



## States' Biofuels Statutes

### STATE OF COLORADO

*This project was undertaken in partnership with the USDA Office of the Chief Economist, The Office of Energy Policy and New Uses. For information on the full project, visit [States' Biofuels Statutory Citations](#). These statutes are placed in reverse chronological order using the date of the most recent amendment to the statute. Many biofuels laws were enacted as amendments to previously passed laws.*

*Current through the 2013 Legislative Session of the Colorado General Assembly.*

#### **§ 24-30-2001. Definitions**

As used in this part 20, unless the context otherwise requires:

(1) “Energy cost-savings contract” means a utility cost-savings contract or a vehicle fleet operational and fuel cost-savings contract.

(1.3) “Energy cost-savings measure” means a utility cost-savings measure or a vehicle fleet operational and fuel cost-savings measure.

(1.5) “Energy performance contract” means a contract for evaluations, recommendations, or implementation of one or more energy cost-savings measures designed to produce utility cost savings, operation and maintenance cost savings, or vehicle fleet operational and fuel cost savings, which contract:

(a) Sets forth savings attributable to the calculated energy cost savings or operation and maintenance cost savings for each year during the contract period;

(b) Provides that the amount of actual savings for each year during the contract period shall exceed annual contract payments, including maintenance costs, to be made during such year by the state agency contracting for the energy cost-savings measures; except that, for the purposes of this part 20 only, the term “annual contract payments” does not include moneys received by the state from rebates, gifts, grants, or donations specifically designated by the gifting, granting, or donating party for the design or implementation of an energy cost-savings measure or state moneys that have been specifically appropriated in a distinct line item, or, in the case of the department of transportation, otherwise set aside in the department’s budget, for the design or implementation of an energy cost-savings measure that is wholly addressed within the scope of the energy cost-savings contract;

(c) Requires the party entering into the energy performance contract with the state agency to provide a

written guarantee that the sum of energy cost savings and operation and maintenance cost savings for each year during the first three years of the contract period shall not be less than the calculated savings for that year described in paragraph (a) of this subsection (1.5); and

(d) Requires payments by a state agency to be made within twelve years after the date of the execution of the contract; except that the maximum term of the payments shall be less than the cost-weighted average useful life of energy cost-savings equipment for which the contract is made, not to exceed twenty-five years.

(2) “Operation and maintenance cost savings” means a measurable decrease in operation and maintenance costs that is a direct result of the implementation of one or more utility cost-savings measures or one or more vehicle fleet operational and fuel cost-savings measures. Such savings shall be calculated in comparison with an established baseline of operation and maintenance costs.

(3) “Shared-savings contract” means a contract for one or more energy cost-savings measures that do not involve capital equipment projects, which contract:

(a) Provides that all payments to be made by the state agency contracting for the energy cost-savings measures shall be a stated percentage of calculated savings of energy costs attributable to such measures over a defined period of time and that such payments shall be made only to the extent that such savings occur; except that this paragraph (a) shall not apply to payments for maintenance and repairs and obligations on termination of the contract prior to its expiration;

(b) Provides for an initial contract period of no longer than ten years; and

(c) Requires no additional capital investment or contribution of funds.

(4) “State agency” means a department or institution of this state, including institutions of higher education.

(5) “Utility cost savings” means:

(a) A cost savings caused by a reduction in metered or measured physical quantities of a bulk fuel or utility resulting from the implementation of one or more energy conservation measures when compared with an established baseline of usage; or

(b) A decrease in utility costs as a result of changes in applicable utility rates or utility service suppliers. The savings shall be calculated in comparison with an established baseline of utility costs.

(6) “Utility cost-savings contract” means an energy performance contract or a shared-savings contract or any other agreement in which utility cost savings are used to pay for services or equipment.

(7) “Utility cost-savings measure” means any installation, modification, or service that is designed to reduce energy consumption and related operating costs in buildings and other facilities and includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- (a) Insulation in walls, roofs, floors, and foundations and in heating and cooling distribution systems;
  - (b) Heating, ventilating, or air conditioning and distribution system modifications or replacements in buildings or central plants;
  - (c) Automatic energy control systems;
  - (d) Replacement or modification of lighting fixtures;
  - (e) Energy recovery systems;
  - (f) Renewable energy and alternate energy systems;
  - (g) Cogeneration systems that produce steam or forms of energy, such as heat or electricity, for use primarily within a building or complex of buildings;
  - (h) Devices that reduce water consumption or sewer charges;
  - (i) Changes in operation and maintenance practices;
  - (j) Procurement of low-cost energy supplies of all types, including electricity, natural gas, and other fuel sources, and water;
  - (k) Indoor air quality improvements that conform to applicable building code requirements;
  - (l) Daylighting systems;
  - (m) Building operation programs that reduce utility and operating costs including, but not limited to, computerized energy management and consumption tracking programs, staff and occupant training, and other similar activities;
  - (n) Services to reduce utility costs by identifying utility errors and optimizing existing rate schedules under which service is provided; and
  - (o) Any other location, orientation, or design choice related to, or installation, modification of installation, or remodeling of, building infrastructure improvements that produce utility or operational cost savings for their appointed functions in compliance with applicable state and local building codes.
- (8) “Vehicle fleet operational and fuel cost savings” means a measurable decrease in the operation and maintenance costs of state vehicles that is associated with fuel or maintenance based on higher efficiency ratings or alternative fueling methods, including but not limited to savings from the reduction in maintenance requirements and a reduction in or the elimination of projected fuel purchase expenses as a direct result of investment in higher efficiency or alternative fuel vehicles or vehicle or charging infrastructure.
- (9) “Vehicle fleet operational and fuel cost-savings contract” means an energy performance contract or

shared-savings contract or any other agreement in which vehicle fleet operational and fuel cost savings are used to pay for the cost of the vehicle or associated capital investments.

(10) “Vehicle fleet operational and fuel cost-savings measure” means any installation, modification, or service that is designed to reduce energy consumption and related operating costs in vehicles and includes, but is not limited to, the following:

(a) Vehicle purchase or lease costs either in full or in part;

(b) Charging or fueling infrastructure to appropriately charge or fuel alternative fuel vehicles included in an energy cost-savings contract.

**Credits:** Added by [Laws 2001, Ch. 291, § 1, eff. Aug. 8, 2001](#). Amended by [Laws 2010, Ch. 410, § 2, eff. June 10, 2010](#); [Laws 2013, Ch. 403, § 1, eff. June 5, 2013](#).

---

#### **§ 24-30-2002. Contracts for energy analysis and recommendations**

(1) Subject to subsection (2) of this section, and in accordance with [section 24-30-1104\(2\)](#), where applicable, a state agency may contract with any entity or person experienced in the design and implementation of energy conservation for an energy analysis and recommendations pertaining to measures that would significantly increase:

(a) Utility cost savings and operation and maintenance cost savings in buildings or other facilities owned or rented by the state agency; or

(b) Vehicle fleet operational and fuel cost savings in state fleet vehicles.

(2) The state personnel director or the state personnel director’s designee may authorize a state agency to enter into such a contract. The contract shall be negotiated by the state agency pursuant to the negotiation requirements described in part 14 of this article; except that direct, indirect, overhead, and other costs and rates may be solicited and considered in the evaluation of qualifications and included in any resulting contract. The contract may include provisions that define the rate, amount, and nature of costs that may be proposed in any subsequent energy cost-savings contract, that describe the content of the analysis, and that reserve the option of the state agency to negotiate a suitable energy cost-savings contract.

(3) Such energy analysis and recommendations shall include the following, as applicable:

(a) Estimates of the amounts by which utility cost savings and operation and maintenance cost savings would increase and estimates of all costs of such utility cost-savings measures or energy-savings measures, including, but not limited to, itemized costs of design, engineering, equipment, materials, installation, maintenance, repairs, and debt service; or

(b) Estimates of the amounts by which vehicle fleet operational and fuel cost savings would increase and estimates of all costs of such vehicle fleet operational and fuel cost-savings measures.

(4) Payment by a state agency for an energy analysis and recommendations contract may be made from moneys appropriated to the state agency for operating expenses or utilities, as applicable, or payments may be deferred and incorporated into a subsequent energy cost-savings contract.

**Credits:** Added by [Laws 2001, Ch. 291, § 1, eff. Aug. 8, 2001](#). Amended by [Laws 2013, Ch. 403, § 2, eff. June 5, 2013](#).

---

### **§ 24-30-2003. Energy cost-savings contracts**

(1) A state agency may enter into an energy cost-savings contract with any person or entity experienced in the design and implementation of utility cost-savings measures for buildings or other facilities, with any person or entity experienced in the calculation and analysis of vehicle fleet operational and fuel cost savings, or with the entity or person who performed the energy analysis and recommendations pursuant to [section 24-30-2002](#) if:

(a)(I) In the case of a utility cost-savings contract, the energy analysis and recommendations made pursuant to [section 24-30-2002](#) indicate that the expected annual contract payments required under the utility cost-savings contract and any additional maintenance costs for one or more utility cost-savings measures are expected to be equal to or less than the sum of the utility cost savings and operation and maintenance cost savings achieved by the implementation of such measures on an annual basis; or

(II) In the case of a vehicle fleet operational and fuel cost-savings contract, the energy analysis and recommendations made pursuant to [section 24-30-2002](#) indicate that the expected annual contract payments required under the vehicle fleet operational and fuel cost-savings contract for one or more vehicle fleet operational and fuel cost-savings measures are expected to be equal to or less than the sum of the vehicle fleet cost savings achieved by the implementation of such measures on an annual basis; and

(b) The state personnel director or the director's designee, with input from the director of the state energy office, pursuant to criteria contained in procedures established by the state personnel director, approves the energy analysis and recommendations made pursuant to [section 24-30-2002](#).

(2)(a) Except as provided in paragraph (b) of this subsection (2), an energy cost-savings contract shall be negotiated by the state agency pursuant to the negotiation requirements described in part 14 of this article.

(b) The negotiation requirements described in part 14 of this article and any other state competitive bidding or procurement provision shall not apply to a state agency that enters into an energy cost-savings contract with the entity or person who performed the energy analysis for and made recommendations to the state agency pursuant to [section 24-30-2002](#).

(3) An energy cost-savings contract may include appropriate lease-purchase or other authorized financing agreements.

- (4) The legislative authorization required by [section 24-82-801\(1\)](#) shall not apply to a lease-purchase agreement in an energy cost-savings contract and no subsequent legislative authorization shall be required for any payment made pursuant to such an agreement.
- (5) Payments by a state agency required under an energy cost-savings contract may be made from moneys appropriated to the state agency for operating expenses or utilities appropriations available to the state agency at the time the contract payments are due.
- (6) The provisions of articles 91 and 92 of this title shall not apply to utility cost-savings contracts.
- (7) Utility cost-savings contracts shall be subject only to the supervisory provisions of part 13 of this article.
- (8) All savings realized as a result of an energy cost-savings contract that are in excess of the annual calculated savings by such contract may be utilized as provided in [section 24-75-108\(3\)](#).
- (9) The energy cost-savings contracts authorized by this section shall provide that all of the obligations of the state under such contracts shall be subject to the action of the general assembly in annually making moneys available for all payments thereunder and that the obligations shall not be deemed or construed as creating an indebtedness of the state within the meaning of any provision of the state constitution or the laws of the state concerning or limiting the creation of indebtedness by the state and shall not constitute a multiple fiscal-year direct or indirect debt or other financial obligation of the state within the meaning of [section 20\(4\) of article X of the constitution](#).
- (10) The state personnel director may establish procedures containing criteria for authorization of energy cost-savings contracts.

**Credits:** Added by [Laws 2001, Ch. 291, § 1, eff. Aug. 8, 2001](#). Amended by [Laws 2009, Ch. 132, § 10, eff. July 1, 2009](#); [Laws 2010, Ch. 410, § 3, eff. June 10, 2010](#); [Laws 2013, Ch. 403, § 3, eff. June 5, 2013](#).

---

### **§ 29-12.5-101. Definitions**

As used in this article:

- (1) “Board” means a governing body of any municipality or home rule county, a board of county commissioners of any county, a special district, or a board of education of any school district.
- (2) Deleted by [Laws 2002, Ch. 269, § 55, eff. June 1, 2002](#).
- (2.5) “Energy cost-savings contract” means a utility cost-savings contract or a vehicle fleet operational and fuel cost-savings contract.
- (3) “Energy performance contract” means a contract for evaluations, recommendations, or implementation of one or more energy saving measures designed to produce utility costs savings,

operation and maintenance cost savings, or vehicle fleet operational and fuel cost savings, which contract:

(a) Sets forth savings attributable to the calculated energy cost savings or operation and maintenance cost savings for each year during the contract period;

(b) Provides that the amount of actual savings for each year during the contract period shall exceed annual contract payments, including maintenance costs, to be made during such year by the board contracting for energy cost-savings measures;

(c) Requires the party entering into such contract with the board to provide a written guarantee that the sum of energy cost savings and operation and maintenance cost savings for each year during the first three years of the contract period shall not be less than the calculated savings for that year set forth pursuant to paragraph (a) of this subsection (3);

(d) Deleted by [Laws 2001, Ch. 291, § 4, eff. Aug. 8, 2001](#).

(e) Provides that, if all payments, except payments for maintenance and repairs and obligations on the termination of the contract prior to expiration, made by such board during any year subject to the guarantee in paragraph (c) of this subsection (3) exceed the sum of energy cost savings and operation and maintenance savings for that year, such party shall forfeit to such board that portion of such moneys equal to the amount by which such payments exceeded such savings;

(f) Requires such board, upon termination or expiration of the contract, to return to such party any moneys deposited with such board that are not forfeited to such board pursuant to paragraph (e) of this subsection (3);

(g) Requires that not less than one-tenth of all payments, except payments for maintenance and repairs and obligations on the termination of the contract prior to expiration, to be made by such board shall be made within two years from the date of execution of the contract; and

(h) Requires that the remaining such payments to be made by such board shall be made within twelve years from the date of execution of the contract; except that the maximum term of the payments shall be less than the cost-weighted average useful life of energy cost-savings equipment for which the contract is made, not to exceed twenty-five years.

(4) “Energy saving measure” means:

(a) The acquisition and installation, by purchase, lease, lease-purchase, lease with an option to buy, or installment purchase, of a utility cost-savings measure and any attendant architectural and engineering consulting services;

(b) Architectural and engineering consulting services related to utility cost savings; or

(c) The acquisition and installation, by purchase, lease, lease-purchase, lease with an option to buy, or installment purchase of a vehicle fleet operational and fuel cost-savings measure.

(4.5) “Operation and maintenance cost savings” means a measurable decrease in operation and maintenance costs that is a direct result of the implementation of one or more utility cost savings measures or one or more vehicle fleet operational and fuel cost-savings measures. The savings shall be calculated in comparison with an established baseline of operation and maintenance costs.

(5) “Political subdivision” means a municipality, county, special district, or school district.

(6) “Shared-savings contract” means a contract for one or more energy saving measures, which contract:

(a) Provides that all payments to be made by the board contracting for the energy saving measures shall be a stated percentage of calculated savings of energy costs attributable to such measures over a defined period of time and that such payments shall be made only to the extent that such savings occur; except that this paragraph (a) shall not apply to payments for maintenance and repairs and obligations on termination of the contract prior to its expiration;

(b) Provides for an initial contract period of no longer than ten years; and

(c) Requires no additional capital investment or contribution of funds from such board or the political subdivision, other than funds available from state or federal energy grants.

(7) “Utility cost savings” means:

(a) A cost savings caused by a reduction in metered or measured physical quantities of a bulk fuel or utility resulting from the implementation of one or more utility cost savings measures when compared with an established baseline of usage; or

(b) A decrease in utility costs as a result of changes in applicable utility rates or utility service suppliers. The savings shall be calculated in comparison with an established baseline of utility costs, excepting other available capital contributions provided by the political subdivision.

(8) “Utility cost-savings contract” means an energy performance contract or a shared-savings contract or any other agreement in which utility cost savings are used to pay for services or equipment.

(9) “Utility cost-savings measure” means an installation, modification, or service that is designed to reduce energy consumption and related operating costs in buildings and other facilities and includes, but is not limited to, the following:

(a) Insulation in walls, roofs, floors, and foundations and in heating and cooling distribution systems;

(b) Storm windows and doors, multiglazed windows and doors, heat absorbing or heat reflective glazed and coated window and door systems, additional glazing, reductions in glass area, and other window and door system modifications that reduce energy consumption;

(c) Automatic energy control systems;



(d) Heating, ventilating, or air conditioning and distribution system modifications or replacements in buildings or central plants;

(e) Caulking and weatherstripping;

(f) Replacement or modification of lighting fixtures to increase the energy efficiency of the system without increasing the overall illumination of a facility unless such increase in illumination is necessary to conform to the applicable building code for the proposed lighting system;

(g) Energy recovery systems;

(h) Cogeneration systems that produce steam or forms of energy such as heat, as well as electricity, for use primarily within a building or complex of buildings;

(i) Renewable energy and alternate energy systems;

(j) Devices that reduce water consumption or sewer charges;

(k) Changes in operation and maintenance practices;

(l) Procurement of low-cost energy supplies of all types, including electricity, natural gas, and other fuel sources, and water;

(m) Indoor air quality improvements that conform to applicable building code requirements;

(n) Daylighting systems;

(o) Building operation programs that reduce utility and operating costs including, but not limited to, computerized energy management and consumption tracking programs, staff and occupant training, and other similar activities;

(p) Services to reduce utility costs by identifying utility errors and optimizing rate schedules; or

(q) Any other modification, installation, or remodeling approved as a utility cost-savings measure by the board.

(10) "Vehicle fleet operational and fuel cost savings" means a measurable decrease in the operation and maintenance costs of state vehicles that is associated with fuel or maintenance based on higher efficiency ratings or alternative fueling methods, including but not limited to savings from the reduction in maintenance requirements and a reduction in or the elimination of projected fuel purchase expenses as a direct result of investment in higher efficiency or alternative fuel vehicles or vehicle or charging infrastructure.

(11) "Vehicle fleet operational and fuel cost-savings contract" means an energy performance contract or shared-savings contract or any other agreement in which vehicle fleet operational and fuel cost savings are used to pay for the cost of the vehicle or associated capital investments.

(12) “Vehicle fleet operational and fuel cost-savings measure” means any installation, modification, or service that is designed to reduce energy consumption and related operating costs in vehicles and includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- (a) Vehicle purchase or lease costs either in full or in part; and
- (b) Charging or fueling infrastructure to appropriately charge or fuel alternative fuel vehicles included in an energy cost-savings contract.

**Credits:** Added by [Laws 1991, H.B.91-1260, § 1, eff. May 1, 1991](#). Amended by [Laws 1992, H.B.92-1344, § 22, eff. May 28, 1992](#); [Laws 2001, Ch. 291, §§ 4, 5, eff. Aug. 8, 2001](#); [Laws 2002, Ch. 269, § 55, eff. June 1, 2002](#); [Laws 2004, Ch. 316, § 71, eff. Aug. 4, 2004](#); [Laws 2013, Ch. 403, § 5, eff. June 5, 2013](#).

---

#### **§ 29-12.5-102. Contract for analysis and recommendations**

(1) The board of any political subdivision may contract with an architect, professional engineer, or other person experienced in the design and implementation of utility cost-savings measures or energy saving measures for an analysis and recommendations pertaining to such measures that would significantly increase:

- (a) Utility cost savings and operation and maintenance cost savings in buildings or other facilities owned or rented by the political subdivision; or
- (b) Vehicle fleet operational and fuel cost savings in the political subdivision’s fleet vehicles.

(2) Such analysis and recommendations shall include the following, as applicable:

(a) Estimates of the amounts by which utility cost savings and operation and maintenance cost savings would increase and estimates of all costs of such utility cost-savings measures or energy saving measures including, but not limited to, itemized costs of design, engineering, equipment, materials, installation, maintenance, repairs, and debt service; or

(b) Estimates of the amounts by which vehicle fleet operational and fuel cost savings would increase and estimates of all costs of such vehicle fleet operational and fuel cost-savings measures.

**Credits:** Added by [Laws 1991, H.B.91-1260, § 1, eff. May 1, 1991](#). Amended by [Laws 2001, Ch. 291, § 6, eff. Aug. 8, 2001](#); [Laws 2013, Ch. 403, § 6, eff. June 5, 2013](#).

---

#### **§ 29-12.5-103. Financing energy cost-savings measures--exception to debt limitations**

(1) If the board, after receiving the analysis and recommendations pursuant to [section 29-12.5-102](#), finds that the amount of money the political subdivision would spend on such energy saving measures is not

likely to exceed the amount of money it would save in energy costs over the term of the contract, the board may:

(a) Enter into an energy cost-savings contract with any architect, professional engineer, or other person experienced in the design and implementation of energy saving measures for buildings or other facilities owned or rented by the political subdivision, with any person or entity experienced in the calculation and analysis of vehicle fleet operational and fuel cost savings, or with the entity or person who performed the energy analysis and provided recommendations pursuant to [section 29-12.5-102](#); or

(b) Otherwise incur indebtedness to finance energy saving measures.

(2)(a) Except as provided in paragraph (b) of this subsection (2):

(I) No contract entered into or indebtedness incurred pursuant to this section shall constitute or give rise to an indebtedness within the meaning of any constitutional, statutory, or home rule debt limitation; and

(II) Any contract may be entered into and indebtedness incurred without approval of the qualified electors of the political subdivision.

(b) Paragraph (a) of this subsection (2) shall not apply to any indebtedness incurred by contract or otherwise under this section which exceeds or which causes the total outstanding indebtedness so incurred to exceed the following percentage of the latest valuation for assessment of the taxable property in the political subdivision:

(I) One percent for a school district;

(II) One-tenth of one percent for a county, except a home rule county;

(III) One-fifth of one percent for a home rule county; or

(IV) One-fifth of one percent for a municipality.

(3) When an energy saving measure involves a cogeneration system, the sale of excess cogenerated energy shall be subject to the same state and federal regulatory requirements as the sale of all other cogenerated energy.

**Credits:** Added by [Laws 1991, H.B.91-1260, § 1, eff. May 1, 1991](#). Amended by [Laws 2001, Ch. 291, § 7, eff. Aug. 8, 2001](#); [Laws 2013, Ch. 403, § 7, eff. June 5, 2013](#).

---

#### **§ 29-12.5-104. Monitoring and reporting of energy and cost savings**

The board shall monitor the reductions in energy consumption and cost savings attributable to the energy saving measures financed pursuant to [section 29-12.5-103](#) and shall annually prepare a report documenting such reductions and savings for the first two years of the contract. The report shall be certified by an architect or engineer independent of any person, firm, or corporation that provided goods

or services to the board in connection with the energy saving measures that are the subject of the report.

**Credits:** Added by [Laws 1991, H.B.91-1260, § 1, eff. May 1, 1991](#). Amended by [Laws 2001, Ch. 291, § 8, eff. Aug. 8, 2001](#); [Laws 2013, Ch. 403, § 8, eff. June 5, 2013](#).