

XCEL ENERGY AND BOULDER'S PROPOSED AGREEMENT

INFORMATION SHEET
COLORADO

PROPOSAL TO GO TO LOCAL VOTERS IN NOVEMBER



Xcel Energy and the City of Boulder jointly announced on July 28 a potential settlement that would suspend the city's decade-long municipalization effort and put a new franchise agreement in front of Boulder citizens for a vote.

The Boulder City Council voted 6-2 to put the franchise agreement on the November ballot. The proposed agreement would establish a new contract for the utility to serve the city, along with several other partnerships and initiatives designed to achieve mutual shared objectives, including renewable power, carbon emission reductions and clean energy goals.

If approved, this new franchise agreement gives Boulder customers an opportunity to further their unique energy goals while allowing Xcel Energy — Colorado to continue serving the community.

Understanding the agreement

The franchise agreement includes:

- Off-ramps for the city of Boulder to re-examine the relationship, based on several metrics. Boulder can resume municipalization efforts at the five-, 10- or 15-year anniversaries for any reason, and in 2023, 2025, and 2028 if Xcel Energy fails to meet specified carbon emission targets.
- An opportunity to catch up on the city's distribution undergrounding program, a funding mechanism that the city was not eligible for during the years it did not have a franchise agreement with the utility.
- A unique Energy Partnership Agreement for Boulder that facilitates distribution planning and close coordination to advance Boulder's specific energy projects and policies.
- A pathway for the city to achieve 100% renewable electricity by updating Boulder's electric grid, sharing data and developing innovative demonstration projects in partnership with a community advisory board.
- A commitment to work collaboratively to change current state regulations that limit innovation and local renewable development.

We're leading the nation's clean energy transition

Our commitment to carbon-free electricity, delivering new energy options and keeping customers' bills low, align with the goals and interests of Boulder customers and city leaders — and we believe the proposed franchise agreement reflects those values.

Both our progress to date and forward-looking plans demonstrate our commitment to reducing carbon emissions and increasing renewable energy use. Our focus on clean energy is in step with Boulder's ultimate energy goals, and by partnering together, we believe we can be more successful to make an impact.

- Xcel Energy is on track to achieve an 80% reduction in carbon emissions company-wide by 2030 and we have an aspiration to deliver 100% carbon-free electricity to customers by 2050. These milestones demonstrate our commitment to providing all customers with a cleaner energy future.



Learn more about our community commitment, our response to COVID-19, our current and future clean energy plans and carbon emissions reporting at xcelenergy.com/CorporateResponsibility.

- We have announced a progressive and industry-leading goal to further electric vehicle uses throughout our service areas in the eight states we serve, aiming to power 1.5 million electric vehicles in these areas by 2030, helping save customers billions in fuel costs while significantly cutting carbon emissions from transportation.
- Our Colorado Energy Plan voluntarily retires coal plants early, puts 55% renewable energy on the power grid by 2026 and reduces carbon emissions by 60% from 2005 levels – all while keeping customers' bills low. We are making great strides in providing clean energy and offer a solid foundation for Boulder and our other communities to build upon.
- We are reducing carbon on our own system, while also supporting beneficial electrification efforts to create even broader greenhouse gas reductions. We are working with the Air Quality Control Commission to meet greenhouse gas targets in an equitable manner, while launching customer programs and ensuring we can meet energy demands to support solutions that work well for consumers and the environment.

We're better together

More and more, our communities are taking control of their energy futures, and we are providing the partnership, tools and expertise to support their goals. In Colorado, we established Energy Future Collaborations that pair Xcel Energy's services and expertise with the specific energy-related goals of our communities to accomplish shared objectives.

Since the effort's launch in 2017, nine municipalities representing a cross-section of communities — from rural to urban and mountain locations — have signed Memorandums of Understanding. Through these proactive partnerships, we are working on common goals.

Similarly, the Energy Partnership agreement also outlines plans for Xcel Energy to work in partnership with Boulder to:

- Explore converting the city of Boulder's diesel-based buses to electric vehicles
- Study the city's fleet to identify and expand electric vehicle customer options and bring more EV charging stations to meet growing transportation needs
- Explore the use of microgrid technology in a mixed use/neighborhood setting
- Work toward a net zero community and invest in infrastructure that aims to improve resiliency and reliability
- Collaborate on plans for wildfire risk mitigation

We're committed to our customers in Boulder

Xcel Energy strives to deliver high-quality and safe service for the customers and communities we serve in Colorado. We work to empower our customers and give them the choices they want to achieve their own energy goals.

Our customers need reliable, affordable energy they can count on to power their homes and businesses now more than ever. But they also need us to continue to drive economic growth, partner with local businesses, protect the environment, and support the needs of their communities during the coronavirus pandemic.

