



2007 Legislative Summary

[HB 07-1060](#): Bioscience Grants

Public Summary: Expands the bioscience grant program to include biofuel-related projects. Grants go to higher education institutions and help bring innovative ideas from laboratory to marketplace.

[HB 07-1087](#): Wind for Schools

Public Summary: Creates a grant program to place wind turbines on schools. Develops a grant program to help schools install wind turbines on campus and develop clean energy curriculum in the classroom.

[HB 07-1145](#): Renewable Resource Development on Public Lands

Public Summary: Enables the state land board to lease lands for renewable development. Funds from the lease go toward K-12 education.

[HB 07-1169](#): Net Metering for Cooperative Electric Associations

Public Summary: Provides minimum interconnection standards for net metering, so standards are uniform across the state.

[HB 07-1150](#): Clean Energy Authority

Public Summary: Establishes a state funding mechanism to leverage bond proceeds and provide government backed loan guarantees through a public authority for the purposes of building transmission capacity for renewable resources.

[HB 07-1037](#): Concerning Energy Efficiency

[Amendment](#)

Public Summary: Directs the Colorado Public Utilities Commission (PUC) to require jurisdictional electric utilities and gas local distribution companies to develop and substantially expand energy-efficiency programs. Requires investor-owned utilities to provide energy-efficiency programs for their customers, ensuring that they are cost effective for the utilities.

[HB 07-1146](#): Concerning Energy Efficiency

Public Summary: Raises the baseline for local building codes to the 2003 International Energy Conservation Code. This will ensure buildings in our communities will be more energy efficient and help us reach our goal of 20% efficiency statewide by 2020. Sets a statewide energy code only for counties that already have a building code.

[HB 07-1203](#): Energy Management & Conservation Studies

Public Summary: Encourages the governor's office of energy management and conservation to set a high priority on funding a county-level study regarding the baseline amount of carbon that may be stored in soil in Colorado to facilitate the creation of a Colorado-based market in carbon sequestration credits and a Colorado energy profile.

[HB 07-1228](#): Concerning Renewable Energy

[Fiscal Note](#)

Public Summary: Requires biofuels be used in state vehicles.

[HB 07-1220](#): Preference Purchase Environmental Products

Public Summary: Requires state agencies, offices and institutions of higher education to purchase environmentally preferred products (EPP). EPP are products that have a lesser or reduced adverse effect on human health and the environment when compared to competing products that serve the same purpose.

[HB 07-1281](#): Renewable Portfolio Standards

Public Summary: Doubles the state's renewable portfolio standard to 20% by 2020 for investor-owned utilities. Rural electric associations and municipal utilities must meet 10% by 2020 (these smaller utilities were not part of the original Amendment 37).

[HB 07-1279](#): Tax Credits for Renewable Energy

Public Summary: This bill specifies that machinery used to produce electricity from either non-renewable or renewable resources, including wind energy, is exempt from sales and use tax.

[HB 07-1309](#): School Energy Efficiency

Public Summary: GEO has been helping state public buildings become more energy efficient through a process called "performance contracting," generally done in concert with Energy Service Companies. This bill earmarks funds to be committed to achieving similar energy-efficiency gains throughout our K-12 school system.

[HB 07-1379](#): County Spending Authority for Environmental Spending Measures

Public Summary: Authorizes the board of commissioners of a county to provide in the county budget for programs that support education and outreach on environmental sustainability within the county but do not exempt the county from the requirements of any other statute.

[SB 07-008](#): Concerning Expansion of the Water Efficiency Grant Program

Public Summary: Allows any state or local governmental entity that provides water at retail to customers to participate in the water efficiency grant program administered by the Colorado water conservation board. Extends the repeal of the program to July 1, 2012. Transfers revenues from the operational account of the severance tax trust fund to the water efficiency grant program cash fund.

[SB 07-22](#): Concerning the Authority of the Public Utilities Commission to Consider the Needs of Low-Income Households When Setting Utility Rates

Public Summary: Grants statutory authority to the Colorado public utilities commission (PUC) to determine rates and practices for gas and electric service that take into account the needs of low-income utility customers. Defines a "low-income utility customer" as a customer who has a household income at or below 185% of the federal poverty level and who is otherwise eligible to receive assistance under the existing low-income energy assistance program administered by the state department of human services. Requires the PUC, when approving such rates, to take into account the potential impact on, and cost-shifting to, other customers.

[SB 07-51](#): High Performance State Buildings

Public Summary: Requires that state buildings and those buildings constructed with state funds meet the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Standards set by the United States Green Building Council.

[SB 07-91](#): Renewable Resource Generation Development Areas

Public Summary: Establishes a 16-member task force to map out resource zones and load centers for the purposes of planning transmission capability to meet increasing demand and renewable energy supply from our rural areas. Maps the state for the most productive renewable areas and the best way to connect those areas to the grid.

[SB 07-100](#): Energy Resource Zones Transmission Development

Public Summary: Establishes energy resource zones to incentivize investment in transmission and allow for cost recovery by utilities for building transmission to rural resource areas. Speeds up transmission construction by

allowing investor-owned utilities to recover transmission expenses during construction. Requires these utilities to file applications to build transmission.

[SB 07-126](#): Funding for the Collaboratory

Public Summary: Authorizes state spending on the Collaboratory, a partnership among NREL, Colorado University, Colorado State University and the Colorado School of Mines.

[SB 07-145](#): Local Incentives for Renewable Energy

Public Summary: Allows governmental entities (counties, cities etc.) to offer tax rebates to property owners who install renewable-energy producing fixtures (solar panels, efficient appliances, etc.).

[SB 07-182](#): Concerning State Matching Funds for Competitive Federally Sponsored Research Projects at Colorado Public Universities

Public Summary: Provides a dedicated source of matching monies that will allow Colorado public universities additional funding for research projects that will increase or improve recycling techniques and technology, or create marketable uses for discarded materials, and address problems caused by inappropriate disposal of solid waste materials.

[SB 07-246](#): Clean Energy Fund

Public Summary: The Clean Energy Fund will provide a steady stream of revenue to the Governor's Energy Office (GEO) for the purposes of advancing energy efficiency and renewable energy throughout the state. GEO will be using the fund to target investments in emerging technologies and attract New Energy Economy investment to Colorado.