Second Regular Session Sixty-seventh General Assembly STATE OF COLORADO

CORRECTED ENGROSSED

This Version Includes All Amendments Adopted on Second Reading in the House of Introduction

LLS NO. 10-0144.01 Thomas Morris

HOUSE BILL 10-1365

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A BILL FOR AN ACT CONCERNING INCENTIVES FOR ELECTRIC UTILITIES TO REDUCE AIR EMISSIONS, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, REQUIRING PLANS TO ACHIEVE SUCH REDUCTIONS THAT GIVE PRIMARY CONSIDERATION TO REPLACING OR REPOWERING COAL GENERATION WITH NATURAL GAS AND ALSO CONSIDERING OTHER LOW-EMITTING RESOURCES, AND MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.

Bill Summary

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at In order to meet anticipated federal "Clean Air Act" requirements to reduce emissions from coal-fired power plants, **section 1** of the bill requires all rate-regulated utilities that own or operate coal-fired electric generating units to submit to the public utilities commission (PUC) an emission reduction plan for emissions from those units covering the lesser of 900 megawatts or 50% of the utility's coal-fired electric generating units in Colorado. The plans have to give primary consideration to replacing or repowering coal-fired electric generators with natural gas and to also consider other low-emitting resources, including energy efficiency.

The PUC will provide the department of public health and environment (department) an opportunity to comment on the utilities' plans. The department will determine whether certain new or repowered electric generating units proposed under the plans will emit more than 1,100 pounds of carbon dioxide per megawatt-hour and whether the plans comply with applicable requirements of the federal and state clean air laws. The plans are to be implemented by December 31, 2017.

In evaluating the plans, the PUC is to consider the following factors: The pollution reductions to be achieved; the increased use of existing natural gas-fired electric generating capacity; and the plan's effect on economic development, electricity reliability, cost and rate increases, compliance with renewable energy standards, and reliance on energy efficiency or other low-emitting resources. The PUC is to approve, deny, or modify the plans by December 15, 2010. The utilities' actions in complying with the plans are presumed to be prudent actions, the costs of which are recoverable in rates.

The air quality control commission will consider incorporating the emissions reductions derived from the plans into the regional haze element of the state implementation plan. Early reductions of greenhouse gas emissions will count as voluntary for purposes of early reduction credits under federal law.

Section 2 authorizes the PUC to approve interim rates taking effect no later than 60 days after a rate increase filing. **Section 3** directs the PUC to require a utility to rebate rates if a final rate is lower than an interim rate.

- 1 Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:
- 2 **SECTION 1.** Article 3.2 of title 40, Colorado Revised Statutes,
- 3 is amended BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW PART to read:

4 PART 2

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1	COORDINATED UTILITY PLAN
2	TO REDUCE AIR EMISSIONS
3	40-3.2-201. Short title. This part 2 shall be known and may
4	BE CITED AS THE "CLEAN AIR - CLEAN JOBS ACT".
5	40-3.2-202. Legislative declaration. (1) THE GENERAL
6	ASSEMBLY HEREBY FINDS, DETERMINES, AND DECLARES THAT THE
7	FEDERAL "CLEAN AIR ACT", 42 U.S.C. SEC. 7401 ET SEQ., WILL LIKELY
8	REQUIRE REDUCTIONS IN EMISSIONS FROM COAL-FIRED POWER PLANTS IN
9	COLORADO. A COORDINATED PLAN OF EMISSION REDUCTIONS FROM
10	COAL-FIRED POWER PLANTS WILL ENABLE COLORADO UTILITIES TO MEET
11	THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE FEDERAL ACT AND PROTECT PUBLIC HEALTH
12	AND THE ENVIRONMENT AT A LOWER COST THAN A PIECEMEAL APPROACH.
13	A COORDINATED PLAN OF REDUCTION OF EMISSIONS WILL ALSO RESULT IN
14	REDUCTIONS IN CARBON DIOXIDE AND PROMOTE THE USE OF NATURAL GAS
15	AND OTHER LOW-EMITTING RESOURCES TO MEET COLORADO'S
16	ELECTRICITY NEEDS, WHICH WILL IN TURN PROMOTE DEVELOPMENT OF
17	COLORADO'S ECONOMY AND INDUSTRY.
18	(2) The general assembly further finds that the use of
19	NATURAL GAS TO REDUCE COAL-FIRED EMISSIONS MAY REQUIRE UTILITIES
20	TO ENTER INTO LONG-TERM CONTRACTS FOR NATURAL GAS IN A MANNER
21	THAT PROTECTS ELECTRICITY CONSUMERS. EVEN THOUGH SUCH
22	LONG-TERM CONTRACTS MIGHT BE BENEFICIAL TO CONSUMERS, FINANCIAL
23	RATING AGENCIES COULD FIND THAT SUCH LONG-TERM CONTRACTS
24	INCREASE THE FINANCIAL RISK TO THE UTILITY, WHICH IN TURN COULD
25	INCREASE THE COST OF CAPITAL TO THE UTILITY. THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
26	FINDS THAT IT IS IMPORTANT TO GIVE FINANCIAL MARKETS CONFIDENCE
2.7	THAT LITILITIES WILL BE ABLE TO RECOVER THE COSTS OF LONG-TERM GAS

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1	CONTRACTS WITHOUT THE RISK OF FUTURE REGULATORS DISALLOWING
2	CONTRACTS.
3	(3) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FURTHER FINDS AND DECLARES THAT
4	COLORADO UTILITIES REQUIRE TIMELY AND FORWARD-LOOKING REVIEWS
5	OF THEIR COSTS OF PROVIDING UTILITY SERVICE IN ORDER TO UNDERTAKE
6	THE COMPREHENSIVE AND EXTENSIVE PLANNING AND CHANGES TO THEIR
7	BUSINESS OPERATIONS CONTEMPLATED BY THIS PART 2. IN ORDER TO
8	ALLOW THESE UTILITIES TO CONTINUE TO PROVIDE RELIABLE ELECTRIC
9	SERVICE, ALTER THEIR OPERATIONS IN THE MANNER DESCRIBED BY THIS
10	PART 2, AND MEET OTHER STATE PUBLIC POLICY GOALS SUCH AS THE
11	RENEWABLE ENERGY STANDARD, IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT COLORADO
12	UTILITIES CONTINUE IN SOUND FINANCIAL CONDITION AND REMAIN
13	ATTRACTIVE INVESTMENTS SO THAT SUFFICIENT CAPITAL IS PROVIDED TO
14	ACHIEVE THE STATE'S GOALS. TO THAT END, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
15	FINDS THAT THE COMMISSION SHOULD HAVE ADDITIONAL TOOLS AND
16	MORE FLEXIBILITY IN ITS REGULATORY AUTHORITY TO ENSURE THE
17	CONTINUED FINANCIAL HEALTH OF THESE UTILITIES.
18	40-3.2-203. Definitions. AS USED IN THIS PART 2, UNLESS THE
19	CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES:
20	(1) "AIR QUALITY CONTROL COMMISSION" MEANS THE COMMISSION
21	CREATED IN SECTION 25-7-104, C.R.S.
22	(2) "DEPARTMENT" MEANS THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH
23	AND ENVIRONMENT.
24	(3) "FEDERAL ACT" MEANS THE FEDERAL "CLEAN AIR ACT", 42
25	U.S.C. SEC. 7401 ET SEQ., AS AMENDED.
26	(4) "STATE ACT" MEANS THE "COLORADO AIR POLLUTION
27	PREVENTION AND CONTROL ACT", ARTICLE 7 OF TITLE 25, C.R.S.

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1	(5) "STATE IMPLEMENTATION PLAN" MEANS THE PLAN REQUIRED	
2	BY AND DESCRIBED IN SECTION 110 (a) AND OTHER PROVISIONS OF THE	
3	FEDERAL ACT.	
4	40-3.2-204. Emission control plans - role of the department of	
5	public health and environment - timing of emission reductions -	
6	approval. (1) On or before August 15, 2010, and in coordination	
7	WITH CURRENT OR EXPECTED REQUIREMENTS OF THE FEDERAL ACT AND	
8	THE STATE ACT, ALL RATE-REGULATED UTILITIES THAT OWN OR OPERATE	
9	COAL-FIRED ELECTRIC GENERATING UNITS LOCATED IN COLORADO SHALL	
10	SUBMIT TO THE COMMISSION AN EMISSION REDUCTION PLAN FOR	
11	EMISSIONS FROM THOSE UNITS.	
12	(2) (a) The plan filed under this section shall cover a	
13	MINIMUM OF NINE HUNDRED MEGAWATTS OR FIFTY PERCENT OF THE	
14	UTILITY'S COAL-FIRED ELECTRIC GENERATING UNITS IN COLORADO,	
15	WHICHEVER IS SMALLER. EXCEPT AS SET FORTH IN SECTION 40-3.2-206,	
16	THE COAL-FIRED CAPACITY COVERED UNDER THE PLAN FILED UNDER THIS	
17	SECTION SHALL NOT INCLUDE ANY COAL-FIRED CAPACITY THAT THE	
18	UTILITY HAS ALREADY ANNOUNCED THAT IT PLANS TO RETIRE PRIOR TO	
19	January 1, 2015. At the utility's discretion, the plan may include	
20	SOME OR ALL OF THE FOLLOWING ELEMENTS:	
21	(I) NEW EMISSION CONTROL EQUIPMENT FOR OXIDES OF NITROGEN	
22	AND OTHER POLLUTANTS;	
23	(II) RETIREMENT OF COAL-FIRED UNITS, IF THE RETIRED	
24	COAL-FIRED UNITS ARE REPLACED BY NATURAL GAS-FIRED ELECTRIC	
25	GENERATION OR OTHER LOW-EMITTING RESOURCES AS DEFINED IN SECTION	
26	40-3.2-206, INCLUDING ENERGY EFFICIENCY;	
27	(III) CONVERSION OF COAL-FIRED GENERATION TO RUN ON	

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1	NATURAL GAS;	
2	(IV) LONG-TERM FUEL SUPPLY AGREEMENTS;	
3	(V) NEW NATURAL GAS PIPELINES AND OTHER SUPPORTING GAS	
4	INFRASTRUCTURE;	
5	(VI) INCREASED UTILIZATION OF EXISTING GAS-FIRED GENERATING	
6	CAPACITY;	
7	(VII) NEW TRANSMISSION LINES AND OTHER SUPPORTING	
8	TRANSMISSION INFRASTRUCTURE;	
9	(VIII) EMISSION CONTROL EQUIPMENT THAT IS REQUIRED TO BE	
10	INSTALLED AT AFFECTED UNITS PRIOR TO OR IN CONJUNCTION WITH ANY	
11	RETIREMENT, CONVERSION, OR EMISSION CONTROL EQUIPMENT RETROFIT	
12	SET FORTH UNDER THE PLAN IN ORDER TO LIMIT ANY POLLUTANT OTHER	
13	THAN OXIDES OF NITROGEN; AND	
14	(IX) ANY OTHER CAPITAL, FUEL, AND OPERATIONS AND	
15	MAINTENANCE EXPENDITURES APPROPRIATE TO SUPPORT THE	
16	IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLAN.	
17	(b) (I) PRIOR TO FILING THE PLAN, THE UTILITY SHALL CONSULT	
18	WITH THE DEPARTMENT AND SHALL WORK WITH THE DEPARTMENT IN	
19	GOOD FAITH TO DESIGN A PLAN TO MEET THE CURRENT AND ANTICIPATED	
20	REQUIREMENTS OF THE FEDERAL ACT AND STATE LAW IN A	
21	COST-EFFECTIVE AND FLEXIBLE MANNER.	
22	(II) THE COMMISSION SHALL PROVIDE THE DEPARTMENT AN	
23	OPPORTUNITY TO:	
24	(A) COMMENT ON THE AIR QUALITY, ALL OTHER AIR POLLUTANTS	
25	AND OTHER EMISSION REDUCTIONS OF THE PLAN; AND	
26	(B) EVALUATE AND DETERMINE WHETHER THE PLAN IS	
27	CONSISTENT WITH THE CURRENT AND ANTICIPATED REQUIREMENTS OF THE	

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2	(III) IN COMMENTING UPON THE UTILITY'S PLAN, THE DEPARTMENT
3	SHALL DETERMINE WHETHER ANY NEW OR REPOWERED ELECTRIC
4	GENERATING UNIT PROPOSED UNDER THE PLAN, OTHER THAN A PEAKING
5	FACILITY UTILIZED LESS THAN TWENTY PERCENT ON AN ANNUAL BASIS,
6	WILL EMIT MORE THAN ONE THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED POUNDS OF CARBON
7	DIOXIDE PER MEGAWATT-HOUR; EXCEPT THAT IN NO EVENT SHALL THE
8	DEPARTMENT OR COMMISSION INCORPORATE AN ENFORCEABLE CARBON
9	DIOXIDE EMISSION LIMIT INTO ANY AIR QUALITY OR OTHER PERMIT OR
10	CONDITION TO OPERATE ANY SUCH FACILITY UNLESS OTHERWISE
11	REQUIRED BY FEDERAL LAW.
12	(IV) THE COMMISSION SHALL NOT APPROVE A PLAN EXCEPT AFTER
13	AN EVIDENTIARY HEARING AND UNLESS THE DEPARTMENT HAS
14	DETERMINED THAT THE PLAN IS CONSISTENT WITH THE CURRENT AND
15	ANTICIPATED REQUIREMENTS OF THE FEDERAL ACT.
16	(c) THE PLAN SHALL INCLUDE A SCHEDULE THAT WOULD RESULT
17	IN FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLAN ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31,
18	2017. THE SCHEDULE MAY INCLUDE INTERIM MILESTONES. THE UTILITY
19	SHALL DESIGN THE SCHEDULE TO PROTECT SYSTEM RELIABILITY, CONTROL
20	OVERALL COST, AND ASSURE CONSISTENCY WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF
21	THE FEDERAL ACT.
22	(d) THE PLAN SHALL SET FORTH THE COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH
23	ACTIVITIES IDENTIFIED IN THE PLAN, INCLUDING THE PLANNING,
24	DEVELOPMENT, CONSTRUCTION, AND OPERATION OF ELEMENTS IDENTIFIED
25	PURSUANT TO SUBPARAGRAPHS (I) TO (IX) OF PARAGRAPH (a) OF
26	SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS SECTION, AS WELL AS THE COSTS OF ANY
27	SHUTDOWN, DECOMMISSIONING, OR REPOWERING OF EXISTING COAL-FIRED

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1	ELECTRIC GENERATING UNITS THAT ARE SET FORTH IN THE PLAN.
2	40-3.2-205. Review - approval. (1) IN EVALUATING THE PLAN,
3	THE COMMISSION SHALL CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING FACTORS:
4	(a) Whether the department reports that the plan is
5	LIKELY TO ACHIEVE AT LEAST A SEVENTY TO EIGHTY PERCENT REDUCTION,
6	OR GREATER, IN ANNUAL EMISSIONS OF OXIDES OF NITROGEN AS
7	NECESSARY TO COMPLY WITH CURRENT AND ANTICIPATED REQUIREMENTS
8	OF THE FEDERAL ACT AND THE STATE ACT. THE REDUCTION IN EMISSIONS
9	UNDER THIS PARAGRAPH (a) SHALL BE MEASURED FROM 2008 LEVELS AT
10	COAL-FIRED POWER PLANTS IDENTIFIED IN THE PLAN. IN DETERMINING THE
11	REDUCTION IN EMISSIONS UNDER THIS PARAGRAPH (a), THE DEPARTMENT
12	SHALL INCLUDE:
13	(I) EMISSIONS FROM COAL-FIRED POWER PLANTS IDENTIFIED IN THE
14	PLAN AND CONTINUING TO OPERATE AFTER RETROFIT WITH EMISSION
15	CONTROL EQUIPMENT; AND
16	(II) EMISSIONS FROM ANY FACILITIES CONSTRUCTED TO REPLACE
17	ANY RETIRED COAL-FIRED POWER PLANTS IDENTIFIED IN THE PLAN.
18	(b) WHETHER THE DEPARTMENT HAS MADE THE DETERMINATION
19	UNDER SECTION 40-3.2-204 (2) (b) (III);
20	(c) THE DEGREE TO WHICH THE PLAN WILL RESULT IN REDUCTIONS
21	OF OTHER POLLUTANTS;
22	(d) THE DEGREE TO WHICH THE PLAN WILL RESULT IN REDUCTIONS
23	IN OTHER AIR POLLUTANTS EMISSIONS;
24	(e) THE DEGREE TO WHICH THE PLAN WILL INCREASE UTILIZATION
25	OF EXISTING NATURAL GAS-FIRED GENERATING CAPACITY;
26	(f) THE DEGREE TO WHICH THE PLAN ENHANCES THE ABILITY OF
27	THE UTILITY TO MEET STATE OR FEDERAL RENEWABLE ENERGY

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2	EMITTING RESOURCES;	
3	(g) Whether the plan promotes Colorado economic	
4	DEVELOPMENT;	
5	(h) WHETHER THE PLAN PRESERVES RELIABLE ELECTRIC SERVICE	
6	FOR COLORADO CONSUMERS;	
7	(i) WHETHER THE PLAN IS LIKELY TO HELP PROTECT COLORADO	
8	CUSTOMERS FROM FUTURE COST INCREASES, INCLUDING COSTS	
9	ASSOCIATED WITH POTENTIAL FEDERAL CLIMATE POLICY; AND	
10	(j) Whether the cost of the plan results in reasonable	
11	RATE IMPACTS. IN EVALUATING THE RATE IMPACTS OF THE PLAN, THE	
12	COMMISSION SHALL EXAMINE THE IMPACT OF THE RATES ON LOW-INCOME	
13	CUSTOMERS.	
14	(2) THE COMMISSION SHALL REVIEW THE PLAN AND ENTER AN	
15	ORDER APPROVING, DENYING, OR MODIFYING THE PLAN BY DECEMBER 15,	
16	2010. Any modifications required by the commission shall result	
17	IN A PLAN THAT THE DEPARTMENT DETERMINES IS LIKELY TO MEET	
18	CURRENT AND ANTICIPATED FEDERAL AND STATE CLEAN AIR ACT	
19	REQUIREMENTS.	
20	(3) ALL ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE UTILITY IN FURTHERANCE OF, AND	
21	IN COMPLIANCE WITH, AN APPROVED PLAN ARE PRESUMED TO BE PRUDENT	
22	ACTIONS, THE COSTS OF WHICH ARE RECOVERABLE IN RATES AS PROVIDED	
23	IN SECTION 40-3.2-207.	
24	(4) If the utility disagrees with the commission's	
25	MODIFICATIONS TO ITS PROPOSED PLAN WITH RESPECT TO RESOURCE	
26	SELECTION, THE UTILITY MAY WITHDRAW ITS APPLICATION.	
27	40-3.2-206. Coal plant retirements - replacement resources.	

REQUIREMENTS, RELIES ON ENERGY EFFICIENCY, OR RELIES ON OTHER LOW

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1 (1) (a) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FINDS THAT, IN DESIGNING A 2 COORDINATED EMISSION REDUCTION PLAN AS DESCRIBED IN SECTION 3 40-3.2-204 AND TO EXPEDITIOUSLY ACCELERATE COAL PLANT 4 RETIREMENTS, IT IS IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST FOR UTILITIES TO GIVE 5 PRIMARY CONSIDERATION TO REPLACING OR REPOWERING THEIR COAL 6 GENERATION WITH NATURAL GAS GENERATION AND THAT UTILITIES SHALL 7 ALSO CONSIDER OTHER LOW-EMITTING RESOURCES, INCLUDING ENERGY 8 EFFICIENCY, IF THIS REPLACEMENT OR REPOWERING CAN BE 9 ACCOMPLISHED PRUDENTLY AND FOR REASONABLE RATE IMPACTS 10 COMPARED WITH PLACING ADDITIONAL EMISSION CONTROLS ON 11 COAL-FIRED GENERATING UNITS, AND IF ELECTRIC SYSTEM RELIABILITY 12 CAN BE PRESERVED. TO THAT END, IN THE PLAN REQUIRED UNDER 13 SECTION 40-3.2-204, EACH UTILITY SHALL INCLUDE AN EVALUATION OF 14 THE FOLLOWING PROPOSALS: 15 (I) THE COST AND SYSTEM RELIABILITY IMPACTS OF RETIRING A MINIMUM OF NINE HUNDRED MEGAWATTS OF COAL-FIRED ELECTRIC 16 17 GENERATING CAPACITY, OR FIFTY PERCENT OF THE UTILITY'S COAL-FIRED 18 GENERATING UNITS IN COLORADO, WHICHEVER IS LESS, BY JANUARY 1, 19 2015, AND REPOWERING THE AFFECTED COAL-FIRED FACILITIES WITH 20 NATURAL GAS OR REPLACING THEM WITH NATURAL GAS-FIRED 21 GENERATION OR OTHER LOW-EMITTING RESOURCES. INCLUDING ENERGY 22 EFFICIENCY. THE COAL-FIRED CAPACITY EVALUATED UNDER THIS 23 SUBPARAGRAPH (I) SHALL NOT INCLUDE ANY COAL-FIRED CAPACITY THAT 24 THE UTILITY HAS ALREADY ANNOUNCED THAT IT PLANS TO RETIRE PRIOR 25 TO JANUARY 1, 2015. THE UTILITY MAY ALSO PREPARE EVALUATIONS OF 26 ADDITIONAL SCENARIOS, INCLUDING SCENARIOS THAT RESULT IN THE 27 RETIREMENT OF LESS THAN NINE HUNDRED MEGAWATTS OF COAL-FIRED

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1	ELECTRIC GENERATING CAPACITY OR THE RETIREMENT OF SOME PORTION	
2	OF THE NINE HUNDRED MEGAWATTS OF CAPACITY AFTER JANUARY 1	
3	2015, BUT BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2018.	
4	(II) RETIREMENTS OF A PORTION OF ITS COAL-FIRED GENERATING	
5	CAPACITY IN THE PERIOD AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS PART 2 BUT	
6	PRIOR TO JANUARY 1, 2015. AT A MINIMUM, THE UTILITY SHALL	
7	EVALUATE WHETHER TO RETIRE A PORTION OF ITS COAL-FIRED CAPACITY	
8	ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2013, OR WHETHER THE RETIREMENTS OF	
9	COAL-FIRED GENERATING FACILITIES THAT HAVE ALREADY BEEN	
10	ANNOUNCED COULD BE ADVANCED TO AN EARLIER RETIREMENT DATE.	
11	(b) (I) For all evaluations required by this subsection (1),	
12	THE UTILITY SHALL REPORT:	
13	(A) THE ESTIMATED OVERALL IMPACTS ON THE UTILITY'S	
14	EMISSIONS OF OXIDES OF NITROGEN AND OTHER POLLUTANTS AND CARBON	
15	DIOXIDE;	
16	(B) The feasibility of the retirement, repowering, or	
17	REPLACEMENT ON THE SCHEDULE PROPOSED IN THE EVALUATION;	
18	(C) THE COSTS AND IMPACT ON ELECTRIC RATES FROM THESE	
19	PROPOSALS; AND	
20	(D) THE IMPACT OF THE RETIREMENTS ON THE RELIABILITY OF THE	
21	UTILITY'S ELECTRIC SERVICE.	
22	(II) ALL EVALUATIONS REQUIRED BY THIS SUBSECTION (1) SHALL	
23	CONTRAST THE COSTS OF REPLACING COAL GENERATION WITH NATURAL	
24	GAS GENERATION AND OTHER LOW-EMITTING RESOURCES, INCLUDING	
25	ENERGY EFFICIENCY, WITH THE COSTS OF INSTALLING ADDITIONAL	
26	EMISSION CONTROLS ON THE COAL PLANTS.	
27	(2) THE UTILITY SHALL SET FORTH IN ITS PLAN THE UTILITY'S	

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1	PROPOSAL FOR THE BEST WAY OF TIMELY MEETING THE EMISSION		
2	REDUCTION REQUIREMENTS REQUIRED BY FEDERAL AND STATE LAW,		
3	GIVEN THE NEED TO PRESERVE ELECTRIC SYSTEM RELIABILITY, TO AVOID		
4	UNREASONABLE RATE INCREASES, AND THE ECONOMIC AND		
5	ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS OF COORDINATED EMISSION REDUCTIONS.		
6	(3) In reviewing the reasonableness of the utility's		
7	PROPOSED PLAN, THE COMMISSION SHALL:		
8	(a) COMPARE THE RELATIVE COSTS OF REPOWERING OR REPLACING		
9	COAL FACILITIES WITH NATURAL GAS GENERATION OR OTHER		
10	LOW-EMITTING RESOURCES, INCLUDING ENERGY EFFICIENCY, TO AN		
11	ALTERNATIVE THAT INCORPORATES EMISSION CONTROLS ON THE EXISTING		
12	COAL-FIRED UNITS;		
13	(b) Use reasonable projections of future coal and		
14	NATURAL GAS COSTS;		
15	(c) Incorporate a reasonable estimate for the cost of		
16	FUTURE CARBON DIOXIDE EMISSION REGULATION;		
17	(d) CONSIDER THE DEGREE TO WHICH THE PLAN WILL INCREASE		
18	UTILIZATION OF EXISTING NATURAL GAS-FIRED GENERATING RESOURCES		
19	AVAILABLE TO THE UTILITY, TOGETHER WITH INCREASED UTILIZATION OF		
20	OTHER LOW-EMITTING RESOURCES INCLUDING ENERGY EFFICIENCY; AND		
21	(e) CONSIDER THE ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS OF		
22	A COORDINATED EMISSIONS REDUCTION STRATEGY.		
23	(4) The utility may enter into long-term gas supply		
24	AGREEMENTS TO IMPLEMENT THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS PART 2. A		
25	LONG-TERM GAS SUPPLY AGREEMENT IS AN AGREEMENT WITH A TERM OF		
26	NOT LESS THAN THREE YEARS OR MORE THAN TWENTY YEARS. ALL		
27	LONG-TERM GAS SUPPLY AGREEMENTS MAY BE FILED WITH THE		

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1	COMMISSION FOR REVIEW AND APPROVAL. THE COMMISSION SHALL	
2	DETERMINE WHETHER THE UTILITY ACTED PRUDENTLY BY ENTERING INTO	
3	THE SPECIFIC AGREEMENT, WHETHER THE PROPOSED AGREEMENT APPEARS	
4	TO BE BENEFICIAL TO CONSUMERS, AND WHETHER THE AGREEMENT IS IN	
5	THE PUBLIC INTEREST. IF AN AGREEMENT IS APPROVED, THE UTILITY IS	
6	ENTITLED TO RECOVER THROUGH RATES THE COSTS IT INCURS UNDER THE	
7	APPROVED AGREEMENT, AND ANY APPROVED AMENDMENTS TO THE	
8	AGREEMENT, NOTWITHSTANDING ANY CHANGE IN THE MARKET PRICE OF	
9	NATURAL GAS DURING THE TERM OF THE AGREEMENT. THE COMMISSION	
10	SHALL NOT REVERSE ITS APPROVAL OF THE LONG-TERM GAS AGREEMENT	
11	EVEN IF THE AGREEMENT PRICE IS HIGHER THAN A FUTURE MARKET PRICE	
12	OF NATURAL GAS.	
13	40-3.2-207. Cost recovery - legislative declaration. (1) (a) A	
14	UTILITY IS ENTITLED TO FULLY RECOVER THE COSTS THAT IT PRUDENTLY	
15	INCURS IN EXECUTING AN APPROVED EMISSION REDUCTION PLAN,	
16	INCLUDING THE COSTS OF PLANNING, DEVELOPING, CONSTRUCTING,	
17	OPERATING, AND MAINTAINING ANY EMISSION CONTROL OR REPLACEMENT	
18	CAPACITY CONSTRUCTED PURSUANT TO THE PLAN, AS WELL AS ANY	
19	INTERIM AIR QUALITY EMISSION CONTROL COSTS THE UTILITY INCURS	
20	WHILE THE PLAN IS BEING IMPLEMENTED.	
21	(b) The general assembly finds that the emissions	
22	REDUCTIONS UNDER THIS PART 2 ARE BEING MADE TO ASSIST THE STATE	
23	OF COLORADO TO COMPLY WITH CURRENT AND ANTICIPATED EMISSION	
24	RESTRICTIONS UNDER FEDERAL LAW. TO PROVIDE THIS ASSISTANCE, THE	
25	UTILITY IS BEING ASKED TO MAKE SUBSTANTIAL CAPITAL INVESTMENTS	
26	AND TO ENTER INTO SUBSTANTIAL CONTRACTUAL COMMITMENTS IN AN	
27	EXPEDITED TIME PERIOD OUTSIDE OF THE NORMAL RESOURCE PLANNING	

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1	PROCESS.

2	(2) (a) If a public utility's wholesale sales are subject to
3	REGULATION BY THE FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION, AND IF
4	THE PUBLIC UTILITY SELLS POWER ON THE WHOLESALE MARKET FROM A
5	PROJECT DEVELOPED PURSUANT TO THE PLAN, THE COMMISSION SHALL
6	DETERMINE WHETHER TO ASSIGN A PORTION OF THE PLAN COST TO BE
7	RECOVERED FROM THE PUBLIC UTILITY'S WHOLESALE CUSTOMERS. THE
8	COMMISSION MAY MAKE SUCH ASSIGNMENT TO THE EXTENT THAT IT DOES
9	NOT CONFLICT WITH THE PUBLIC UTILITY'S WHOLESALE CONTRACTS
10	ENTERED INTO BEFORE THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS PART 2.
11	(b) EXCEPT AS SPECIFIED IN PARAGRAPH (c) OF THIS SUBSECTION
12	(2), IF THE COMMISSION MAKES AN ASSIGNMENT OF COSTS PURSUANT TO
13	PARAGRAPH (a) OF THIS SUBSECTION (2) AND IF THE UTILITY APPLIES TO
14	THE FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION FOR RECOVERY AND
15	PURSUES THAT APPLICATION IN GOOD FAITH, THEN:
16	(I) TO THE EXTENT THAT THE FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY
17	COMMISSION DOES NOT PERMIT RECOVERY OF THE ALLOCATED
18	WHOLESALE PORTION OF PLAN-RELATED INVESTMENT, THE COMMISSION
19	SHALL APPROVE RETAIL RATES SUFFICIENT TO RECOVER SUCH DISALLOWED
20	WHOLESALE PORTION OF THE INVESTMENT THROUGH THE RECOVERY
21	MECHANISM DETAILED IN THIS SECTION; AND
22	(II) THE PUBLIC UTILITY MAY NOT RECOVER ANY REVENUE
23	SHORTFALL CAUSED BY A DELAY IN MAKING ANY FILING WITH THE
24	FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION OR DUE TO ANY RATE
25	SUSPENSION PERIOD EMPLOYED BY THE FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY
26	COMMISSION OR BECAUSE THE PUBLIC UTILITY FAILED TO PURSUE
27	RECOVERY OF THE AMOUNTS AT THE FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY

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COMMISSION IN GOOD FAITH.

ITS RETAIL CUSTOMERS.

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2	(c) IF THE PUBLIC UTILITY FAILS TO APPLY TO THE FEDERAL
3	ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION WITHIN SIX MONTHS AFTER THE
4	COMMISSION'S FINAL ORDER ASSIGNING A PORTION OF THE PLAN'S COSTS
5	TO THE PUBLIC UTILITY'S WHOLESALE CUSTOMERS, THE PUBLIC UTILITY IS
6	NOT ENTITLED TO RECOVER THE ASSIGNED PORTION OF THE COSTS FROM

- (3) CURRENT RECOVERY SHALL BE ALLOWED ON CONSTRUCTION WORK IN PROGRESS AT THE UTILITY'S WEIGHTED AVERAGE COST OF CAPITAL, INCLUDING ITS MOST RECENTLY AUTHORIZED RATE OF RETURN ON EQUITY, FOR EXPENDITURES ON PROJECTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE PLAN DURING THE CONSTRUCTION, STARTUP, AND PRE-SERVICE IMPLEMENTATION PHASES OF THE PROJECTS.
- 14 (4) TO THE EXTENT THAT AN APPROVED PLAN INCLUDES THE 15 EARLY CONVERSION OR CLOSURE OF COAL-BASED GENERATION CAPACITY 16 BY JANUARY 1, 2015, AND TO THE EXTENT THAT THE UTILITY 17 DEMONSTRATES THAT A LAG IN THE RECOVERY OF THE COSTS OF THE PLAN 18 RELATED TO THE INVESTMENT REQUIRED BY SUCH PLAN CONTRIBUTES TO 19 A UTILITY EARNING LESS THAN ITS AUTHORIZED RETURN ON EQUITY, THE 20 COMMISSION SHALL EMPLOY RATE-MAKING MECHANISMS, IN ADDITION TO 21 ALLOWING A CURRENT RETURN ON CONSTRUCTION WORK IN PROGRESS, 22 THAT PERMIT RATE ADJUSTMENTS, NO LESS FREQUENTLY THAN ONCE PER 23 YEAR, WITHOUT REQUIRING THE UTILITY TO FILE A GENERAL RATE CASE TO 24 ALLOW RECOVERY OF THE APPROVED PLAN'S COSTS. SUCH RATE-MAKING 25 MECHANISMS MAY INCLUDE A SEPARATE RATE ADJUSTMENT CLAUSE, 26 REGULAR MAKE-WHOLE RATE INCREASES, OR OTHER APPROPRIATE 27 MECHANISMS AS DETERMINED BY THE COMMISSION.

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1	(5) DURING THE TIME ANY SPECIAL REGULATORY PRACTICE IS IN
2	EFFECT, THE UTILITY SHALL FILE A NEW RATE CASE AT LEAST EVERY TWO
3	YEARS OR FILE A BASE RATE RECOVERY PLAN THAT SPANS MORE THAN ONE
4	YEAR.
5	(6) The commission shall allow, but not require, the
6	UTILITY TO DEVELOP AND OWN AS UTILITY RATE-BASED PROPERTY ANY
7	NEW ELECTRIC GENERATING PLANT CONSTRUCTED PRIMARILY TO REPLACE
8	ANY COAL-FIRED ELECTRIC GENERATING UNIT RETIRED PURSUANT TO THE
9	PLAN FILED UNDER THIS PART 2.
10	40-3.2-208. Air quality planning. (1) THE AIR QUALITY
11	PROVISIONS OF THE EMISSION REDUCTION PLAN FILED UNDER THIS PART 2
12	ARE INTENDED TO FULFILL THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE STATE AND
13	FEDERAL ACTS AND SHALL BE PROPOSED BY THE DEPARTMENT TO THE AIR
14	QUALITY CONTROL COMMISSION AFTER THE UTILITY FILES THE PLAN WITH
15	THE COMMISSION TO BE CONSIDERED FOR INCORPORATION INTO THE
16	REGIONAL HAZE ELEMENT OF THE STATE IMPLEMENTATION PLAN.
17	(2) (a) Upon the utility's filing of the utility plan with the
18	COMMISSION PURSUANT TO SECTION 40-3.2-204, THE AIR QUALITY
19	CONTROL COMMISSION, IN RESPONSE TO THE PROPOSAL BY THE
20	DEPARTMENT, SHALL INITIATE A PROCEEDING TO INCORPORATE THE AIR
21	QUALITY PROVISIONS OF THE UTILITY PLAN INTO THE REGIONAL HAZE
22	ELEMENT OF THE STATE IMPLEMENTATION PLAN. EXCEPT AS SET FORTH IN
23	THIS SUBSECTION (2) , THE AIR QUALITY CONTROL COMMISSION SHALL NOT
24	ACT ON THE UTILITY PLAN OR THE PROVISIONS OF THE REGIONAL HAZE
25	ELEMENT OF THE STATE IMPLEMENTATION PLAN THAT WOULD ESTABLISH
26	CONTROLS FOR THOSE UNITS COVERED BY THE UTILITY PLAN UNTIL AFTER
27	THE COMMISSION'S APPROVAL OF THE UTILITY PLAN.

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1	(b) THE AIR QUALITY CONTROL COMMISSION SHALL VACATE THE
2	ENTIRE PROCEEDING RELATED TO THE UTILITY PLAN AND SHALL INITIATE
3	A NEW PROCEEDING FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF ALTERNATIVE PROPOSALS
4	FOR THE APPROPRIATE CONTROLS FOR THOSE UNITS COVERED BY THE
5	UTILITY PLAN FOR INCLUSION IN THE REGIONAL HAZE ELEMENT OF THE
6	STATE IMPLEMENTATION PLAN IF:
7	(I) THE COMMISSION DOES NOT APPROVE THE UTILITY PLAN BY
8	DECEMBER 15, 2010;
9	(II) THE UTILITY WITHDRAWS ITS APPLICATION PURSUANT TO
10	SECTION 40-3.2-205 (4); OR
11	(III) THE AIR QUALITY CONTROL COMMISSION REJECTS ANY
12	PORTION OF THE UTILITY PLAN AS APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION.
13	(c) THE AIR QUALITY CONTROL COMMISSION SHALL CONDUCT THE
14	PROCEEDINGS SPECIFIED IN THIS SUBSECTION (2) AFTER PUBLIC NOTICE
15	AND AN OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO PARTICIPATE IN ACCORDANCE
16	WITH THE AIR QUALITY CONTROL COMMISSION'S PROCEDURES.
17	(3) If the final approved provisions of the state
18	IMPLEMENTATION PLAN ARE NOT CONSISTENT WITH THE AIR QUALITY
19	PROVISIONS OF THE UTILITY PLAN, THE UTILITY MAY FILE A REVISED
20	UTILITY PLAN WITH THE COMMISSION THAT MODIFIES THE ORIGINAL PLAN
21	TO BE CONSISTENT WITH THE FINAL APPROVED STATE IMPLEMENTATION
22	PLAN. THE REVISED UTILITY PLAN IS SUBJECT TO ALL OF THE REVIEW AND
23	COST RECOVERY PROVISIONS CONTAINED IN THIS PART 2.
24	NOTWITHSTANDING ANY REVISION REQUIRED TO THE UTILITY PLAN, THE
25	UTILITY IS ENTITLED TO FULLY RECOVER ANY COSTS IT PRUDENTLY
26	INCURRED OR CONTRACTED TO INCUR UNDER THE ORIGINALLY APPROVED
27	PLAN PRIOR TO THE PLAN'S REVISION AND ANY COSTS INCURRED AS A

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1	RESULT OF ANY ENFORCEABLE STATE IMPLEMENTATION PLAN OR OTHER
2	AIR QUALITY REQUIREMENTS.
3	40-3.2-209. Annual certification of early reductions in
4	greenhouse gases. Reductions in Greenhouse gases achieved
5	THROUGH A COMPLIANCE STRATEGY BEFORE SUCH REDUCTIONS ARE
6	MANDATED UNDER FEDERAL LAW ARE VOLUNTARY FOR PURPOSES OF
7	DETERMINING EARLY REDUCTION CREDITS UNDER FEDERAL LAW. SUBJECT
8	TO APPLICABLE AND APPROPRIATE PROTECTIONS FOR CONFIDENTIAL
9	BUSINESS INFORMATION, THE UTILITY SHALL ANNUALLY CERTIFY AS
10	APPROPRIATE THE COMPARATIVE CARBON DIOXIDE EQUIVALENT EMISSION
11	RATE OF THE RETIRED AND REPLACEMENT ELECTRIC GENERATING
12	RESOURCES, THE COMPARATIVE UNIT UTILIZATION, HEAT RATES, NET
13	GREENHOUSE GASES, AND THE OVERALL VOLUME OF CARBON DIOXIDE
14	EQUIVALENT EMISSIONS REDUCED UNDER THE PLAN APPROVED UNDER
15	THIS PART 2. THE GOVERNOR SHALL ENUNCIATE EXPLICIT SUPPORT FOR
16	TREATING SUCH QUANTIFIED REDUCTIONS AS EARLY REDUCTIONS IN A
17	RESOLUTION OR CORRESPONDENCE TO THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS AND
18	THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES CALLING FOR THE RECOGNITION OF
19	EARLY REDUCTIONS UNDER FEDERAL LAW.
20	40-3.2-210. Exemption from limits on voluntary emission
21	reductions. The limits on utility expenditures on voluntary
22	EMISSION REDUCTIONS IN SECTION 40-3.2-102 DO NOT APPLY TO UTILITY
23	EXPENDITURES UNDER A PLAN APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION UNDER THIS
24	PART 2.
25	SECTION 2. 40-6-111 (1), Colorado Revised Statutes, is
26	amended BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW PARAGRAPH to read:
27	40-6-111. Hearing on schedules - suspension - new rates -

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rejection of tariffs. (1) (d) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY ORDER OF SUSPENSION OF A PROPOSED INCREASE IN ELECTRIC, GAS, OR STEAM RATES UNDER THIS SUBSECTION (1), THE COMMISSION MAY ORDER, WITHOUT HEARING, INTERIM RATES, AT ANY LEVEL UP TO THE PROPOSED NEW RATES, TO TAKE EFFECT NOT LATER THAN SIXTY DAYS AFTER THE FILING FOR THE PROPOSED RATE INCREASE. IN MAKING A DETERMINATION AS TO WHETHER TO ALLOW INTERIM RATES, THE COMMISSION SHALL CONSIDER THE AMOUNT OF THE REVENUE DEFICIENCY PRESENTED BY THE UTILITY AND THE EXTENT TO WHICH THIS DEFICIENCY WOULD ADVERSELY AFFECT THE UTILITY DURING THE TIME PERIOD REQUIRED TO HOLD HEARINGS ON THE SUSPENDED RATES.

SECTION 3. 40-6-111 (2) (a), Colorado Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

40-6-111. Hearing on schedules - suspension - new rates - rejection of tariffs. (2) (a) (I) If a hearing is held thereon, whether completed before or after the expiration of the period of suspension, the commission shall establish the rates, fares, tolls, rentals, charges, classifications, contracts, practices, OR rules or regulations proposed, in whole or in part, or others in lieu thereof, which THAT it finds just and reasonable. In making such finding in the case of a public utility other than a rail carrier, the commission may consider current, future, or past test periods or any reasonable combination thereof and any other factors which THAT may affect the sufficiency or insufficiency of such rates, fares, tolls, rentals, charges, or classifications during the period the same may be in effect and may consider any factors which THAT influence an adequate supply of energy, encourage energy conservation, or encourage renewable energy development. THE COMMISSION SHALL CONSIDER THE

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REASONABLENESS OF THE TEST PERIOD REVENUE REQUIREMENTS
PRESENTED BY THE UTILITY.

(II) IF THE RATES ESTABLISHED BY THE COMMISSION AFTER HEARING ARE LOWER THAN ANY INTERIM RATES ESTABLISHED UNDER PARAGRAPH (d) OF SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION, THEN THE COMMISSION SHALL ORDER THE UTILITY TO RETURN TO CUSTOMERS ON THEIR UTILITY BILLS THROUGH A NEGATIVE RATE RIDER THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE TOTAL AMOUNT THAT WOULD HAVE BEEN COLLECTED UNDER THE FINAL APPROVED RATES AND THE AMOUNT COLLECTED UNDER THE INTERIM RATES FOR THE PERIOD THAT THE INTERIM RATES WERE IN EFFECT, WITH INTEREST AT A RATE ESTABLISHED BY THE COMMISSION.

(III) All such rates, fares, tolls, rentals, charges, classifications, contracts, practices, OR rules or regulations not so suspended, on the effective date thereof, which, in the case of a public utility other than a rail carrier, shall not be less than thirty days from AFTER the time of filing the same with the commission, or of such lesser time as the commission may grant, shall go into effect and be the established and effective rates, fares, tolls, rentals, charges, classifications, contracts, practices, AND rules and regulations subject to the power of the commission, after a hearing on its own motion or upon complaint, as provided in this article, to alter or modify the same.

SECTION 4. Appropriation. (1) In addition to any other appropriation, there is hereby appropriated, out of any moneys in the public utilities commission fixed utility fund created in section 40-2-114, Colorado Revised Statutes, not otherwise appropriated, to the department of regulatory agencies, for allocation to the public utilities commission, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2010, the sum of seventy-four

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1	thousand one hundred fifteen dollars (\$74,115) cash funds and 0.6 FTE
2	or so much thereof as may be necessary, for the implementation of this
3	act.
4	(2) In addition to any other appropriation, there is hereby
5	appropriated to the department of law, for the fiscal year beginning July
6	1, 2010, the sum of thirteen thousand forty-one dollars ($\$13,041$) and 0.1
7	FTE, or so much thereof as may be necessary, for the provision of legal
8	services to the department of regulatory agencies related to the
9	implementation of this act. Said sum shall be from reappropriated funds
10	received from the department of regulatory agencies out of the
11	appropriation made in subsection (1) of this section.
12	SECTION 5. Applicability. This act shall apply to conduct
13	occurring on or after the effective date of this act.
14	SECTION 6. Safety clause. The general assembly hereby finds.
15	determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
16	preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.

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