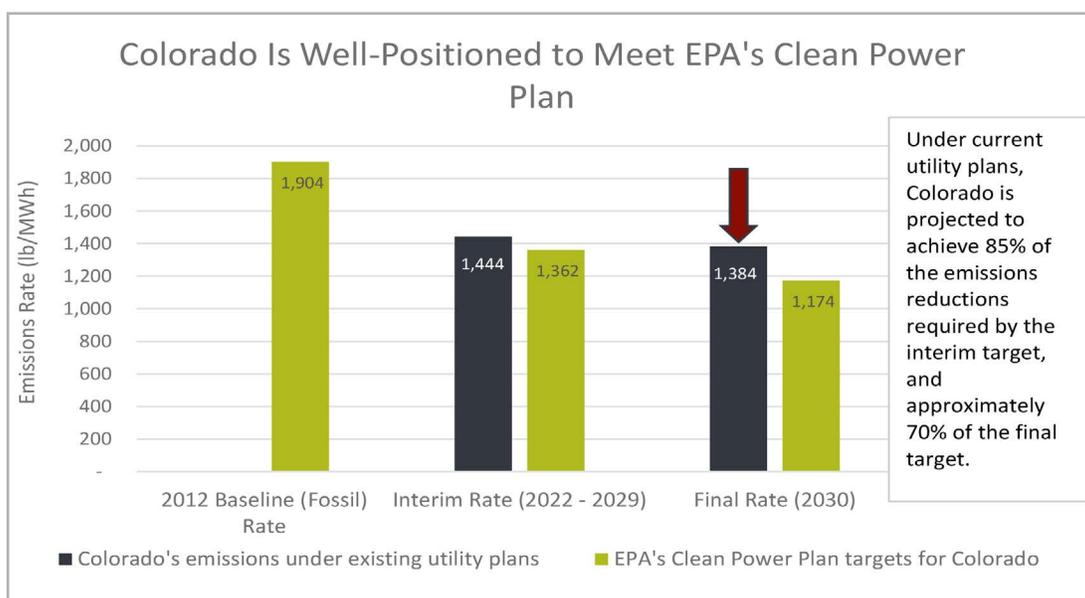


COLORADO IS WELL-POSITIONED TO MEET EPA'S CLEAN POWER PLAN

Colorado's forward-looking energy policies have already, and will continue to, significantly reduce the state's greenhouse gas emissions, positioning Colorado to readily meet the Environmental Protection Agency's Clean Power Plan. Under the final Clean Power Plan, the state must meet both an interim and a final emission rate target. The interim target is defined as the average emission rate that existing power plants must meet over the 8-year period from 2022-2029. The final target is the rate that these plants must achieve by 2030.

Colorado utilities' current plans to invest in renewable energy, advance energy efficiency, and transition older, more polluting coal plants to cleaner sources of energy will significantly reduce emissions. **Colorado is currently on track to achieve over 85% of the reductions required to meet the interim goal in the Clean Power Plan, and approximately 70% of the emissions reductions required by the final goal.** The graph below illustrates Colorado's declining emissions rate under utilities' current plans and the state's emissions rate target proposed under the Clean Power Plan.



Going forward, the state has tremendous flexibility in developing a cost-effective strategy to meet EPA's targets; options include but are not limited to increasing renewable energy, expanding energy efficiency investments, and transitioning away from high polluting power plants. Colorado's strong energy policies and investments have reduced Colorado's greenhouse gas emissions, as well as other harmful pollutants, providing important health benefits. And due to these forward-looking energy policies, Colorado is well positioned to meet the Environmental Protection Agency's Clean Power Plan. Doing so will lead to a cleaner, healthier environment for all Coloradans.

Note: Western Resource Advocates developed this analysis to gain a better understanding of projected future carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions from power plants in Colorado. WRA reviewed major utilities' resource plans and other official filings to identify planned retirements of coal plants, renewable energy acquisitions, and energy efficiency savings. These plans were the most recent publicly available projections.

Sources

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3. Environmental Protection Agency, Clean Power Plan, Data File: 2012 Unit-Level Data Using the eGRID Methodology (2014).
4. Platte River Power Authority, Climate Action Plan (2009); and communication with PRPA personnel (May, 2014).
5. Public Service Company of Colorado, 2011 Electric Resource Plan.
6. Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc., 2014 Electric Resource Plan Annual Progress Report; and communication with Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc. personnel (April 2014).