gilpin County
- Grand County
- Gunnison County
- Huerfano County
- Otero County
- Park County
- Pitkin County
- Pueblo County
- Saguache County
- Summit County

## Adams County

<http://www.adcogov.org>



### Strategy

**Sustainability Coordinator and Green Team.** The Adams County Sustainability Coordinator develops and oversees the county's sustainability goals, including benchmarking and metrics, establishing best practices, education, and more. The Coordinator also oversees "Green Champions" embedded in many of the county's elected offices and departments to educate and advocate for EE and RE action.

**Sustainability Resolution.** In 2010, the Adams Board of County Commissioners passed a resolution to promote sustainability in the county's operations. This resolution broadly addresses such topics as cost-savings through efficiency measures (energy, water and materials), GHG emissions reductions, and community impacts such as reduced environmental risk, improved staff health and productivity, and increased education.

**Energy Efficiency and Conservation Strategy.**



### Assessment & Benchmarking

**GHG Emissions Inventory.**  
**County Building Energy Efficiency Assessments.**



### Installations

**Recycling Efforts.** The county has been expanding its recycling efforts, such as installing a recycling program for the Adams County Fair, as well as implementing new recycling programs for county facilities.

**Energy Efficiency Retrofits.** The county is in the process of creating performance contracts to install energy saving retrofits.

## Boulder County

<http://www.bouldercounty.org/sustain>



### Strategy

**Sustainability Energy Plan.** This plan creates a framework for the county to use in taking action on energy sustainability. The plan includes 25 recommended actions for moving toward a sustainable energy future and reducing carbon emissions.



### Assessment & Benchmarking

**GHG Emissions Inventory.** In 2006, Boulder County completed a GHG emissions inventory, which it followed up with a GHG Mitigation Report. In response to these efforts, the County developed its Sustainable Energy Plan (above).



### Incentives

**Residential and Commercial Assessments.** Boulder County's EnergySmart program assists individuals and businesses with energy assessments as well as free installations of items like energy efficient light bulbs and low-flow showerheads. The program also helps property owners by providing an "energy advisor" to support contractor selection and other tasks during larger energy efficiency projects.

**Commercial Efficiency Loan Program.** The County helps out businesses by offering a loan program specifically designed to finance energy efficiency projects (unfortunately, the residential program has been suspended due to federal issues).

## Chaffee County

<http://www.chaffeecounty.org>



### Strategy

**Sustainability Plan.** In its Chaffee County Plan, the County includes measures to develop energy efficiency and renewable energy. **Energy Plan.** Chaffee has outlined a detailed strategy for energy in the county through its Chaffee County energy *now* plan, which can be found at <http://www.chaffeecounty-energyplan.com>. The final report includes an overview of strategies.



### Assessment & Benchmarking

**Public Assessment.** Through the Colorado State Extension for Chaffee and Park Counties, Chaffee asked residents about their opinions on RE and EE. The survey garnered strong support for these types of programs, supporting the development of programs through the Chaffee County Plan.

**GHG Emissions Inventory.** Chaffee County has conducted a greenhouse gas emissions inventory for the county, the results of which can be found here: <http://www.chaffeecounty-energyplan.com/2010-energynow-plan-and-report>.

**Renewable Energy Needs Assessment.** The County has also conducted an RE needs assessment for the county, outlining recommendations for these investments: <http://www.chaffeecounty-energyplan.com/2010-energynow-plan-and-report>.

## Clear Creek County

<http://co.clear-creek.co.us>



### Strategy

**Energy Infrastructure Plan.** Clear Creek County coordinates with the Clear Creek Watershed Foundation in ensuring that the area's infrastructure is intentionally designed for and supportive of renewables—particularly distributed installations. This goal is accomplished through its Distributed Renewable Energy Infrastructure Mission

**Gilpin/Clear Creek Energy Action Group.** This group brings together a wide range of stakeholders, including the two counties, the towns of Central City, Idaho Springs and Black Hawk, United Power, Inc., the Clear Creek Watershed Foundation, the Sustainable Technology Institute, local businesses, citizens, and other interested parties. The goal of the group is to proactively shape the Gilpin/Clear Creek energy future through EE and RE planning. In 2010, the Group hosted an Energy Expo to educate the community about and promote these technologies. Participation is welcome; contact **Clear Creek Energy Coordinator Rebecca Cantwell** ([Rebecca.Cantwell@colostate.edu](mailto:Rebecca.Cantwell@colostate.edu) or 303-679-4233).



### Assessment & Benchmarking

**Baseline Energy Data.** The County used an NREL-backed Technical Assistance Grant define its baseline energy data for benchmarking purposes.



### Installations

**Courthouse Energy Efficiency Upgrades.** Energy efficiency technologies—such as energy efficient lighting—were deployed as part of the major renovations of the Clear Creek County Courthouse.



### Defined Targets

**RPS.** Resolution R-08-34 defined specific renewable energy goals for the county-wide portfolio over the period 2008–2018.



**Strategy**

**Green Energy Plan.** The County’s plan included an assessment phase as well an implementation plan; the plan was developed with assistance from the CDA ACRE program.

**Community Energy Coordinators.** Crowley is participating in the GEO program to place energy coordinators into communities. These coordinators assist Southeast Colorado residents and businesses with technical assistance such as energy auditing, as well as promote educational and outreach efforts on RE and EE topics.



**Assessment & Benchmarking**

**Energy Assessment.** As part of its green energy plan (see above), the County undertook an energy assessment process.



**Installations**

**Biomass Power.** As part of its assessment under the ACRE program, Crowley County is examining options for using biomass wastes from the Ordway Feedyard for energy production, including incineration, gasifying and anaerobic digestion.

**Solar Installations.** The County has taken advantage of third-party PPAs to install solar systems at local schools.

**Energy Efficiency.** Crowley County is installing energy efficiency upgrades, such as lighting and radiant heat, in select facilities.

**DSM.** In collaboration with its electricity supplier, the county has undertaken DSM analysis to identify potential energy savings.





**Strategy**

**Sustainability Plan.** Greenprint Denver is the City's action plan, touching virtually every aspect of the City's operations. The plan addresses communications, training, outreach, and partnering, as well as setting goals for GHG emissions reductions and renewable energy projects.

**Building Codes.** The City of Denver is working to update building codes to better reflect current energy efficiency technology.

**Community Engagement.** Denver's Neighborhood Energy Action Partnership works to get communities involved in energy issues and to provide resources at the neighborhood level.



**Assessment & Benchmarking**

**Energy Audits.** The City has conducted energy audits of facilities such as recreation centers and libraries under its EECBG funding.

**Resource Assessments.** NREL has worked with Denver to identify the potential for solar installations at municipal facilities.



**Installations**

**Solar PV Installations.** Denver has initiated several PV installations, including at Denver International Airport, Denver Public Schools, the Colorado Convention Center, the Denver Museum of Nature and Science, and 14 other City buildings. In some cases, these installations include PPAs.

**Bicycle Rental Kiosks.** Seven of the B-Cycle kiosks were installed near light rail stations with support from Denver's EECBG.

**Energy Efficiency.** The EECBG funding allowed the City of Denver to install energy efficiency upgrades to its facilities that will save it \$400,000 annually.

**LED Traffic Lights.** Denver has replaced its incandescent traffic lights with LEDs at 200 intersections, with an expected reduction in energy use of 88% at those locations.

**Methane-to-Electricity Plant.** An installation at the DADS and Lowry Landfills sites captures waste gas from the disposal sites and converts it into electricity, serving the surrounding communities.

**Anaerobic Digester.** In collaboration with the Denver Zoo, the City is planning an anaerobic digester at that facility to convert biomass wastes.



**Incentives**

**Low Income Home Weatherization.** Through its EECBG grant, Denver expanded its home weatherization assistance program.

**Incentives Website.** Denver serves up a comprehensive listing of currently available energy-related incentives through its website [www.RechargeColorado.com](http://www.RechargeColorado.com). These offers impact everything from heating and cooling to appliances to renewables installations.

## Gilpin County

<http://www.co.gilpin.co.us>



### Assessment & Benchmarking

**Energy Audit.** In partnership with the GEO, Gilpin County has begun an internal energy audit.



### Installations

**Biomass Energy.** The County has powered its new Road & Bridge facility with a biomass generator.

**Wind Power.** Gilpin County is home to several demonstration wind energy projects and host to a wind turbine manufacturer, with a commercial turbine installation.



### Incentives

**Efficiency and Renewables Utilities Programs.** Gilpin County is served by Xcel Energy and United Power, both of which offer some residential and commercial incentive programs for energy efficiency projects and certain renewables installations.

## Grand County

<http://www.gcbeda.com>



### Strategy

**Green Team.** The County developed the Practically Green Team in collaboration with the Grand County Business and Economic Development Association to bring EE and RE projects to the area.

**Community Funding Models.** Grand County is exploring several models to overcome the financial hurdles to RE and EE for a rural area such as theirs, including solar co-ops (such as the Plymouth Area Renewable Energy Initiative) and a “green power fund” that could be administered by the County’s REA.



### Assessment & Benchmarking

**Biomass Feasibility.** The County’s REA, Mountain Parks Electric, conducted a study of the feasibility of biomass energy in the area. The REA also has less formally looked at district heating/geothermal, wind, and hydro.



### Installations

**Biomass Boiler.** As part of its facilities, Mountain Parks Electric has installed a biomass-powered boiler in Grand County.

**Hydroelectric.** Denver Water installed a hydroelectric turbine at the Williams Fork Reservoir.

**Pellet Manufacturing.** Confluence Energy in Kremmling produces about 100,000 tons of biomass pellets annually, enough to heat approximately 17,000 homes.



### Incentives

**Efficiency and Renewables Rebates.** Through the State of Colorado, Xcel Energy, and Mountain Parks Electric, residents and businesses have access to a range of EE and RE rebate programs.

	<p><b>Strategy</b></p>	<p><b>Green Team and Green Plan.</b> Gunnison County staffs a Green Team to ensure unified, coordinated and efficient action on the County’s environmental goals. The Green Plan encompasses a broad range of goals, from feasibility studies to loaner bicycle programs to recycling to efficiency upgrades.</p> <p><b>Energy Action Plan.</b> The Green Team, in conjunction with the Energy Action Plan Advisory Group, produced an Energy Action Plan for the County with recommendations.</p> <p><b>Carbon Policy Task Force.</b> Gunnison’s Carbon Policy Task Force is in the process of collecting comments from citizens on its recommendations for meeting the County’s environmental goals.</p>
	<p><b>Assessment &amp; Benchmarking</b></p>	<p><b>Energy Audit.</b> The County has completed an energy audit of its facilities.</p> <p><b>Performance Contracting Feasibility Study.</b> Gunnison County examined the feasibility of performance contracting for energy efficiency upgrades to its facilities.</p>
	<p><b>Installations</b></p>	<p><b>Energy Efficiency Improvements.</b> The County undertook significant energy efficiency improvements at 15 of its facilities.</p> <p><b>Solar Installation.</b> Gunnison has installed a demonstration solar system.</p>
	<p><b>Defined Targets</b></p>	<p><b>Carbon Emissions Reduction Goal.</b> The County has established a goal for itself of reaching U.S. carbon reduction goals.</p>

## Huerfano County

<http://www.huerfano.us>



### Assessment & Benchmarking

**Energy Audit.** Huerfano is in the process of completing an energy audit of its facilities, with support from the GEO.  
**Thermal Energy Feasibility.** A study is underway in the County to examine the feasibility of a thermal energy project.



### Installations

**Renewably Powered Ski Area.** The Cucharas Ski area is under redevelopment, with plans to provide its power with wind, solar and hydro power.  
**Thermal Energy Storage.** Working with San Isabel Electric and E-On Climate Renewables, the County is developing a unique distribution program for residential thermal energy storage units.  
**Biomass Energy.** Huerfano is exploring a biomass generator and pellet manufacturing operation at its waste transfer station.  
**Wind Power.** E-On has applied for a 200 MW wind farm permit in Huerfano and Las Animas Counties.



### Incentives

**Net Metering.** Huerfano County is partnering with San Isabel Electric to develop a net metering agreement.

## Otero County

<http://www.oterogov.com>



### Strategy

**Partnering.** Otero County has proactively pursued partnerships with organizations such as Tri-County Housing, the USDA, GEO and regional Energy Coordinators to further its RE and EE goals.



### Assessment & Benchmarking

**Technology Assessment.** Otero County is currently examining ways that solar, biomass, waste-to-energy and wind energy could be used to advantage within the county.  
**Energy Audit.** The County is conducting energy audits in preparation for pursuing energy efficiency upgrades via performance contracting.  
**Resource Assessment.** Otero has received support from the GEO for assessment of its solar resource.



### Installations




**Energy Efficiency Product Production.** Efforts are underway within the County to launch manufacturing of energy efficiency products.  
**Biodiesel Plant.** Within the county, a seed process plant presses oil seed, delivers the fuel product for vehicle use and returns the solids in cake form as a feed supplement.

## Park County

	<b>Strategy</b>	<p><b>EE-RE Initiative.</b> This volunteer initiative aggressively promotes public outreach on RE and EE issues, including increasing the public's awareness of all federal, state, and local incentive programs available within the county.</p> <p><b>Energy Sustainability Program.</b> Launched by the EE-RE Initiative in 2010/2011, this program will move beyond outreach to more proactively guide energy and sustainability efforts within the county.</p>
	<b>Assessment &amp; Benchmarking</b>	<p><b>Biomass Feasibility.</b> Several biomass boiler and heating projects are under consideration for county facilities, following the successful deployment of such projects in the area.</p>
	<b>Installations</b>	<p><b>Biomass Energy.</b> The Fairplay Recreation Center hosts a wood pellet boiler, eliminating about 30,000 gal/year of propane use.</p> <p><b>Residential Solar PV.</b> Park County is home to numerous residential solar PV systems, with more planned for installation.</p>
	<b>Incentives</b>	<p><b>Energy Audit Program.</b> The utilities serving Park County offer customers a variety of energy audit programs.</p>

## Pitkin County

<http://www.aspenpitkin.com>

	<b>Assessment &amp; Benchmarking</b>	<p><b>Assessments and Feasibility Studies.</b> All of the utilities in the County – Holy Cross Energy, SourceGas, and City of Aspen Electric – have conducted assessments on issues such as energy use, efficiency and technology feasibility.</p>
	<b>Installations</b>	<p><b>Solar PV.</b> There are several solar PV systems installed within the City of Aspen.</p> <p><b>Hydroelectric.</b> The City of Aspen is home to a number of hydroelectric projects.</p>
	<b>Incentives</b>	<p><b>Efficiency and Renewables Rebates.</b> Pitkin County boasts rebate opportunities at every level, from federal and state incentives to those offered by local utilities and cities. The County also took advantage of a large DOE grant to target residential efficiency through a revolving loan program. Some of these grant funds will also be used to support utility on-bill pay financing of EE and RE projects. The County is also supporting government-assisted private bank financing of such projects. Waiting for PACE issues to be resolved.</p>

## Pueblo County

<http://co.pueblo.co.us>



### Strategy

**Strategic Plan.** Pueblo County has developed a “20 year vision” that addresses energy—in terms of RE/EE as well as other energy approach – for the coming decades.



### Installations

**Solar PV.** The County now has 9 buildings with solar PV installations and PPAs in place, totally 750 kW at \$0.02/kWh.

**Energy Efficiency.** Pueblo County has a performance contract with Johnson Controls Energy Efficiency to provide energy efficiency upgrades to many of its facilities.

## Saguache County

<http://www.saguachecounty-co.gov>



### Assessment & Benchmarking



**Energy Audit.** Saguache County has had third-party energy audits of all of its buildings completed.



### Incentives

**Energy Efficiency Rebates.** The County has offered, through partnership with the GEO, rebates for energy efficiency improvements.

**Energy Audits.** Saguache facilitates energy audits for residences.

	<b>Strategy</b>	<p><b>Sustainability Task Force and Action Plan.</b> The Task Force has developed and Action Plan for the county, address a broad range of sustainability issues. The plan, which is still in draft form, outlines a pathway to net zero energy facilities by 2030 and focuses on facilities, transportation, waste prevention, purchasing, resource management, communication, education, outreach, funding and partnerships for County activities.</p> <p><b>Building Codes.</b> Summit County adopted a “sustainable building code” to increase the efficiency of its building stock. It was developed in partnership with the High Country Conservation Center (HCCC) and adopted in 2008.</p> <p><b>Partnerships.</b> The County has been proactive in building partnerships with non-profit organizations such as the HCCC and with town governments.</p>
	<b>Assessment &amp; Benchmarking</b>	<p><b>Energy Audit.</b> In 2007, the County completed energy audits of all County facilities.</p> <p><b>Renewables Feasibility.</b> Summit County has completed a feasibility study to examine the potential of solar PV, solar thermal, geothermal and wind for all County facilities.</p>
	<b>Installations</b>	<p><b>Energy Efficiency.</b> Following the recommendations outlined in the 2007 Energy Audits, Summit County undertook energy efficiency upgrades, including lighting upgrades, mechanical and control system improvements, and building insulation.</p> <p><b>Solar PV.</b> Five solar PV installations have been approved for County facilities, for total generation of 113.8 kW.</p> <p><b>MRF.</b> The County landfill now hosts a MRF to for large-scale processing of recyclable materials.</p> <p><b>Composting.</b> Summit County is developing a commercial scale composting facility.</p>
	<b>Defined Targets</b>	<p><b>Net Zero Facilities.</b> The County has specific goals for renewable energy production and for having net-zero facilities by 2030 (see Action Plan above).</p>
	<b>Incentives</b>	<p><b>Energy Efficiency Improvements.</b> Summit County, town governments, and the HCCC have partnered to create a County-wide revolving loan program. The program will help homeowners make energy efficiency improvements to their properties and repay the loans through property tax payments <a href="http://www.highcountryconservation.org/home_energy_loan_program.html">http://www.highcountryconservation.org/home_energy_loan_program.html</a>.</p>

## Colorado Municipalities: Using Collaboration to Support EE and RE

Several municipal utilities – frequently in collaboration with a local government partner – are creating innovative programs to promote the use of renewable energy and energy efficiency.





In this section you will find information about RE and EE programs from 9 municipalities across the state including the following:

- Burlington Municipal Utilities
- Colorado Springs Utilities
- Fort Collins Utilities
- City of Gunnison Public Works
- Holyoke Municipal Light and Power
- Town of Julesburg
- Longmont Power & Communications
- Lyons Municipal Light and Power Department
- Trinidad Municipal Power & Light








## Burlington Municipal Utilities

<http://burlingtoncolo.com>

	<b>Strategy</b>	<b>Usage Policy.</b> Water restrictions during summer months to conserve electric energy and usage.
	<b>Assessment &amp; Benchmarking</b>	<b>Baseline Energy Data.</b> The Utility is in the process of working with the GEO to determine what studies of resource assessment should be undertaken and what opportunities are available to do so.
	<b>Installations</b>	<b>Wind Power.</b> Burlington partners with Duke Energy through KC Electric/Tri-State partnering to access wind generation for its customers.
	<b>Incentives</b>	<b>Light Bulb Distribution.</b> To encourage consumers to conserve energy, the Utility distributes energy saving light bulbs at a variety of community events.

## Colorado Springs Utilities (CSU)

<http://www.csu.org>

	<b>Strategy</b>	<b>Energy Plan.</b> CSU established the Electric Integrated Resource plan, which it updates every few years and uses to guide the Utilities' DSM and RE goals. Updating of the plan includes public participation.
	<b>Assessment &amp; Benchmarking</b>	<b>DSM Potential Study.</b> Colorado Springs conducted a study of its DSM potential to guide decisions regarding its DSM program offerings.
	<b>Installations</b>	<p><b>Solar.</b> The United States Air Force operates a significant solar project: <a href="http://www.csu.org/residential/about/videos/item8461.html">http://www.csu.org/residential/about/videos/item8461.html</a>. In addition, CSU has had more than 130 other solar PV installations added to its service territory since 2006 and more than 30 solar thermal installations since 2009.</p> <p><b>Biomass.</b> The Colorado Springs service territory is home to a woody biomass generation project: <a href="http://www.csu.org/residential/environment/renewable/item2621.html">http://www.csu.org/residential/environment/renewable/item2621.html</a></p> <p><b>Wind Generation.</b> Two wind turbine installations have recently been completed in the CSU area.</p>
	<b>Defined Targets</b>	<b>Defined RPS.</b> In its Electric Integrated Resource plan, Colorado Springs Utilities sets specific DSM and renewable energy goals. It also approved an Energy Vision that proposes 20% renewable generation by 2020.
	<b>Incentives</b>	<p><b>Energy Efficiency.</b> The Utilities offer many residential and commercial services and rebates to support energy efficiency projects. Some programs are offered in partnership with the GEO and include weatherizing, appliance and other rebate programs (see <a href="http://www.rechargecolorado.com">www.rechargecolorado.com</a>), and a free RE/EE contractor approval service.</p> <p><b>Renewables Rebates.</b> CSU doubled its solar PV rebate for 2011 and extended other rebates in partnership with the GEO. Further, CSU customers can assign their installation rebates to contractors, helping them to overcome up-front costs.</p> <p><b>Loan Programs.</b> Colorado Springs partners with ENT Federal Credit Union for several years to offer home improvement financing to our customers: <a href="http://www.csu.org/residential/services/home/item880.html">http://www.csu.org/residential/services/home/item880.html</a>. It is also exploring ways to use the federal housing authority to support a home energy retrofit loan pilot program.</p> <p><b>CFL Bulbs.</b> CSU partnered with local non-profit Project Smart Light to install CFLs for free and offers point-of-purchase discounts.</p>

	<b>Strategy</b>	<p><b>Sustainability Plan.</b> The City’s “21<sup>st</sup> Century Utility Initiative” is a long-term sustainability plan, including an annual report to the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI)</p> <p><b>Education.</b> The Fort Collins Utilities offer the Environmental Program Series to educate home-owners and businesses on sustainability opportunities. It also helps businesses reduce carbon footprints through the ClimateWise program. Businesses have access to the “Keep Current” e-newsletter and Ask-an-Expert Service for their energy-related questions.</p> <p><b>Information.</b> Home owners can compare their usage to that of similar local residences through Home Energy Reports, while businesses can access ElectricConnect for an online view of their power usage data.</p>
	<b>Assessment &amp; Benchmarking</b>	<p><b>Energy Efficiency Potential Study.</b> This study quantified the savings potential of a variety of efficiency strategies.</p> <p><b>Sustainability Information Management.</b> The Utilities are conducting the “Carbon City” pilot project to integrate sustainability information management system (SIMS) software with utility billing and property records.</p>
	<b>Installations</b>	<p><b>Wind Power.</b>The Utilities have a PPA with the Platte River Power Authority for 12 MW of capacity from Silver Sage Wind Farm.</p> <p><b>Solar PV.</b> Fort Collins Utilities supports small PV installations a variety of City buildings.</p> <p><b>Air Conditioning Programs.</b> Fort Collins offers AC load management and “CheckMe!®” AC tune-ups.</p> <p><b>Advanced Metering Infrastructure.</b> With support from a federal matching grant, the Utilities are transitioning to a “smart grid” with the installation of advanced metering throughout its system.</p>
	<b>Defined Targets</b>	<p><b>GHG Emissions Reductions Goals.</b> The Fort Collins Utilities supports the City’s Climate Action Plan of reducing the City’s carbon footprint by 20% below 2005 levels by 2020 and 80% below by 2050.</p> <p><b>Energy Policy Efficiency Target.</b> A target of 1.5% savings annually through efficiency has been set by the Utilities.</p>
	<b>Incentives</b>	<p><b>Rebates.</b> Fort Collins offers a variety of rebates on items such as appliances and solar PV systems, for home and businesses.</p> <p><b>Energy Efficiency.</b>The Utilities help home-owners increase the efficiency of their homes with discounts on home energy audits, rebates on efficiency installations, and access to an installer network. Businesses can access similar services through the Integrated Design Assistance Program for new construction and the Building Tune-Up Program for retro-commissioning projects.</p> <p><b>Loan Program.</b> Fort Collins Utilities offers a zero-interest home improvement loan program for energy upgrades.</p> <p><b>CFL Discounts.</b> Consumers can access CFLs at local retailers at discounted prices through a program supported by the Fort Collins Utilities.</p> <p><b>On-Bill Financing.</b> Fort Collins is developing a mechanism through which energy projects would be assigned to a property and paid for through tax or other bills, making the projects more affordable at the outset and transferrable with the property.</p>

## City of Gunnison Public Works

[http://www.cityofgunnison-co.gov/services/utility\\_info.htm](http://www.cityofgunnison-co.gov/services/utility_info.htm)



### Installations

**Wind Installations.** The City of Gunnison has wind-generated electricity available for City of Gunnison electric customers. Wind energy is sold in 100 kW blocks for an additional \$1.70 per block. Customers must contact City Hall to sign up.

## Holyoke Municipal Light and Power



### Assessment & Benchmarking

**Energy Audits.** Holyoke offers customer access to energy audit support through its supplier, Municipal Energy Agency of Nebraska (MEAN).



### Installations

**Wind Power.** Several large wind projects in the area that MEAN helps with financing.

## Town of Julesburg

<http://townofjulesburg.com/CityGovernment.aspx>



### Assessment & Benchmarking

**Energy Audits.** Julesburg offers customer access to energy audit support through its supplier, MEAN.



### Incentives

**DSM.** MEAN offers load management programs, in which consumers voluntarily sign up for periodic AC compressor shut off.

**Commercial Lighting Program.** MEAN offers a program for commercial facility to reduce their energy usage by switching out lighting.

**RECs.** MEAN is beginning to make RECs (renewable energy credits) available to Julesburg customers.



**Installations**

**Energy Efficiency.** Through a performance contract, the City updated 300,000 square feet of building space, including efficient lighting, lighting control (e.g., occupancy sensors, lighting panels), retro-commissioning of all existing HVAC equipment, and night setbacks.

**Solar Thermal.** Longmont has installed two solar thermal systems for heating community pools and domestic hot water at adjacent facilities.

**Solar PV.** The muni has installed a small PV array and is using PV cells laminated in glass to combine daylighting with electricity generation at the Civic Center Complex.



**Incentives**

**Net metering.** Longmont offers its customers a self-generation rate/net metering.

**Commercial Energy Audits.** In partnership with the Longmont Downtown Authority, LPC developed an energy audit and implementation assistance program for commercial customers. In 2009-2010 program performed more than 50 energy audits and awarded matching grant funds to more than 20 customers who implemented efficiency measures.

**Efficiency and Renewables Rebates.** LPC and Platte River Power Authority offer variety of rebates and can be found on the respective websites: [www.ci.longmont.co.us/lpc/cv](http://www.ci.longmont.co.us/lpc/cv) and [www.prpa.org](http://www.prpa.org).

## Lyons Municipal Light and Power Department

<http://sustainablelyons.townoflyons.com/>



### Strategy

**Sustainability Team.** The Town of Lyons has formed a Sustainable Futures Committee, which provides guidance on a broad range of sustainability topics and planning.

**Partnerships.** Lyons Municipal has promulgated several key partnerships, including those with SFC, the GEO, Poudre Valley Electric Incentives, Town of Lyons Net Metering.

**Zero Waste.** Lyons is able to take advantage of the services included in Boulder County's Zero Waste program.



### Installations

**Hydroelectric Power.** Significant installation on local river.

**LED Lighting.** Lyons has used a grant to install LEDs in its downtown area.

**Electric Carts.** These vehicles are permitted on town streets.

**Biofuels.** Lyons Municipal is exploring the use of algae to produce biodiesel.



### Incentives

**Net Metering.** The Town of Lyons offers its customers a net metering program for consumers with solar PV installations.

**Rebates.** SMART rebates.

## Trinidad Municipal Power & Light

<http://www.historictrinidad.com/city/government.html>



### Incentives

**Efficient Light Bulbs.** Trinidad is served by the Arkansas River Power Authority, which will be providing several thousand CFL light bulbs for the muni to give away to customers.

## Rural Electric Associations: Making EE and RE Cost Effective

Rural electric associations (REAs) are focused on providing the best service to their customers at the lowest possible price. Several REAs are demonstrating how to integrate clean energy initiatives economically and broaden the opportunities for customers to benefit from a more diverse energy portfolio.

In this section you will find information about RE and EE programs from 12 REAs across the state including the following:

- Delta-Montrose Electric Association (DMEA)
- Grand Valley Power (GVP)
- Gunnison County Electrification Association (GCEA)
- High West Energy, Inc.
- Highline Electric Association (HEA)
- La Plata Electric Association, Inc. (LPEA)
- Mountain View Electric Association (MVEA)
- Poudre Valley Rural Electric Association (PVREA)
- San Isabel Electric Association (SIEA)
- San Miguel Power Association, Inc. (SMPA)
- Sangre De Cristo Electric Association, Inc. (SDCEA)
- United Power

## Delta-Montrose Electric Association (DMEA)

<http://www.dmea.com/>



### Installations

**Hydro Power.** DMEA is developing a 6 MW hydro power project, called the South Canal, in conjunction with the Uncompahgre Valley Water Users Association (UVWUA).

**Community Solar Array.** With leasing already underway, DMEA customers can be a part of the generation of this solar array for as little as \$10, and receive a net metering credit on their bill for their participation.



### Incentives

**Net Metering.** DMEA offers its customers with DG capacity a streamlined net-metering application process with continuous roll-over.

**Solar Rebates.** In partnership with the GEO, DMEA contributes to a total solar PV rebate of \$3.00/W up to \$9,000 for residential installations, and \$1.50/W up to \$3,000 for commercial installations. A rebate on solar thermal systems of up to \$3,000 is available from DMEA.

## Grand Valley Power (GVP)

<http://www.gvp.org>



### Assessment & Benchmarking

**Solar Farms Feasibility.** Grand Valley is exploring the possibility of requesting proposals for solar farms in its service territory.



### Installations

**Wind Power.** Through its supplier, the REA is able to provide wind energy blocks for purchase at \$2.50/100kWh per month.

**Geo-exchange.** In its new headquarters, Grand Valley enjoys a vertical geo-exchange heating system.

**Solar PV.** GVP headquarters hosts a 7.8 kW array.



### Incentives

**Net Metering.** The REA offers a net-metering program for its customers with distributed generation systems.

**EE Audits.** Grand Valley offers a free residential energy audit program to help its customers cut energy costs  
[http://www.gvp.org/energy\\_tips/help.php](http://www.gvp.org/energy_tips/help.php)

**CFL Recycling.** GVP provides free CFL recycling for its members, making it easier to dispose of these energy-saving appliances at their end-of-life.



**Gunnison County  
Electrification Association  
(GCEA)**

<http://www.gcea.coop>



**Strategy**

**Partnerships.** Gunnison works with the Colorado Office for Resource Efficiency (ORE) to create some of its programs and rebates. The REA also partners with the High Country Citizens Alliance for outreach and educational activities.

**Community Awareness.** GCEA promotes awareness of EE through media campaigns and outlets such as the Crested Butte Farmers' market.



**Assessment  
& Benchmarking**

**Hydropower Feasibility.** GCEA is conducting a feasibility study for hydro power at Taylor Lake.

**Wind Power Feasibility.** The REA is pursuing a GEO grant to build a wind generation facility at the Doyleville.



**Incentives**

**Net Metering.** GCEA offers a net-metering program for its customers with distributed generation systems.

**Energy Efficiency.** Through its ORE partnership GCEA is able to provide energy assessments and efficiency kits along with EE rebates.

**High West Energy Inc.**

<http://www.highwest-energy.com>



**Installations**

**RE Energy Programs.** High West customers have access to renewably generated electricity through the Green Power program offered by Tri-State (High West's supplier).

**Wind.** Several utility scale wind projects are in place within High West Energy's service territory.



**Incentives**

**Net Metering Program.** High West offers its customers a net metering program, currently being used by approximately 40 customers with DG systems.

**Energy Efficiency.** The REA offers residential and commercial energy audits, as well as rebates on EE installations, through a Tri-State program.

**Time of use rate program.** For those who own – or are willing to install – appropriate electric thermal storage equipment, High West offers a time-of-use rate program.

**Tax Credits.** Wyoming offers state tax credits comparable to federal tax credits for RE development, which increased the number of systems within High West's Wyoming territory.



**Assessment & Benchmarking**

**Wind Distribution and Feasibility Studies.** In 2005, Highline undertook a wind distribution study at all 16 of its substations. The study showed more than 90 MW of wind generation could be installed with minimal infrastructure improvements. This result attracted interest from utilities and developers. Further, the REA participated in the 2008 Small Wind Feasibility Study with RMFU, SE RC&D and iCAST (funded by a CDA ACRE grant).

**System Impact Studies.** Highline has developed unique interconnection procedures to assist in system impact studies. An engineering firm was selected to assist in developing the procedures, which mimic FERC approaches.

**Hydro Power Study.** A study was completed for hydro power on North Sterling Reservoir. Determined not feasible.

**Metering Pilot Project.** An application was submitted through Tri-State for a 2011 pilot project for Automated Meter Infrastructure/Smart Grid meters using radio frequency.



**Installations**

**"Trailblazer Generation" Project.** This project captures heat from an existing natural gas compressor east of Peetz. Operating at approximately 70% capacity, the project is producing 3.5 MW of electricity. It helps HEA to meet its Colorado RPS obligations.

**Load Control.** Highline offers farm irrigators a load control program, saving members \$1 million in power price.

**Wind and Solar Power.** Three net-metered wind systems are installed in the HEA region, ranging from 2 kW to 20 kW of capacity. Chinook Wind is planning a net metered solar-wind combined project.

**Biomass to Power.** Partnering with Northeast RC&D on a biomass-to-power project, Highline will work with 3 hog producers near Fleming in Logan County; this project will also contribute to the REAs Colorado RPS obligations.



**Incentives**

**DG Rebates.** HEA uses its own pool of money to provide \$2/W rebates up to \$4,000 for wind, solar and hydro power DG projects.

**Efficient Motor.** With a match from Tri-State, Highline participates in the Efficient Motor rebate program.





**Net metering.** Net metering is available to HEA customers beyond 25 kW up to 100 kW on a case-by-case basis.





**Reduction in Fees/Tariffs.** By reducing wheeling fees and tariffs by 40% for all RE utility-scale projects interconnecting to the system, Highline aims to give RE projects a more competitive environment. Projects installed in the next 2 years will have a reduced rate for life of the project. Installation of utility-scale project up to 30 MW can mean an additional \$250,000/year to the REA using the existing infrastructure.





	<b>Strategy</b>	<p><b>Partnerships.</b>La Plata is proactive in creating productive partnerships and currently is working on programs with the following organizations: Colorado GEO, Four Corners Office of Resource Efficiency, local sustainability groups, Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Energy Star, local homebuilders, and local home associations.</p> <p><b>Climate and Energy Action Plan.</b>Four Corners Office of Resource Efficiency (4CORE) is developing this plan with La Plata to help advance RE and EE projects.</p>
	<b>Assessment &amp; Benchmarking</b>	<p><b>Community Solar Farm.</b>LPEA has initiated an investigation for a community solar farm at a number of potential sites.</p> <p><b>Feasibility Study Support.</b> LPEA partners with local developers, membership, and renewable generation installers on studying the feasibility of RE and EE projects.</p>
	<b>Installations</b>	<p><b>DOE4-5 MW Solar Farm.</b> The Department of Energy is evaluating a 4-5 MW solar farm in the LPEA service territory.</p> <p><b>Solar PV.</b> See Year-End Solar goal above.</p>
	<b>Defined Targets</b>	<p><b>Year-End Solar Renewable Generation.</b> La Plata has set a goal of 1MW of total member-owned, net-metered, interconnected solar PV DG in the service territory by the end of 2011.</p>
	<b>Incentives</b>	<p><b>Energy Efficiency.</b> Members can sign up to receive an EE assessment, as well as access EE rebates and other credits through LPEA.</p> <p><b>GEO Solar Rebate Grants.</b> Some solar installers in the La Plata service territory are offering the GEO solar rebates for new installations.</p> <p><b>REC Purchases.</b>LPEA offers to purchase RECs from new renewable generation installations, which aids with upfront costs for local renewable generation projects.</p>

## Mountain View Electric Association (MVEA)

<http://www.mvea.org>





	<b>Strategy</b>	<b>Education.</b> Mountain View provides a variety of education services, including publications, on EE and RE for their customers.
	<b>Assessment &amp; Benchmarking</b>	<b>LED Lighting Study.</b> This REA is studying the feasibility of using LED lighting for security and street lights in rural areas. <b>Geothermal.</b> MVEA has geothermal installations at their new headquarters to study the applicability of these systems in other projects.
	<b>Installations</b>	<b>Demonstration Projects.</b> MVEA hosts both solar and wind demonstration projects at their offices, with live generation data viewable
	<b>Incentives</b>	<b>Energy Efficiency.</b> Mountain View offers a broad range of EE rebates, including rebates on many appliances. As for many utilities, MVEA's rebate offerings can be found at <a href="http://www.dsireusa.org/incentives/incentive.cfm?Incentive_Code=CO40F&amp;re=1&amp;ee=1">http://www.dsireusa.org/incentives/incentive.cfm?Incentive_Code=CO40F&amp;re=1&amp;ee=1</a> . In addition, the REA provides a free, online energy audit, as well as a link to the national EE tool, Touch Tone. <b>Energy System Rebates.</b> This REA offers rebates on a number of heat pump/thermal system installations, including heat pumps, terminal heat pumps, thermal slab/ETS, and electric motors for commercial, industrial, residential and agricultural applications. <b>Net Metering.</b> MVEA provides a net metering program for solar PV and wind DG installations., with the GEO serving as a matching fund partner on PV and wind installations. <b>PPAs.</b> In some cases, PPAs can be arranged for solar PV installations. <b>Loan Program.</b> Some banks within the MVEA service territory are offering loans for RE and EE investments.

	<b>Strategy</b>	<p><b>Education.</b> PVREA participates in development of the Lyons EE curriculum, which is also connected to the REA's REC program.</p> <p><b>Community Awareness.</b> Poudre Valley attends several area fairs and festivals annually to promote EE, including the NCBR's Green Summit. It also hosted/sponsored a geothermal workshop in 2009.</p> <p><b>Partnerships.</b> PVREA partnered with Platte River Power Authority and others to promote E-Star NoCo homes, and SELECT HVAC contractor's certification program for efficiency/sustainability.</p> <p><b>Load, Reliability and Construction Planning.</b> With its supplier, PVREA creates annual, 4-year and 10-year work/resource plans.</p>
	<b>Assessment &amp; Benchmarking</b>	<p><b>Solar PV Assessments.</b> Large solar PV is being discussed by private ventures in service territory.</p>
	<b>Installations</b>	<p><b>Solar.</b> Tri-State, PVREA's supplier, is constructing 30 MW and 51 MW solar plants. The REA installed a "demo" 2.1kW solar project to educate its members. The system provides power to the Association's community room. A 25 kW PV system serves Lyons School. Larimer County Land Fill installed a 19.3 kW PV system at the facility south of Fort Collins.</p> <p><b>Waste Gas.</b> PVREA is active in the Larimer County Landfill Gas Project (on hold), from which it expects to purchase energy.</p> <p><b>Net-metering.</b> Poudre Valley offers customers a net-metering program, which currently has more than 56 net-metering consumers totaling 320 kW.</p>
	<b>Incentives</b>	<p><b>Energy Efficiency.</b> The REA started the CARE Fund Program in 2010 to help lower income consumers with EE home improvements by providing a free energy audit and a \$1,500 grant for installations. It also offers the Commercial Lighting Retrofit rebate. Rebates are also available for controlled electric thermal storage heating systems, energy efficient electric water heaters, energy star certified refrigerators, freezers, dishwashers, clothes dryers, and air conditioning units. The REA also supports the ongoing rebate program for insulation and energy audits.</p> <p><b>Solar PV.</b> PV rebates have been available annually through PVREA since 2008 with \$25,000-\$30,000 distributed for 8-10 systems.</p> <p><b>Heat Pump Rebates.</b> Poudre Valley provides ground and air source heat pumps rebates, including a \$53,000 ground source heat pump rebate provided to the Windsor area Weld County School District RE 4, for the new Severance/Windsor School.</p> <p><b>Loans.</b> The Association promotes USDA's low interest loan for energy efficiency improvements.</p> <p><b>RECs.</b> Poudre Valley offered a \$25,000 REC payment for Lyons School 25 KW system in 2009 (curriculum development above).</p> <p><b>Time of Use Rate Program.</b> PVREA customers can take advantage of its time-of-use rate program to minimize their costs.</p>

	<b>Strategy</b>	<b>Partnerships.</b> San Isabel partners with local area Council of Governments' EE and RE coordinator, providing energy information as requested.
	<b>Assessment &amp; Benchmarking</b>	<p><b>Wind Resource Assessment.</b> SIEA has performed anemometer studies in the Walsenburg area over eight years.</p> <p><b>Solar PV and Wind Proposals.</b> The REA has received a number of inquiries from developers wishing to build utility-scale PV and wind generation in its territory, while the proposals have faced challenges with respect to transmission; San Isabel is conducting an on-going investigation of feasibility for wind and solar generation.</p> <p><b>Federal Programs Assessment.</b> San Isabel is reviewing options for financing of renewable generation through federal programs such as CREBs and a federal utility service lender.</p>
	<b>Installations</b>	<b>Wind and Solar Generation.</b> At least 20 customers with either wind or solar installations operate DG within the SIEA service territory; about 75% of those are solar installations.
	<b>Incentives</b>	<p><b>Net Metering.</b> San Isabel provides its customers with a net metering plan for their DG installations.</p> <p><b>DG Rebates.</b> SIEA supports the GEO consolidated rebate program for DG, which spurred new installations in 2010.</p> <p><b>Energy Efficient Water Heaters.</b> The REA sells high efficiency electric water heaters with Styrofoam insulation to its members.</p> <p><b>Time-of-Use Rates.</b> For businesses and residences with electric thermal storage, SIEA offers a time-of-use rate during off-peak hours to shave peak load off of the grid and shift usage to night time.</p>



**San Miguel Power Association, Inc. (SMPA)**

<http://www.smpa.com>

	<b>Strategy</b>	<b>Renewable Energy Fund.</b> Through the Green Cents program, SMPA members can contribute to the RE Fund by having their monthly bill rounded up. These cents go to the Fund, which supports RE projects in the REA's territory.
	<b>Assessment &amp; Benchmarking</b>	<b>Utility Scale Renewable RFPs.</b> San Miguel is in the process of issuing two RFPs for commercial scale renewable generation installations.
	<b>Installations</b>	<b>RECs.</b> Through its suppliers, San Miguel offers renewable generation that its members can purchase through RECs of \$1.00/100 kWh per month.
	<b>Incentives</b>	<b>RE Rebates.</b> SMPA offers RE rebates of \$3/W with a \$3,400 cap for systems at or below 10 kW and a cap of \$4,500 for 25 kW.



**Sangre De Cristo Electric Association, Inc.**

<http://www.myelectric.coop>






	<b>Assessment &amp; Benchmarking</b>	<b>Data Tracking.</b> The REA uses specialized software to monitor wind and solar resource data.
	<b>Incentives</b>	<b>Energy Efficiency.</b> Sangre De Cristo offers a variety of efficiency tools and programs to residences and businesses, including the Business Energy Advisor, the Commercial Energy Savings Guide and weatherization for low-income residents.

**United Power, Inc.**






<http://www.unitedpower.com>

	<b>Installations</b>	<b>Community Solar Farm.</b> United's members can rent electric panels from this community solar installation.
	<b>Incentives</b>	<p><b>RE Rebates.</b> United Power offers its members rebates on residential and small business solar PV and solar thermal installations. It also provides rebates for air source and ground source heat pump systems.</p> <p><b>EE Rebates.</b> United provides a wide range of EE rebates, including those for appliance, commercial lighting installations, LED street lighting, insulation, water systems and irrigation system motors.</p>

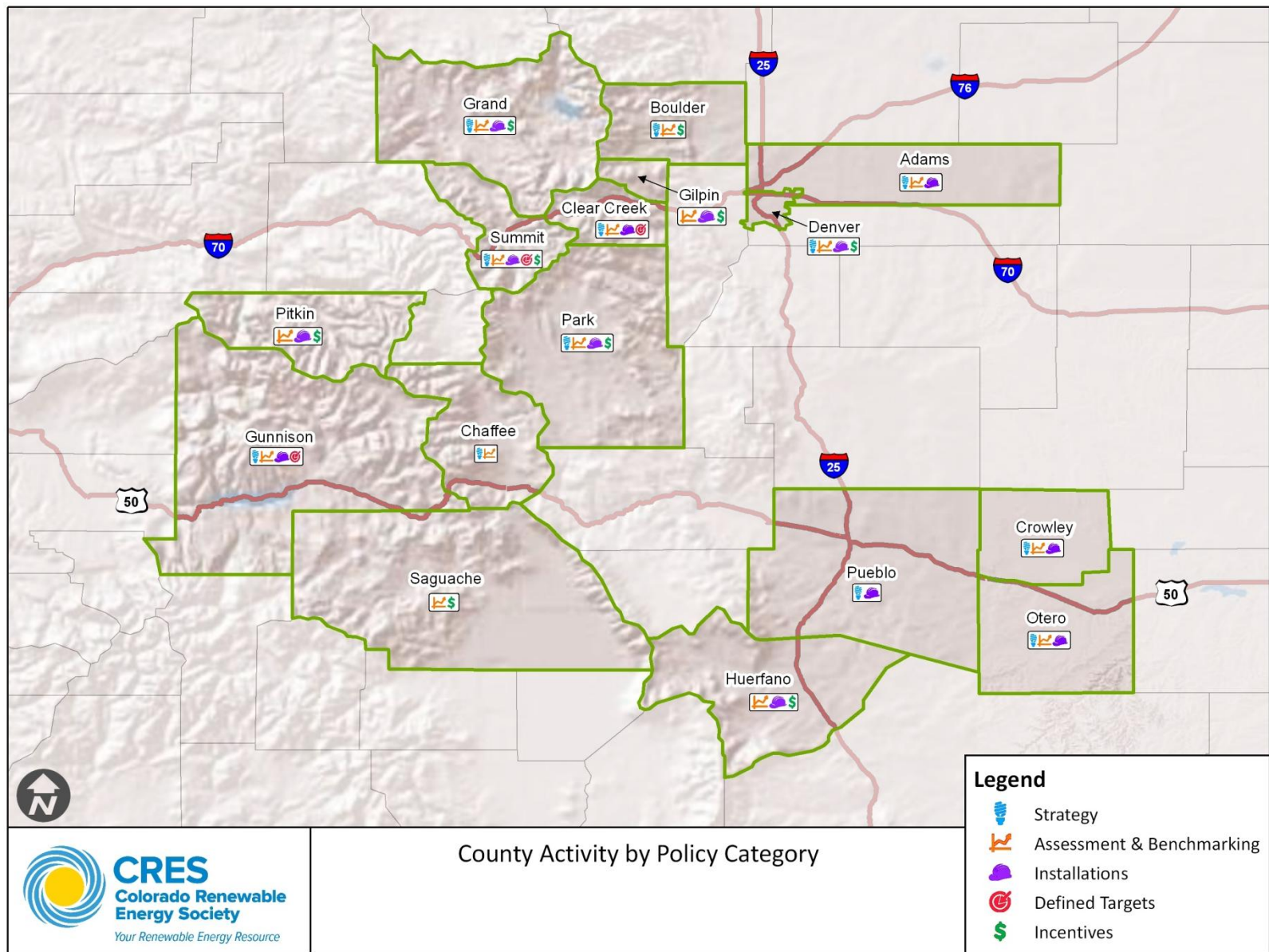
## Activities by Organization

Organization	 Strategy	 Assessment & Benchmarking	 Installations	 Defined Targets	 Incentives
<b>County</b>					
Adams County	p.6	p. 6	p.6		
Boulder County	p. 6	p. 6			p. 6
Chaffee County	p. 7	p. 7			
Clear Creek County	p. 7	p. 7	p. 7	p. 7	
Crowley County	p. 8	p. 8	p. 8		
City and County of Denver	p. 9	p. 9	p. 9		p. 9
Gilpin County		p. 10	p. 10		p. 10
Grand County	p. 10	p. 10	p. 10		p. 10
Gunnison County	p. 11	p. 11	p. 11	p. 11	
Huerfano County		p. 12	p. 12		p. 12
Otero County	p. 12	p. 12	p. 12		
Park County	p. 13	p. 13	p. 13		p. 13
Pitkin County		p. 13	p. 13		p. 13
Pueblo County	p. 14		p. 14		
Saguache County		p. 14			p. 14
Summit County	p. 15	p. 15	p. 15	p. 15	p. 15
<b>Municipalities</b>					
Burlington Municipal Utilities	p. 17	p. 17	p. 17		p. 17
Colorado Springs Utilities	p. 18	p. 18	p. 18	p. 18	p. 18
Fort Collins Utilities	p. 19	p. 19	p. 19	p. 19	p. 19



Organization	 Strategy	 Assessment & Benchmarking	 Installations	 Defined Targets	 Incentives
<b>Municipalities (cont'd)</b>					
City of Gunnison Public Works			p. 20		
Holyoke Municipal Light and Power		p. 20	p. 20		
Town of Julesburg		p. 20			p. 20
Longmont Power & Communications			p. 21		p. 21
Lyons Municipal Light and Power Department	p. 22		p. 22		p. 22
Trinidad Municipal Power & Light					p. 22
<b>Rural Electric Associations</b>					
Delta-Montrose Electric Association (DMEA)			p. 24		p. 24
Grand Valley Power (GVP)		p. 24	p. 24		p. 24
Gunnison County Electrification Association (GCEA)	p. 25	p. 25			p. 25
High West Energy, Inc.			p. 25		p. 25
Highline Electric Association (HEA)		p. 26	p. 26		p. 26
La Plata Electric Association, Inc. (LPEA)	p. 27	p. 27	p. 27	p. 27	p. 27
Mountain View Electric Association (MVEA)	p. 28	p. 28	p. 28		p. 28
Poudre Valley Rural Electric Association (PVREA)	p. 29	p. 29	p. 29		p. 29
San Isabel Electric Association (SIEA)	p. 30	p. 30	p. 30		p. 30
San Miguel Power Association, Inc. (SMPA)	p. 31	p. 31	p. 31		p. 31
Sangre De Cristo Electric Association, Inc. (SDCEA)		p. 31			p. 31
United Power			p. 31		p. 31

# County Map





## Contact CRES

While Colorado has made great strides in the past several years in supporting RE and EE – and is a national leader – there remain many opportunities to seize and challenges to overcome.

For more information or to share your insights about your local community contact [policy@cres-energy.org](mailto:policy@cres-energy.org) or call 303-806-5317 x81.

Colorado Renewable Energy Society  
3245 Eliot Street  
Denver, Colorado 80211  
[www.CRES-Energy.org](http://www.CRES-Energy.org)  
303-806-5317