Platte River Power Authority

Estes Park • Fort Collins • Longmont • Loveland

2027 wholesale rate at a glance

Platte River Power Authority is a not-for-profit, community-owned public power provider that generates and transmits electricity for the Colorado communities of Estes Park, Fort Collins, Longmont and Loveland. The organization is committed to delivering safe, reliable, environmentally responsible and financially sustainable energy and services.

Platte River is committed to:

- Investing in electricity generation resources, transmission infrastructure and energy markets to maintain system reliability, improve efficiency and to meet regulatory requirements
- Prudently managing expenses for long-term financial sustainability
- Appropriately balancing decarbonization progress with reliability and managing wholesale system costs that also drive customer rates

The 2027 average wholesale rate for electric service sales to the owner communities is increasing 7.5% from the 2026 Strategic Budget.

The owner communities' distribution utilities integrate Platte River's wholesale rates into their retail electric rates.

As a not-for-profit utility, Platte River's revenues from its wholesale electric rates fund ongoing operations and are reinvested into the system for the benefit of the owner communities.



What is driving rate increases?

The board approves rates annually that fund ongoing general infrastructure investment, general inflationary expenses, market-based expenses and the resource portfolio transition.

Platte River is replacing long-term, low-cost assets before normal retirement with more expensive, renewable and low-carbon resources. Wind, solar, labor, services and equipment costs have continued to increase.

Phasing out coal early

- Retiring Rawhide Unit 1 by the end of 2029
- Retiring Craig Unit 2 in 2028
- Planned retirement of Craig Unit 1 in 2025; the unit remains available for operation under federal emergency orders

Investing in renewables

- Adding wind resources to replace coal-fired generation
- Participating in an energy market to maximize renewable energy integration

Long-term reliability

- Investing in state-of-the-art natural gas aeroderivative combustion turbines to maintain reliability and balance renewable energy
- Adding battery storage
- Developing programs and systems with the owner communities to integrate distributed energy resources and create a virtual power plant

What actions are being taken to stabilize rates?

Platte River is dedicated to maintaining high-quality services and financially sustainable rates. It is important to consider not only rates, but also the strategic and operational goals of the organization.

Platte River's fiscal responsibility and rate stability strategies help reduce long-term rate pressure and give the owner communities greater rate predictability.

Strategies include fiscally responsible revenue generation and expense management and multi-year rate smoothing to avoid greater single-year impacts.

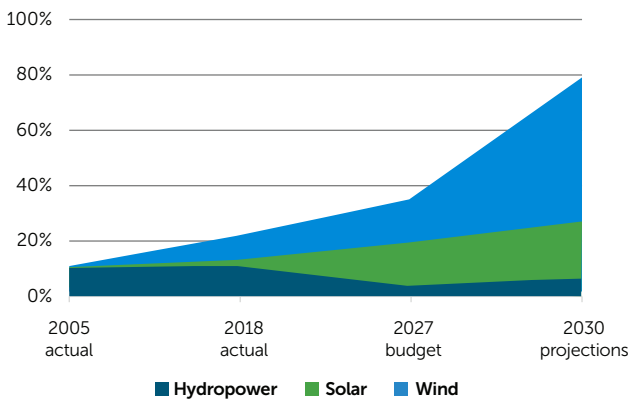
Why do rate projections change?

Assumptions for key activities in the resource and financial plans change due to uncertainty.

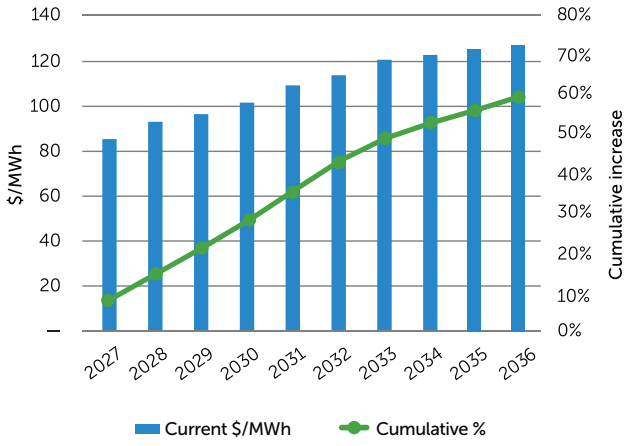
In partnership with its owner communities, Platte River is pursuing a noncarbon energy future through a diversified resource portfolio that balances reliability and financial sustainability while meeting the region's evolving energy needs. Thoughtful planning and disciplined financial management are required as costs continue to increase.

Platte River prepares 10-year financial and rate forecasts. The results are presented to the board of directors each year as assumptions and projections change.

Noncarbon energy as percent of system total



Wholesale rate projections



Average rates

