

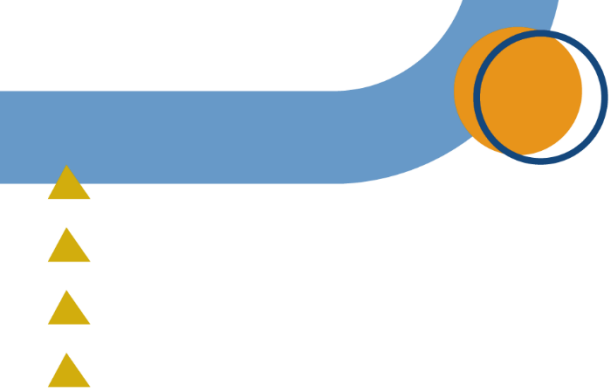


PUC Planning Meeting: Review of 2027-2029 ECO Triennials

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Mission

Shape and drive bold policy solutions to achieve equitable carbon-neutral economies.

Vision

A just, prosperous, and resilient future powered by a shared commitment to a carbon-neutral economy.





Fresh Energy's Reasons for Engaging in ECO

- **Advance decarbonization** across buildings, transportation, and other sectors
- **Prioritize energy efficiency** to reduce emissions, lower bills, and improve comfort
- **Expand efficient electrification** through heat pumps, transportation electrification, and load management
- **Strengthen low-income and multifamily programs**, including weatherization and pre-weatherization
- **Modernize ECO** by recognizing affordability, health, and societal benefits and aligning utility incentives with policy priorities
- **Center equity and community** in program design and workforce development



Fresh Energy



Fresh Energy's Priorities for 2027-2029 ECO Triennial Plans

- **Scale efficient building electrification**
 - Grow heat-pump investments and comprehensive electrification, paired with insulation, air sealing, and other efficiency measures.
- **Scale efficient transportation electrification**
 - Expand EV incentives, charging access, and electrification across vehicle types and customer segments.
- **Shift investments toward long-term benefits**
 - Move ECO resources from gas equipment and conventional AC toward heat pumps, weatherization, and other measures that deliver greater energy savings and customer benefits.
- **Strengthen access and program design**
 - Expand access for income-qualified, multifamily, renter, and other underserved customers while addressing participation, contractor, and program-navigation barriers.





Fresh Energy's Initial Comments on 2027-2029 ECO Plans

- Xcel (Docket No. E,G002/CIP-26-110)
 - [Fresh Energy Comments](#)
 - [Clean Energy Groups Comments \(Transportation\)](#)
- Minnesota Power (Docket No. E015/CIP-26-91)
 - [Fresh Energy Comments](#)
 - [Clean Energy Groups Comments \(Transportation\)](#)
- Otter Tail Power (Docket No. E017/CIP-26-92)
 - [Clean Energy Groups Comments \(Transportation\)](#)
- CenterPoint Energy (Docket No. G008/CIP-26-93)
 - [Fresh Energy Comments](#)
- Minnesota Energy Resources Corporation (Docket No. G011/CIP-26-96)
 - [Fresh Energy Comments](#)





Scale Efficient Building Electrification

- *What's new or expanding?*
 - Expanded heat-pump offerings, including air-to-water heat pumps (MP, Xcel)
 - Expanded efficient fuel-switching opportunities, including rebates for induction cooking, heat pump clothes dryers, electric panel upgrades (MP, Xcel)
 - New rebates for air-source heat pumps with gas furnace backup (MERC)
 - Expanded building-shell and weatherization opportunities (CPE, MERC, MP, OTP, Xcel)
- *What's missing or needs improvement??*
 - Stronger integration of building-shell improvements with heat-pump installations (CPE, MERC, MP, OTP)
 - More heat-pump technology options, including cold-climate and ductless heat pumps and heat pump water heaters (CPE, MERC)
 - Avoid program designs that favor new gas equipment over electrification (CPE, MERC)
 - Stronger incentives for heat pump water heaters and ground-source heat pumps (Xcel)
 - Continued evaluation and support for emerging and flexible electrification technologies





Scale Efficient Transportation Electrification

- *What's new?*
 - Public charger rebates (Xcel, OTP), fleet charger rebates (Xcel, OTP), and multifamily charger rebates (Xcel)
 - E-Bike rebates (OTP, MP, Xcel)
 - E-School Bus Rebate (MP), leased EV rebates (OTP)
- *What's expanding?*
 - Higher vehicle rebates (MP, OTP)
 - Advisory services programming (MP, Xcel)
- *What's missing or needs improvement?*
 - Affordable solutions (L1 Charging), equity eligibility criteria (Xcel), multifamily charging (OTP), EFS savings attribution from chargers.
- *What are barriers to improvement?*
 - Existing TRMAC does not have an approved methodology for attributing savings from EV chargers (only vehicles).





Shift Investments Toward Long-Term Benefits

- *What's new or expanding?*
 - Phased reduction of central AC rebates (Xcel)
 - Shift away from lower-efficiency furnace rebates (MERC)
 - Greater emphasis on comprehensive efficiency improvements and complementary measures (MP, Xcel)
 - Expanded performance-based and whole-home efficiency opportunities in new construction (MP, Xcel)
- *What's missing or needs improvement?*
 - Further shift incentives from gas equipment and standalone AC toward heat pumps and weatherization (CPE, MERC, OTP, Xcel)
 - Remove gas-equipment requirements or rebate structures that discourage all-electric or high-performance new construction (CPE, MERC)





Strengthen Access and Program Design

- *What's new or expanding?*
 - Significantly increased investment in income-qualified programs and cost coverage (CPE)
 - Expanded low-income weatherization offerings (CPE, MERC)
 - Expanded income-qualified and multifamily opportunities for building electrification via efficient fuel-switching (MP, Xcel, MERC)
- *What's missing or needs improvement?*
 - Stronger incentives and participation goals for heat pumps in low-income programs (CPE)
 - Expand cost-effective EFS opportunities in low-income and market-rate multifamily programs
 - Make EFS a standard component of applicable home energy assessments
 - Continue reducing participation barriers through pre-weatherization, community partnerships, and coordination across programs
 - Address contractor and workforce capacity constraints, particularly for heat-pump installations





Fresh Energy ECO Resources

- ▶ [The Conservation Improvement Program's legacy in Minnesota](#)
- ▶ [Minnesota's 2027–2029 ECO Triennial review process is underway](#)
- ▶ [Minnesota improves ECO to advance electrification, efficiency, and equity ahead of filings](#)
- ▶ [Modernizing utility programs to advance an equitable energy transition](#)
- ▶ [ECO Act Update: One year of progress with even more to come](#)
- ▶ [New Report: Electrification of multifamily housing in Minnesota](#)
- ▶ [What's next for equitable, modern efficiency in Minnesota?](#)