

# STATE-BY-STATE GREEN ENERGY UPDATES

## COLORADO

- **Legislation**

- In late March, Governor Hickenlooper signed a bill that states residents should be able to install, use and interconnect energy storage systems without unnecessary restrictions or discriminatory rates. Colorado is one of the first states to declare energy storage as a human right.

- **Incentives**

- This year Denver climbed the ranks from 23 last year to 10 for overall real estate prospects and from 14 to 8 for home building.

The top markets to watch in the U.S. for overall real estate prospects in 2019 include: Denver (#8)

The top markets to watch in the U.S. for homebuilding prospects in 2019 include Denver (#10)

Notable Incentives: Colorado Governor John Hickenlooper signed SB 18-009 into law making the state one of the first to designate energy storage as a consumer right, enabling residents to install, use, and interconnect energy storage systems without discriminatory rates.

Utilities in Colorado offer incentives for gas and electricity with savings higher than most states. Colorado has an Energy Saving Mortgage Program that incentivizes both the purchase of efficient homes and efficiency renovations in refinanced homes as well as PACE financing for commercial properties.

ACEEE Energy Efficiency Scorecard: Colorado ranks #14 out of 50 with a score of 25.5 (see: <https://database.aceee.org/state/colorado>)

Incentives in IncentiFind database:

- Commercial: 89 Incentives
  - Energy Efficiency: 45
  - Renewable Energy: 16
  - Water Conservation: 9
  - Other: 17
- Residential: 122 Incentives
- Denver (77 results)
  - Residential: The Colorado Energy Office offers a low-cost, low-interest loan to homeowners and small business owners for making energy efficiency upgrades to their homes or businesses<sup>1</sup>.
  - Commercial: PACE financing is available for energy efficiency investments in commercial buildings. Xcel Energy offers rebate programs for Colorado commercial and industrial customers for a wide range of energy efficiency technologies including but not limited to heating and cooling, motors, lighting, and refrigeration. In many cases, Xcel energy will cover at least part of the cost of the assessment, in addition to the equipment and installation rebates.
- Boulder (80 results)
  - Commercial: Xcel energy offers incentives for energy efficiency strategies at \$450 per kW\*, \$0.04 per kWh, and \$4 per Dth gas saved as part of their Business New Construction Energy Design Assistance.<sup>2</sup>
  - Residential: Tax credits are available in Colorado for purchase, lease and conversion of light, medium and heavy duty alternative fueled vehicles (electric or EV, plug-in hybrid or PHEV, compressed natural or CNG,

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/energyoffice/colorado-renu-loan>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.xcelenergy.com/staticfiles/xcel/Marketing/Files/CO-Business-Program-Summary.pdf>

liquefied natural gas or LNG, liquefied petroleum gas or LPG, and hydrogen.)

- Colorado Springs (72 results)
  - Residential: Colorado Spring Utilities offers various rebates to homeowners for energy and water efficient products including electric dryers, refrigerators, irrigation controls, and insulation<sup>3</sup>.
  - Commercial: Colorado Springs Utilities (CSU) offers a Renewable Energy Rebate to customers who install grid-connected solar-electric (photovoltaic, or PV) systems and solar water heaters.

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<sup>3</sup> <https://bouldercolorado.gov/water/rebate-program-2013>