

Creating a Thermal Energy Standard for Colorado

6th Rocky Mountain Utility Efficiency
Exchange

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Why A Thermal Energy Standard



A primary focus of Renewable Energy Policy is to produce cleaner electricity .

cleaner =



. . . and to create jobs.

. . . but it's all about KWHs

Why A Thermal Energy Standard

So how does Renewable Energy Policy address carbon emissions from the built environment ?



Heating and cooling buildings contributes about 20% of all US carbon emissions.

It really doesn't because we have a . . .

**Thermal (BTU)
Disconnect**

If we mandate clean electricity generation, why not also clean thermal energy generation?

What Would a Thermal Standard Accomplish?

Help wean us from using natural gas for thermal uses in the built environment.



Support communities to utilize their best available resources.



trees



garbage



solar/geothermal water

Provide a buffer against rising fuel costs



Geothermal - the Ubiquitous Thermal Resource

“GHPs use the only renewable energy resource that is available to every building, on demand, that cannot be depleted and is potentially affordable in all 50 states”

- U.S. Dept. of Energy



A Thermal Standard would
foster greater use of GHPs

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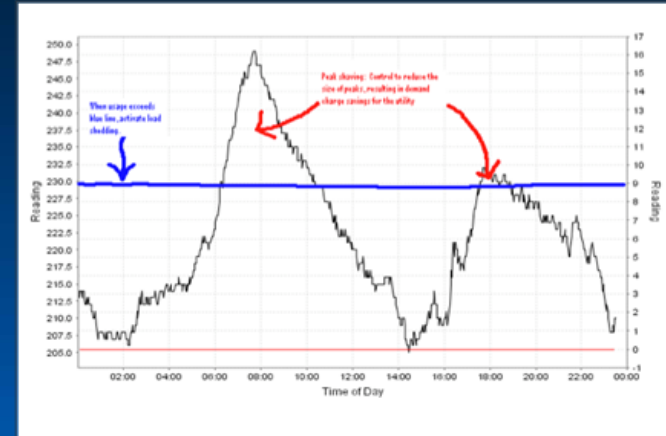
. . . to achieve these benefits:



reduce carbon



save money
for rate
payers



help utilities with
peaks, load factor,
revenue



stimulate market growth
and create jobs

which, with other thermal
technologies . . .

Have long term value

Promote economic health on the community
level

Are distributed - so don't require
massive infrastructure investment

Reduce cost volatility = cost
constancy

Have tremendous marketing power, especially
for smaller communities

go BTUs!

We're Not Alone

Legisla

tion Maryland - Geothermal Heating & Cooling Bill - first state to allow utilities to claim RECs for GHPs
New Hampshire - provides thermal RECs

as part of state's RPS - biomass, solar, thermal and GHPs
United Kingdom - Renewable Heat

Incentive to reduce heating based CO₂ emissions = 46% of total

Other

Wyandotte, MI - city GHP utility to avoid building new power plant and

reduce power supply costs
West Coast Clean Economy - progressive policies, inclusive of thermal energy provisions, could double clean energy jobs by 2020

Factors Influencing the Palatability of a Thermal Standard

Which are most important

to you?

- Well Defined Goals - Reasonable, societally

balanced

- Accountability - How will outcomes be measured?
- Market Incentives or Compliance Based - or Combo
- Beneficiary Pie - How many slices and for whom?
- Costs - How much and who pays?
- Role of Utilities - What's the business case?
- Market Position of Gas - Why bother?
- Ability to Offset Future Generation with BTUs

Saved

**If Creating a Thermal Energy
Standard
for Colorado is Important to You**

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We welcome your support and help!

Please contact me:

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