



Climate Legislation Introduced in Colorado

The Colorado General Assembly will vote on a “Climate Action Plan to Reduce Pollution.” If enacted, Colorado’s GHG targets will be among the most stringent in the country. Introduced on March 21, 2019, [House Bill 19-1261](#) sets targets to reduce statewide greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions 26% by 2025, 50% by 2030, and 90% by 2050 from 2005 emission levels. The bill seeks to reduce GHG emissions caused by the retail sale of electricity 80% by 2030, encourages the development of electric clean energy plans, and calls for renewable energy development strategies. The bill directs the Air Quality Control Commission to promulgate rules to ensure timely progress toward these goals.

According to [Colorado's GHG emissions inventory](#), the state’s top 5 sources of GHG emissions are transportation, electric power generation, fuel consumption, oil and gas systems, and agriculture. Coal mines, industrial processes, and waste management are also important sources. The [2018 Colorado Climate Plan](#) indicates that electric sector GHG emissions are declining but the emissions inventory projects total statewide GHG emissions will continue to rise through 2030. Reversing this trend will require far-reaching measures.

While the climate bill does not single out the oil and gas industry, [Senate Bill 19-181](#) requires the Air Quality Control Commission to adopt rules to minimize oil and gas emissions and consider more frequent leak inspections and continuous methane monitors. Methane is a GHG. SB 19-181 has passed the Senate and is pending before the House.

For more insights regarding how these bills affect industry and how to participate in the subsequent rulemaking hearings, please contact [Chris Colclasure](#) or [Jim Martin](#).