



CLEAN AIR
TASK FORCE

ELIGIBLE ENERGY TECHNOLOGY STANDARD, SOLAR ENERGY STANDARD, AND CARBON-FREE STANDARD

Minnesota

Policy type

Renewable Portfolio Standard

Clean Energy Standard

Form of the standard

Energy-based RPS

% of renewable energy required

Energy-based CES

% of clean energy required

Targets

- **RPS:** Interim – 12% by 2012, 17% by 2016, 20% by 2020, 25% by 2025; Final – 55% by 2035
- **CES:** Interim – 80% carbon-free energy by 2030 for public utilities, 90% by 2035 for all electric utilities, and 60% by 2030 and 90% by 2035 for rural coops and municipal utilities; Final – 100% carbon-free energy by 2040

Economy-wide goal: 50% emissions reduction by 2030 from 2005 levels and net-zero by 2050

Point of regulation: Retail sales

Regulated entities: Investor-owned utilities, municipal utilities, cooperative utilities, retail supplier

Percent of retail sales covered by RPS: 100%

Implementing agency: Minnesota Public Service Commission

Enforcement mechanisms: The Commission must regularly investigate whether the utility is in compliance. If noncompliance is found, the Commission may order the utility to take specific actions. If the utility fails to comply with the order, a penalty may be imposed, which is not to exceed the estimated cost of compliance.

Compliance flexibility and cost containment: The Commission may delay implementation of the standard if it is in the “public interest”. There are several factors provided for consideration.

Carve-outs and incentives: Solar carve-out: for investor-owned utilities, 1.5% by 2020, 10% of which must be met from systems 40 kW or less; for Xcel Energy, 25% wind or solar by 2020. Statewide goal of 10% solar by 2030

Compliance tracking: [M-RETS](#), [MIRECS](#)

Notable features: Xcel Energy, the state’s largest electric utility, has higher specified requirements in the standard. Distributed solar energy standard in addition to RPS and CES.

Links to agency website and statutes/rules: [Minn. Stat. § 216B.1691](#); [Retail Electricity Sales](#); [EPA’s REC Tracking Systems](#)

Eligible sources

RPS

Biofuel

Biogas

Biomass

Clean Hydrogen

Distributed
Generation

Hydropower less
than 100 MW
prior to 2023

Solar

Waste Heat

Waste-to-Energy

Wind

CES

Technology-
Neutral

See [Minn. Stat. § 216B.1691\(subd. 1\)](#), (subd. 2g) for definitions of eligible sources. See [Minn. Stat. § 216B.243\(subd. 3b\)](#) for nuclear. Certain limits may apply.