

State Technology-Inclusive Clean Energy Standards and Corporate Commitments – The National State of Play

State Actions

Arizona - Discussions around an 80-100% clean energy standard are prominent following an RPS ballot resolution failure in November 2018; the Arizona Corporation Commission is continuing to hear the question.

California - Passed in 2018, S.B. 100 requires a 100% carbon free power grid by 2045, and further mandated that 60% of electricity come from renewable energy other than hydro by 2030. Introduced in February 2019, A.B. 915, would expand the mandate to 80% zero carbon energy by 2038 and define zero carbon energy in a tech-neutral manner.

Colorado – S.B. 236 was signed by the Governor in May 2019. It requires a zero-carbon supply by 2050 from Xcel Energy, confirming the company’s previous voluntary commitment. This law covers roughly 60% of the state’s load; other utilities (mostly publicly owned) are exempted.

Illinois – H.B. 2861 adjusts the Illinois Power Agency Act to expand the procurement of clean energy to target a 100% clean energy goal for Northern Illinois (Exelon service territory) by 2032.

Massachusetts - The Clean Energy Standard of 2017 requires 80% low carbon electricity by 2050 with a minimum of 60% from qualified renewable energy.

Michigan — In September 2020, Governor Gretchen Whitmer issues Executive Order creating MI Healthy Climate Plan to achieve full statewide carbon neutrality by 2050.

Minnesota - Gov. Walz has stated that he will push for legislation that would lead to 100% carbon free electricity by 2050 and wants utilities to be able to determine how and at what pace they achieve the goal. There is some bipartisan legislative support for the “Clean Energy First” portion of the package that boosts renewable projects before the MN Public Utilities Commission. Other proposals in the state legislature have been more prescriptive with paths to the same 100% carbon free goal.

Nevada - S.B. 358, signed by the Governor in April 2019, mandates that 50% of power from investor owned utilities (covering more than 95% of state load) come from renewable sources by 2030, while setting a target of zero carbon power by 2050.

New York - S.B. S6599, the “Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act,” was signed by the Governor in July 2019. It requires New York to reduce its planet-warming pollution 85 percent below 1990 levels by 2050, and offset the remaining 15 percent, possibly through measures to remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. The bill requires New York to get 70 percent of its electricity from renewable sources by 2030 and shift entirely to carbon-free power a decade later.

New Mexico - S.B. 489, signed by the Governor in March 2019, sets a target that all retail sales of electricity in New Mexico from investor owned utilities be zero carbon by 2045, with up to 80% renewable if cost justified. Distribution cooperatives, serving roughly 25% of state load, are exempted.

Pennsylvania - H.B. 11 expands the current Alternative Energy Purchasing Standard to include nuclear, effectively increasing the ambition of the Pennsylvania zero carbon energy mandate to 68%.

Virginia – The Governor signed H.B. 1526 in March 2020. The bill requires 100% of production of electricity from renewable and zero-carbon emission sources by 2050.

Washington – The Governor signed S.B. 5116 in May 2019. The bill requires all electricity generation in the state to be carbon neutral by 2030 and completely carbon free by 2045.

Wisconsin - Gov. Evers has proposed a statutory 100% clean energy goal in his 2019-2021 budget proposal.

The table below shows the timeline of selected state actions regarding Clean Energy Standards (CES):

MONTH/YEAR	JURISDICTION	ACTION	LEGISLATION TYPE
Jan/2017	CA	Introduced in Senate (S.B. 100)	100% CES
Sep/2018	CA	Approved (S.B. 100)	100% CES
Jan/2019	WA	Introduced (S.B. 5116)	100% CES
Feb/2019	IL	Introduced (H.B. 2861)	100% CES
	MN	Introduced (S.F. 850 / H.F. 700)	100% CES
	NM	Introduced (S.B. 489)	100% CES
Mar/2019	CO	Introduced (S.B. 236)	100% CES
	NV	Introduced (S.B. 358)	100% CES
	NM	Approved (S.B. 489)	100% CES
Apr/2019	NV	Approved (S.B. 358)	100% CES
May/2019	CO	Approved (S.B. 236)	100% CES
	WA	Approved (S.B. 5116)	100% CES
Jun/2019	NY	Introduced (S 6599)	100% CES
Jul/2019	NY	Approved (S 6599)	100% CES
Aug/2019	WI	Executive Order	100% CES
Jan/2020	VA	Introduced (H.B. 1526)	100% CES
Mar/2020	VA	Approved (H.B. 1526)	100% CES
Sep/2020	MI	Executive Order	N/A

Utility Company Pledges

The table below shows the timeline of utility pledges, and the nature of such pledges, for deep carbon emission reductions:

MONTH/ YEAR	UTILITY	PLEDGE
Jan/2016	AVANGRID	Carbon neutral by 2035
Apr/2016	MidAmerican	100% renewable energy by 2020
Sep/2017	Ameren Missouri	80% reduction in GHG emissions (from 2005 levels) by 2050
Feb/2018	AEP Portland General Electric	80% reduction in GHG emissions (from 2000 levels) by 2050 80% reduction in CO2 (from 2010 levels) by 2050
Apr/2018	Southern Company	"Low to no-carbon" by 2050
Jun/2018	National Grid	80% reduction in GHG emissions (from 1990 levels) by 2050
Aug/2018	Alliant Energy WEC Energy Group	80% reduction in GHG emissions (from 2005 levels) by 2050 80% reduction in GHG emissions (from 2005 levels) by 2050
Sep/2018	FirstEnergy	90% reduction in CO2 emissions (from 2005 levels) by 2045
Oct/2018	Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD)	90% reduction in CO2 emissions by 2050
Nov/2018	NiSource	90% reduction in CO2 emissions by 2028
Dec/2018	Xcel Energy	Zero carbon by 2050
Feb/2019	Consumers Energy Co.	90% reduction in CO2 emissions (from 2005 levels) by 2040
Mar/2019	Dominion DTE Energy Co. Idaho Power Co.	80% reduction in GHG emissions (from 2005 levels) by 2050 80% reduction in CO2 (from peak levels) by 2040 Zero carbon by 2045
Apr/2019	Avista Green Mountain Power PNM Resources	100% clean energy by 2045 100% renewable energy by 2030 Zero carbon by 2040
May/2019	Madison Gas & Electric Co.	Carbon neutral by 2050
Jul/2019	Public Service Enterprise Group (PSEG)	80% reduction in CO2 (from 2005 levels) by 2046
Aug/2019	Duke Energy	Net zero carbon emissions by 2050
Sep/2019	DTE Energy Co.	Net zero carbon emissions by 2050
Jan/2020	Arizona Public Service Company	100% carbon-free electricity by 2050
Feb/2020	Dominion	Net zero emissions by 2050
May/2020	Southern Company	Net Zero emissions by 2050
Sep/2020	Entergy Ameren	Net zero emissions by 2050 Net zero emissions by 2050