



# Colorado Renewable Electricity Mandate Status

## Renewable Mandate Status: On Track

- 2009 Estimated Qualified Renewable Percentage: 5.7%<sup>1</sup>
- 2009 Mandate: 5%
- 2020 Mandate: 10%

**Eligible Resources:** solar, wind, geothermal, biomass, new hydroelectricity with a nameplate rating of ten megawatts or less, and hydroelectricity in existence on January 1, 2005 with a nameplate rating of thirty megawatts or less.

## Compliance schedule:<sup>2</sup>

Investor Owned Utilities	Cooperatives and Large Municipal Utilities
2008-2010: 5%	2008-2010: 1%
2011-2014: 12%	2011-2014: 3%
2015-2019: 20%	2015-2019: 6%
2020+: 30%	2020+: 10%

**Renewable Portfolio History:** Colorado was the first US state to create a RPS by ballot initiative in November 2004. This initiative originally required utilities serving 40,000 or more to generate or purchase renewable-energy for 10% of sales. HB 1281 in March 2007 increased the RPS and extended requirements to cooperatives. HB1001 in March 2010 increased RPS for investor-owned utilities to 30% by 2020.<sup>3</sup>

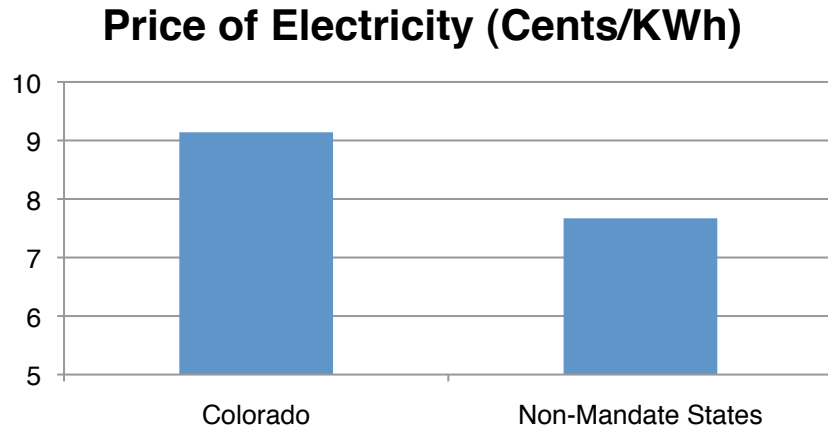
- Each KWh of eligible renewable energy generated in-state, other than retail distributed generation, receives 125% credit for compliance purposes. Every KWh of eligible renewable energy generated from a community-based project receives 150% compliance credit.<sup>4</sup>

**Credit Trading:** Yes

**Noncompliance penalty:** The PUC determines how much compliance would have cost and requires to the utility to pay that amount, but the utility may not recover the cost from customers.<sup>5</sup>

**Electricity Price Ranking:** 21<sup>st</sup> Highest<sup>6</sup>

- 9.14 cents/KWh in Colorado
- 7.67 cents/KWh in non-mandated states



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<sup>1</sup> Energy Information Administration, *Electricity Generation 2009*,

[http://www.eia.doe.gov/cneaf/electricity/epa/generation\\_state\\_mon.xls](http://www.eia.doe.gov/cneaf/electricity/epa/generation_state_mon.xls).

<sup>2</sup> Code of Col. Regulations 723-3-3654 (July 2, 2006), <http://www.dora.state.co.us/puc/rules/723-3.pdf>.

<sup>3</sup> Database of state Incentives for Renewables and Efficiency, Colorado,

[http://www.dsireusa.org/incentives/incentive.cfm?Incentive\\_Code=CO24R&re=1&ee=1](http://www.dsireusa.org/incentives/incentive.cfm?Incentive_Code=CO24R&re=1&ee=1).

<sup>4</sup> Code of Col. Regulations 723-3-3654 (July 2, 2006), <http://www.dora.state.co.us/puc/rules/723-3.pdf>.

<sup>5</sup> *4 Code of Colorado Regulations 723:3: Rules Regulating Electric Utilities*,

<http://www.dora.state.co.us/puc/rules/723-3.pdf>.

<sup>6</sup> EIA, *Electric Power Monthly*, Table 5.6.B., Average Retail Price of Electricity, June 2010, Released Sept. 15, 2010, [http://www.eia.doe.gov/cneaf/electricity/epm/table5\\_6\\_b.html](http://www.eia.doe.gov/cneaf/electricity/epm/table5_6_b.html).