



# Our Perspective

**Xcel Energy is committed to providing our customers the safe, clean, and reliable energy services that they want and value at an affordable price.**

The driving force behind the actions of Xcel Energy is to protect the best interest of our customers, both in Boulder and the entire state of Colorado. Our highly skilled employees work around the clock to keep our system running safely and reliably for all of our customers. This expertise and knowledge means that our customers have reliable service and fast restoration when emergencies arise.

**Xcel Energy invests in the most cost-effective renewable resources to keep energy prices affordable.**

Xcel Energy supports renewable energy and the growing number of customers who are interested in it. For more than a decade, Xcel Energy has collaborated with regulators, legislators, community leaders, clean energy advocates and other stakeholders to steadily increase the use of renewable energy. Xcel Energy's clean energy strategy serves as a model for how utilities and government can work together to significantly reduce emissions at the lowest cost to customers.

Xcel Energy is a recognized leader in renewable energy. The company has been the No. 1 provider of wind energy for 11 consecutive years (American Wind Energy Association), and is ranked No. 10 among U.S. utilities for solar power capacity (Solar Electric Power Association).

Wind energy is easily the best-priced renewable option available to us to meet our customers' energy needs, and we plan to use it more. Wind energy provides price stability, reducing exposure to fossil fuel costs, and reduces emissions for our customers and our communities. The system

has saved our customers in Colorado more than \$26 million in fuel costs, in addition to helping us achieve record levels of wind generation.

Xcel Energy is applying the same dedication to solar energy that made us the nation's No. 1 wind energy provider for 11 years. We are adding economical, large solar projects to our energy mix while also offering a range of solar solutions for customers who want more. We signed a 25-year deal to purchase power from the largest solar array east of the Rocky Mountains – the 900-acre Comanche Solar project in Pueblo, Colorado, which will make solar rates competitive with natural gas. The solar power plant is expected to be completed during the first quarter of 2016.

**Xcel Energy is committed to doing what is right for our customers and the environment.**

Xcel Energy is ahead of what the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency wants to achieve under its Clean Power Plan. The company is well positioned to meet the EPA's overall emission reduction goal of 32 percent by 2030. Xcel Energy has done the right things, and today our clean energy strategy is an example of how utilities and states can work together to significantly reduce emissions at the lowest cost to customers.

Xcel Energy is on a path in Colorado to reduce carbon dioxide emissions 35 percent from 2005 levels by 2020, while still managing to keep electricity rates affordable. Under the approved 2015-2017 electric rate plan, which includes recovery of nearly \$1 billion of investments in the Clean Air Clean Jobs project alone, overall rates are increasing about 1 percent each year on average.

Xcel Energy and Boulder have a long history of working together to bring a comprehensive and evolving portfolio of energy programs. Xcel Energy brings the expertise to take advantage of all efficiency and renewable energy opportunities. Boulder residents and businesses can participate in over 40 energy efficiency programs to help use less energy, reduce energy use during periods of peak demand or increase renewable generation—and are rewarded with rebates and energy savings. Boulder residents and businesses can also choose more wind energy for their homes or businesses through Xcel Energy’s Windsource program and have smaller rooftop and business-sited systems installed through the Solar\*Rewards program. Boulder participates in Xcel Energy’s energy efficiency and renewable energy programs at a rate of a city several times larger than its size.

Xcel Energy remains steadfast in our goals of carbon reduction and the use of renewable energy, which aligns with Boulder’s stated environmental goals. By working together, we can provide customers with options that take advantage of our mutual strengths. We welcome the opportunity to help Boulder meet its energy and environmental objectives.

See a timeline  
of Xcel Energy’s  
**accomplishments**  
in the clean energy  
goals that are  
important to Boulder.