



Colorado Springs Utilities

*It's how we're all connected*

**Date:** March 6, 2020

**To:** Utilities Board

**From:** Aram Benyamin, Chief Executive Officer 

**Subject:** **Communication to Utilities Board**

1. Joint Dispatch Agreement Update

- As of Tuesday, March 3, 2020 Colorado Springs Utilities started participating within the Joint Dispatch Agreement (JDA).
- The JDA is a real-time energy market in Colorado. In the JDA, generation resources are pooled and dispatched in real time to most economically and reliably serve customer electric needs.
- Public Service Company of Colorado, Platte River Power Authority and Black Hills Colorado Electric are the other participants in the JDA.
- According to modeling results, participation in the JDA will save Springs Utilities customers money by optimizing the dispatch of all four utilities' generating resources within each hour of the day.
- Other benefits of participation for Springs Utilities include increased market intelligence for employees, efficiency in power plant operations and integration of new solar projects.
- A financial update regarding this participation will be provided quarterly to the Utilities Board.

2. Solar Generation Report

(See attachment)

3. Green Power Service Customer Enrollment Report

- This is a new report that will be in the Weekly Comm the first Friday of every month, as requested by a Board Member.

(See attachment)

4. Legislative Update

(See attachment)

Attachments:

- Attachment 1 (Solar Generation Report)
- Attachment 2 (Green Power Service Customer Enrollment Report)
- Attachment 3 (Legislative Update)

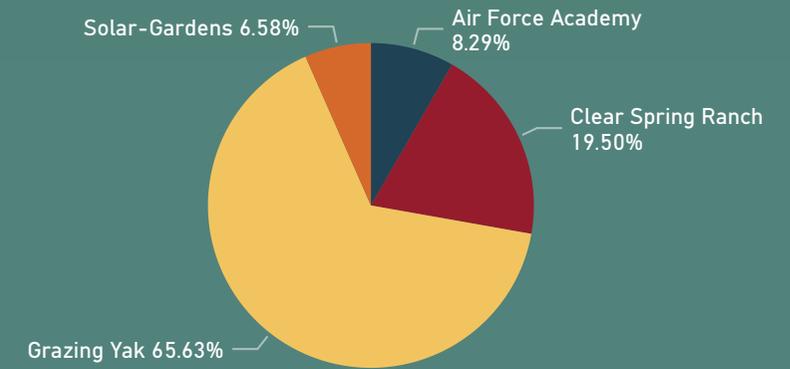
c: Officer Team

## Colorado Springs Utilities - Solar Generation

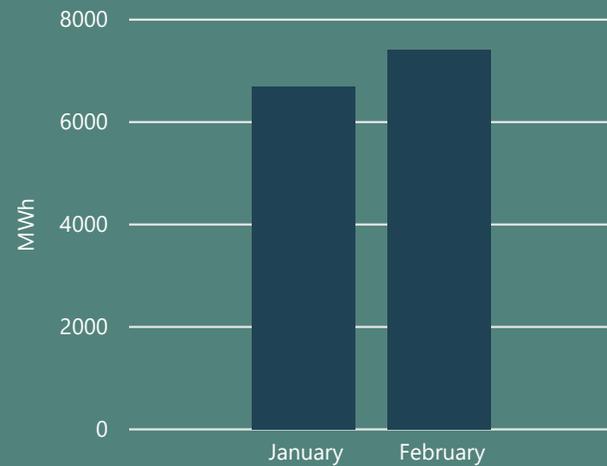
Solar Generation (MWh) - 2020

METER_NAME	January	February	Total
Air Force Academy	658.55	582.93	<b>1241.48</b>
Clear Spring Ranch	1467.26	1452.47	<b>2919.73</b>
Grazing Yak	4506.00	5318.00	<b>9824.00</b>
Solar-Gardens	490.16	494.20	<b>984.35</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>7121.97</b>	<b>7847.59</b>	<b>14969.56</b>

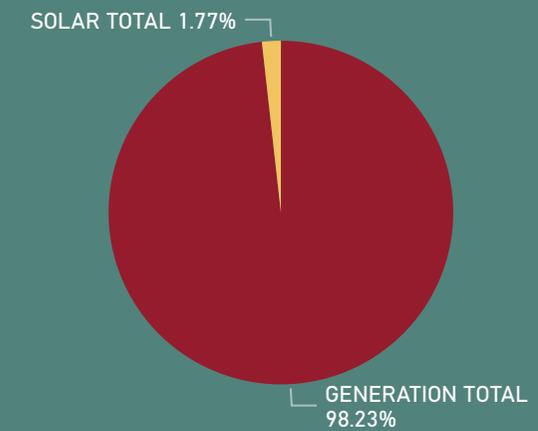
Solar Array Generation % - 2020



Solar Generation (MWh) - 2020

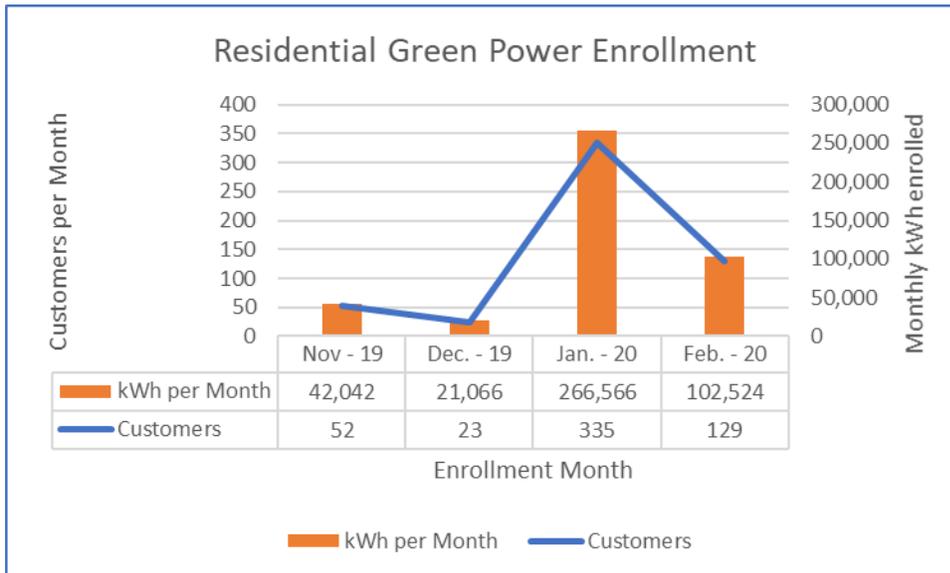
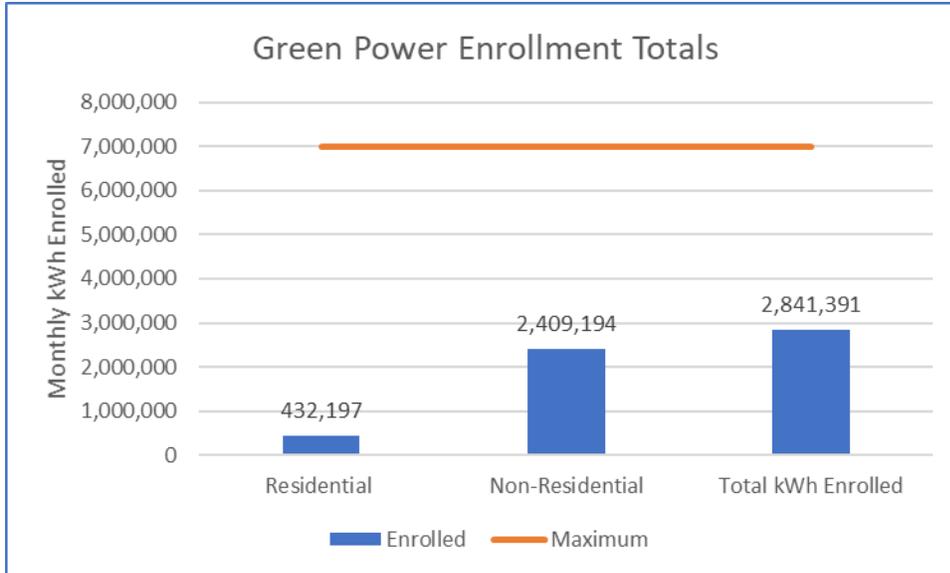


Solar % of Total Generation - 2020

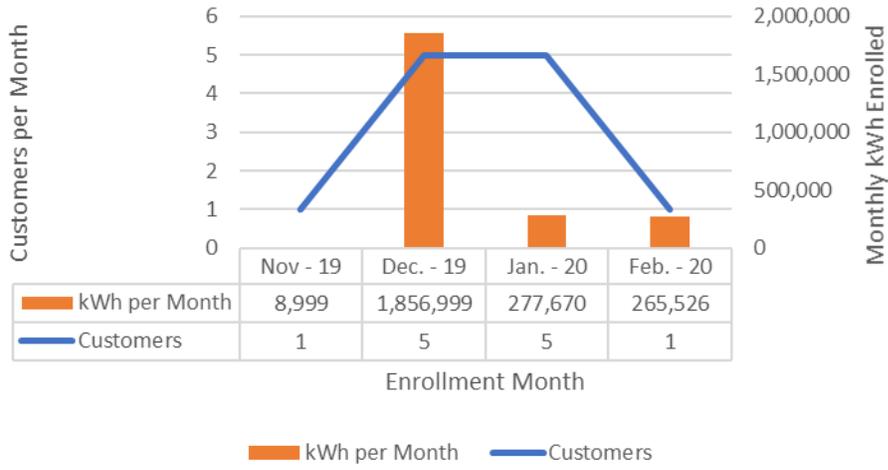


\*The numbers shown are actual metered MWh and do not include the REC multipliers that some facilities receive.

## Green Power Service Customer Enrollment Monthly Update



### Non-Residential Green Power Enrollment





### State Legislation

### 2020 State Legislative Tracking

We are at the calendar midpoint of the Colorado General Assembly session with less than 60 days remaining. The session continues at a swift pace, resulting in more than 500 bills introduced and Government Affairs tracking more than 50 bills.

#### **HB20-1119 State Government Regulation of PFAS**

(Rep. Exum, D-COS) (Rep. Landgraf, R-Fountain) (Sen. Hisey, R-Fountain) (Sen. Lee, D-COS)

As introduced, this bill grants the Colorado Department of Health and Environment (CDPHE) explicit authority to adopt and enforce drinking water standards, and surface and groundwater standards for PFAS. After several rounds of meetings where CDPHE was unable to negotiate a compromise with the various impacted stakeholders, the bill sponsors are now signaling they intend to strike Section 2 (drinking water) and Section 3 (wastewater) from the bill. This leaves the bill as it was initially intended by the prime sponsor: to clarify the ability of airlines to maintain firefighting chemicals at airports and to clarify how fire departments train with firefighting foams. Colorado Springs Utilities SMEs worked with Government Affairs to suggest improvements to the CDPHE language and we expect to continue to work closely with the State, should new stand-alone legislation addressing PFAS standards for water and wastewater utilities be introduced. The anticipated amendments to this bill, if adopted by Committee, will change our position from (AMEND) to (MONITOR).

#### **HB20-1143 Environmental Justice and Projects Increase Environmental Fines**

(Rep. Jackson, D-Aurora) (Rep. Gonzales-Gutierrez, D-Denver) (Sen. Winter, D-Westminster)

The bill creates additional public health protections regarding alleged environmental violations, and, in connection therewith, raising the maximum fines for air quality and water quality violations and allocating the fines to environmental mitigation projects. The bill is part of a series of bills that the Attorney General's office is bringing to increase state penalties as they believe the current EPA/DOJ may not sufficiently enforce environmental violations and there is a need to strengthen state laws in this regard. The bill requires an appropriation of \$1,902,298 to the Department of Public Health and Environment in FY 2020-21. The Colorado Water Congress opposes this bill. (MONITOR)

#### **HB20-1327 Water Diversions from Rio Grande Basin**

(Rep. Valdez, D-La Jara) (Rep. Will, R-New Castle) (Sen. Coram, R-Montrose)

This bill addresses the export of water from Water Division 3 (Rio Grande Basin), proposes standards, requirements and conditions that must be met before water can be exported outside the Division. Our water experts note that this bill goes against standards of Colorado water law, is unnecessary, and sets catastrophic precedence for water development in Colorado. (OPPOSE)

#### **HB20-1025 Sales Tax Exemption Industrial and Manufacturing Energy Use**

(Rep. Benavidez, D-Denver) (Rep. Snyder, D-Manitou Springs)  
(Sen. Court, D-Denver) (Sen. Tate, R-Centennial)

The bill modifies an existing state sales tax exemption to only apply when the energy used in specific industries is with a metered machine. This bill creates a compliance issue for our commercial and industrial customers. The submetering envisioned is on the customer-side of our utility meters. Several large Colorado industries and the Colorado Chamber of Commerce oppose this measure. We are working with these parties to reduce potentially difficult administrative burdens, and to ensure that we are not responsible for verifying readings from sub-metered equipment. (AMEND)

#### **Bills Postponed Indefinitely**

- HB20-1089 Employee Protection Lawful Off-duty Activities (Oppose)
- HB20-1097 Connected Municipal Use No Change If Already Quantified (Amend)
- HB20-1172 No Abandonment of Water Rights for Efficiencies (Oppose)
- HB20-1233 Basic Life Functions in Public Spaces (Oppose)
- SB20-147 County Impacts from Municipal Annexation (Oppose)
- SB20-153 Water Resource Financing Enterprise (Oppose)



### Federal Legislation

The Senate has begun consideration of S.2657, “The American Energy Innovation Act” introduced by Sens. Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska) and Joe Manchin (D-W.Va.). The legislation contains elements of bills sponsored or co-sponsored by 60 senators from across the political spectrum, as well as some legislation passed by the House of Representatives. The bill incorporates more than 50 bills advanced by the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee.

The package:

- Promotes research in geothermal and wave technology;
- Shores up supplies of minerals needed for the batteries;
- Bolsters innovation in carbon capture, utilization and storage;
- Includes energy efficiency measures, extending a program to weatherize homes, offering grants to retrofit buildings;
- Requires the government to extend its own energy reduction targets while adding new reductions for water use;
- Boosts new and developing technologies to make cars and trucks more fuel efficient, as well as methods to make manufacturing processes greener;
- Includes cybersecurity and grid modernization efforts to prevent electric grids from being hacked;
- Encourages the government to “complete federal permits efficiently, without compromising environmental review”; and
- Repeals Section 433 of the Energy and Security Act of 2007 that banned fossil fuels from certain federal buildings.

The American Public Power Association sent a letter of support for the bill, specifically noting their support for provisions related to grid security, energy storage and protecting federal hydropower customers. Senators have already filed more than 150 amendments. Negotiations are underway for a deal on amendment consideration.