

PUCN Connection

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FROM the PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

Produced by the PUCN's Outreach & Public Information Offices

January 2021 Edition

Nevada Climate Initiative releases State Climate Strategy

Moving to build a healthy, sustainable, climate-resilient future for all Nevadans, under the leadership of Governor Sisolak, the State of Nevada Climate Initiative released the [State Climate Strategy](#) (Strategy) on Dec. 1. The Strategy is an integrated, economy-wide roadmap for the Silver State to accelerate climate action necessary to achieve Nevada's climate goals and capture the health and economic benefits of the clean energy and technology revolution.

As a foundation of this effort, Governor Sisolak issued a sweeping [Executive Order](#) on climate change in November 2019 directing the executive branch to evaluate, identify and recommend the most effective climate policies and regulatory initiatives in a comprehensive state climate strategy. The Strategy, as released on Dec. 1, should serve as a roadmap for state and local policymakers centered on the following goals:

1. Provide a framework for reducing Nevada's greenhouse gas emissions across all economic sectors consistent with the greenhouse gas emissions reductions targets set by the Nevada Legislature in 2019 and commensurate with Nevada's commitments as a member of the United States Climate Alliance.
2. Lay the groundwork for the bold actions

necessary to improve Nevada's resilience to current and future impacts of climate change.

3. Establish a Nevada-specific structure for continued, ongoing climate action across the state in-line with achieving Nevada's climate goals.

"It's a new era for climate action in Nevada," said Governor Sisolak. "The effects of climate change can be seen and felt in every corner of Nevada, impacting our collective public health, threatening our natural landscapes and limited water resources, and challenging the vibrancy of our communities and economy. For the first time in Nevada's history, we are doubling down to address climate change head-on. The Nevada State Climate Strategy serves as the critical framework necessary to elevate climate action and foster a healthy, vibrant, climate-resilient future for all Nevadans – especially our most disadvantaged community members who live in the areas experiencing the

greatest climate-related health and economic impacts. As we continue our recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, climate action must play a key role in rebuilding a stronger, more climate-friendly and equitable economy for Nevada. Put simply, we must build back stronger."

The Strategy was developed using the best available science,

Continued on page 2

Check out Nevada's comprehensive State Climate Strategy!

» ClimateStrategy.nv.gov

STATE OF NEVADA CLIMATE INITIATIVE

The graphic features a central banner with a wavy orange and yellow border. Below the banner are five small images: a city skyline at night, a Joshua tree, a modern building, a blue car with a charging cable, and a scenic lake. A logo for the State of Nevada Climate Initiative is in the top right corner.



Nevada Climate Strategy: *continued from page 1*

combined with robust input from thousands of Nevadans through a series of listening sessions on a range of climate topics, a statewide climate survey, discussions with local government leaders, and more.

The Strategy is just the beginning of future climate action in Nevada. As a living document, the Strategy will be adapted and updated as the impacts of climate change evolve and new climate-friendly technologies become available. Continued engagement and collaboration with Nevadans will be essential to informing and shaping future iterations of the Strategy.

“Climate action is truly a collaborative and cooperative effort, and I want to personally thank the Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and the Governor’s Office of Energy, as well as all of our state agencies and interagency working groups, stakeholders, and all Nevadans who shared their input to help guide development of our State Climate Strategy,” said Governor Sisolak.

For more information or to view the State Climate Strategy, visit ClimateStrategy.nv.gov. For questions or comments regarding the strategy, please email climate@dcnr.nv.gov. Additionally, follow **@NevClimate** on Facebook and Twitter, and join the conversation using #NevClimateAction.

STATE CLIMATE STRATEGY HIGHLIGHTS

- More than 75 percent of climate survey respondents in Nevada indicated they are "very concerned" about climate change, with drought, wildfire, air quality, and extreme heat among the topics of greatest concern.
- The Strategy applies a robust framework for evaluating 17 climate mitigation policies against four key metrics: GHG emissions-reduction potential, climate justice, economic implications, and implementation feasibility.
- Low-income communities, people of color, and indigenous populations have disproportionately borne the burden of the impacts of climate change. Reconciling and addressing environmental justice concerns is a common thread throughout the Strategy.
- Climate action and economic development activities in Nevada are intrinsically linked and can be strategically integrated to achieve their respective goals.
- Nevada’s 2019 greenhouse gas emissions inventory shows that, without climate action, the state will fall 4 percent short of the 2025 goal and 19 percent short of the 2030 emissions reductions goal. By meeting the state’s emission reduction targets, Nevada would prevent between \$172 and \$786 million in economic damages by 2030 and up to \$4 billion by 2050.
- Given the complexities of climate change, multiple issues must be considered together to develop a catalog of climate-related policies, programs, and plans that are harmonized within and across different levels of governance and economic sectors. Establishing a robust climate governance structure with clear processes and related authorities to reduce emissions and manage the cascading impacts of climate change will position Nevada to navigate the challenges and opportunities ahead.

PUBLIC COMMENT at PUCN AGENDA MEETINGS

On March 22, Governor Sisolak signed an emergency declaration suspending the requirement that public bodies in Nevada provide a physical location for the public to attend and participate in meetings. The public may comment at PUCN agenda meetings by phone or email. These procedures are in place until further notice.

PHONE: (775) 687-6014

Call in five minutes before the meeting starts to provide your name to PUCN personnel.

EMAIL: BPA@PUC.NV.GOV

Submit written comments prior to the meeting.

Links to agenda meeting supporting material and the live video stream of agenda meetings are available at puc.nv.gov.

UTILITY BILL PAYMENT ASSISTANCE

If you've been impacted by COVID-19 and need assistance, the organizations listed below may be able to help.

SOUTHERN NEVADA

[Henderson - Hopelink of Southern Nevada](#)
[City of North Las Vegas Relief Programs](#)
[Project REACH](#)
[Nevada Energy Assistance Program](#)

NORTHERN NEVADA

[CARES Housing Assistance Program - Washoe County](#)
[CARES Housing Assistance Program - Rural Nevada](#)
[Special Assistance Fund for Energy \(SAFE\)](#)
[United Way of Northern Nevada & the Sierra](#)
[Nevada Energy Assistance Program](#)

Get to Know Us: PUCN Financial Analysis Division

The Financial Analysis Division is responsible for auditing financial information submitted by electric, natural gas, telephone, water and wastewater utilities in various filings. This includes ensuring the information submitted supports the recovery of prudently incurred costs of the utilities, and the proper return of benefits to utility customers.

The division analyzes data and makes recommendations to the Commission regarding assessments made on telecommunications companies to fund the Nevada Universal Service Fund, and a surcharge imposed on each telephone and wireless access line to fund a program to provide devices for

telecommunication and other assistive technology to persons with impaired speech or hearing.

The division monitors universal energy charge collections (and processes requests for refunds, where applicable), investigates the billing practices of mobile home parks that bill their tenants for utility services, participates in analyzing and processing applications for licenses, reviewing applications for certificates of public convenience and necessity and changes in ownership, reviewing annual report filings, and tracking compliances for non-safety issues.

Dockets Opened at the PUCN in December 2020

Visit puc.nv.gov/Dockets/Dockets/ to view documents filed in the dockets listed below.

Docket	Date Filed	Description
20-12001	12/01/2020	Notice by TracFone Wireless, Inc. d/b/a SafeLink Wireless, Simple Mobile, NET10, Total Wireless, Page Plus Cellular, TelCel, and Straight Talk of a new Lifeline service option for customers of SafeLink Wireless, Total Wireless, and Straight Talk.
20-12002	12/01/2020	Joint Petition of Nevada Power Company d/b/a NV Energy and Sierra Pacific Power Company d/b/a NV Energy for approval of an amendment to the Joint Dispatch Agreement governing transactions utilizing the One Nevada Transmission Line pursuant to the Order issued in Docket No. 19-06039.
20-12003	12/01/2020	Joint Application of Nevada Power Company d/b/a NV Energy and Sierra Pacific Power Company d/b/a NV Energy for approval of their Joint Expanded Solar Access Program Implementation Plan.
20-12004	12/02/2020	Notice by Bonanza Solar, LLC, under the provisions of the Utility Environmental Protection Act, of an application to a federal agency for approval to construct the Bonanza Solar Project consisting of a 300 MW photovoltaic solar electric generating facility, a battery energy storage system, a 230 kV generation-tie line, and associated facilities to be located in Clark and Nye Counties, Nevada.
20-12005	12/03/2020	Notice by Nevada Bell Telephone Company d/b/a AT&T Nevada and AT&T Wholesale of revisions to its Guidebook to reflect updated exchange area boundaries.
20-12006	12/10/2020	Application of Legacy Long Distance International, Inc. to voluntarily discontinue telecommunication service conducted under Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity ("CPC") 3043.
20-12007	12/11/2020	Application of Nevada Power Company d/b/a NV Energy, filed under Advice Letter No. 509, to revise Electric Line Extensions Rule No. 9 to adjust the Tax Gross-up Rate.
20-12008	12/11/2020	Application of Sierra Pacific Power Company d/b/a NV Energy, filed under Advice Letter No. 634-E, to revise Electric Line Extensions Rule No. 9 to adjust the Tax Gross-up Rate.
20-12009	12/11/2020	Application of Sierra Pacific Power Company d/b/a NV Energy, filed under Advice Letter No. 334-G, to revise Gas Main Extensions Rule No. 9 to adjust the Tax Gross-up Rate.
20-12010	12/11/2020	Filing by TAG Mobile, LLC of revised Lifeline wireless service plans.
20-12011	12/18/2020	Joint Petition of the Regulatory Operations Staff and Iovino Masonry, LLC ("Iovino Masonry") requesting the Commission accept a stipulation regarding violations of Nevada's One Call Law by Iovino Masonry.
20-12012	12/14/2020	Joint Petition of the Regulatory Operations Staff, Southwest Gas Corporation ("SWG"), and the Nevada Bureau of Consumer Protection requesting the Commission accept a stipulation regarding the applicability of SWG's Customer Owned Yard Line ("COYL") replacement program to a COYL located at Zephyr Cove Elementary School.
20-12013	12/14/2020	Application of Frontier Communications of the Southwest Inc., filed under Advice Letter No. NV-20-02, to revise Tariff No. 4-C to reduce the Federal Lifeline discount for Lifeline customers pursuant to Federal Communications Commission Docket No. FCC 16-38.
20-12014	12/15/2020	Joint Petition of the Regulatory Operations Staff and Southwest Gas Corporation ("SWG") requesting the Commission accept a stipulation regarding violations of Nevada's One Call Law by SWG.

Continued on page 4

December Dockets: *continued from page 3*

Docket	Date Filed	Description
20-12015	12/15/2020	Reports from electric utilities operating in Nevada regarding outage and incident reports occurring during calendar year 2020 relating to their Natural Disaster Protection Plan.
20-12016	12/17/2020	Filing by Sage Telecom Communications, LLC d/b/a TruConnect of updated Informational Tariff No. 1 that includes revisions to wireless Lifeline plans.
20-12017	12/22/2020	Notice by Trailerdale Trailer Park of a change of name to Silver City and a change of ownership to Silver City MHC LLC.
20-12018	12/18/2020	Application of Wirelessbeehive.com Nevada, LLC d/b/a Beehive Broadband for authority to operate as a competitive supplier of telecommunication service within the State of Nevada.
20-12019	12/22/2020	Application of Pahrump Utility Company, Inc. for authority to modify Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity ("CPC") 2720 Sub 12 and CPC 2343 Sub 13 to expand its water and sewer service territory to include approximately 75.2 acres of real property located in Pahrump, Nye County, Nevada.
20-12020	12/21/2020	Joint Application of Nevada Power Company d/b/a NV Energy and Sierra Pacific Power Company d/b/a NV Energy for acceptance of their Additional Joint Energy Supply Plan Update for 2021.
20-12021	12/21/2020	Notice by Holeshoot Energy Storage LLC, under the provisions of the Utility Environmental Protection Act, of an application to a federal agency for approval to construct the Holeshoot Storage Project consisting of a 100 MW/400 MWh battery energy storage system, a 138 kV transmission line, and associated facilities to be located in Clark County, Nevada.
20-12022	12/21/2020	Filing by Sierra Pacific Power Company d/b/a NV Energy of changes in rates within its Gas Tariff Schedule No. INGR pursuant to NAC 704.522 and NAC 704.526.
20-12023	12/22/2020	Application of Highlands Wireless Inc. for approval to add fictitious business name Preferred Networks for telecommunication service conducted under Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity ("CPC") 3012.
20-12024	12/22/2020	Notice by Boulder Solar III, LLC, under the provisions of the Utility Environmental Protection Act, of an application to a federal agency for approval to construct the Boulder Solar III Project consisting of a 128 MW photovoltaic solar electric generating facility, a battery energy storage system, and associated facilities to be located in Boulder City, Clark County, Nevada.
20-12025	12/22/2020	Filing by Q LINK WIRELESS LLC of updated Tariff No. 2 that includes revisions to wireless Lifeline plans.
20-12026	12/23/2020	Biannual filing by Nevada Power Company d/b/a NV Energy and Sierra Pacific Power Company d/b/a NV Energy regarding the Solar Program, providing a status update and a summary of discussion from a meeting with industry stakeholders pursuant to NAC 701B.145.
20-12027	12/23/2020	Notifications and Reports from electric utilities operating in Nevada regarding certain ignition events and wildfires occurring in the vicinity of the infrastructure of an electric utility for calendar year 2020.
20-12028	12/23/2020	Filing by Southwest Gas Corporation of its 2020 Status Report on the Mesquite Expansion Project.
20-12029	12/29/2020	Petition of the Regulatory Operations Staff to open an investigatory and rulemaking docket to consider adopting and revising regulations contained in Chapter 455 of the Nevada Administrative Code regarding notifications, preparation of reports, and other matters related thereto.
20-12030	12/29/2020	Application of Steamboat Springs Water Works, Inc. for authority to increase rates for water service.
20-12031	12/29/2020	Filing by Southwest Gas Corporation of its 2020 Status Report on the Spring Creek Expansion Project.
20-12032	12/30/2020	Application of CED Rock Springs Solar, LLC, under the provisions of the Utility Environmental Protection Act, for a permit to construct the Rock Springs Solar Project consisting of an up to 120 MW photovoltaic solar electric generating facility, a 345 kV on-site substation, a 345 kV generation-tie line, an up to 84 MW battery energy storage system, and associated facilities to be located in Washoe County, Nevada.
20-12033	12/30/2020	Application of Cox Nevada Telcom, LLC to be designated as an eligible telecommunications carrier in the State of Nevada pursuant to NAC 704.680461 and Section 214 of the Communications Act of 1934.

Prior editions of PUCN Connection are available at puc.nv.gov/About/Media_Outreach/PUCN_Connection/.
 For questions or comments about this newsletter, contact Consumer Outreach Director Dawn Rivard at drivard@puc.nv.gov or
 Communications Director Peter Kostas at pkostas@puc.nv.gov.