

# Utah Renewable Communities – Overview for Sandy City Council, May 2024



**UTAH**  
**RENEWABLE**  
**COMMUNITIES**

100% Committed to Clean Energy

**Utah Renewable Communities** is a coalition of 18 communities partnering with Rocky Mountain Power to design a new renewable energy program.

The URC Program aims to offer customers a choice to supplement their current energy mix with renewable energy at a minimal cost increase (net-100%).

We work to empower our community members to be the change for a sustainable tomorrow.



**UTAH  
RENEWABLE  
COMMUNITIES**

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# Rocky Mountain Power News

- Filed updated 20-year plan on April 1
- Cancelled its Request for Proposals for new resources
- Announced that it was “scaling down and delaying resource acquisition until after 2030”

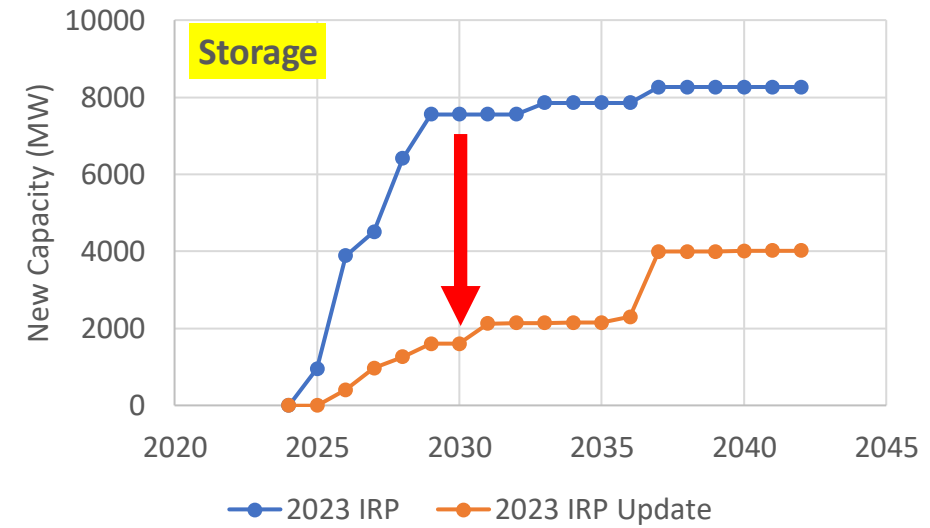
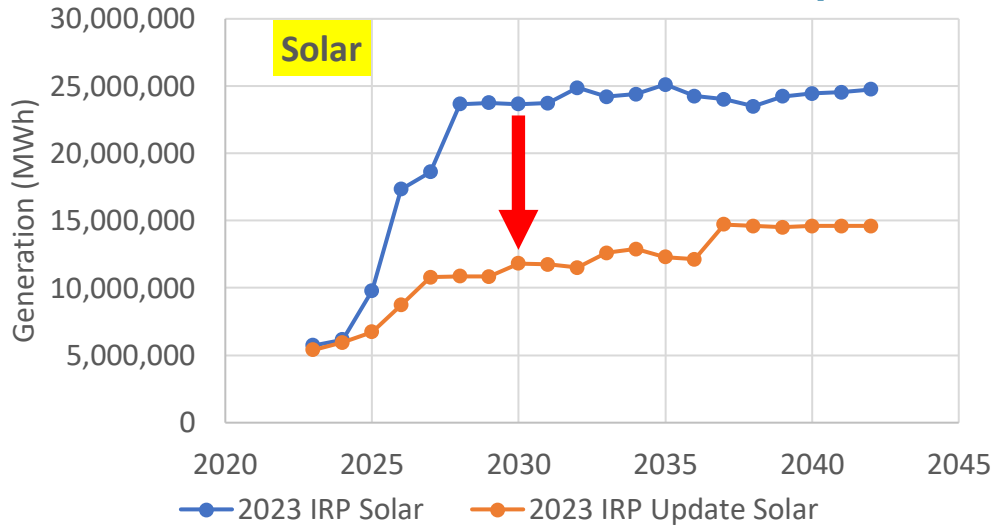
## **In climate setback, Rocky Mountain now says it plans to burn coal in Utah until 2042**

Updated 20-year plan dials back on clean energy resources and no longer includes nuclear in Utah.

## **These 18 Utah cities and towns still want clean energy, even as RMP backs off**

Communities plan to find their own clean power sources after utility recommits to coal

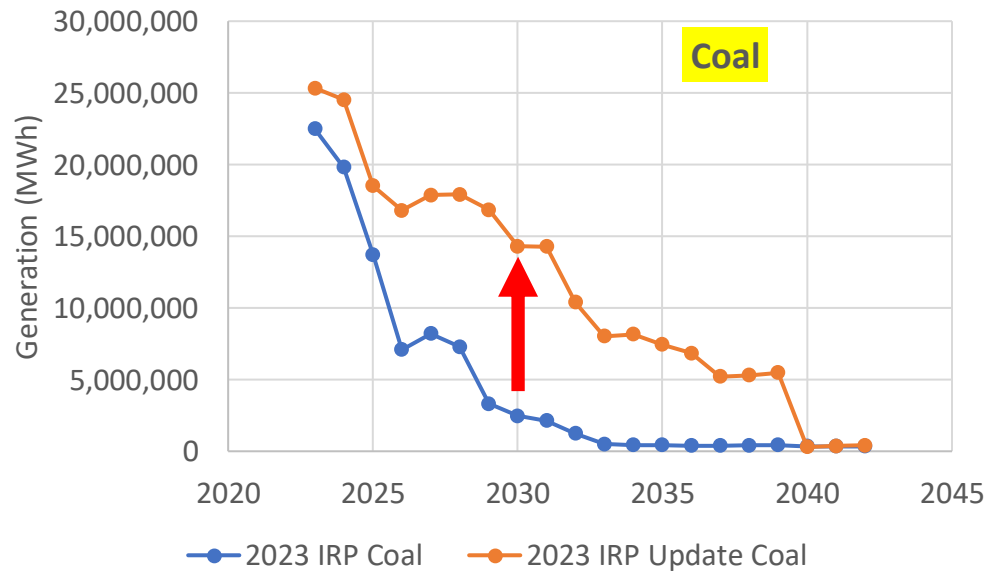
# 2023 IRP Update

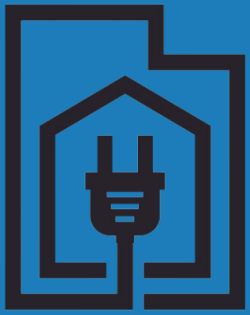


## Comparing the 2023 IRP & IRP Update (In 2030):

- Solar **decrease** of 68%
- Storage **decrease** of 79%
- Coal **increase** of ~6x

Also, coal plants will no longer have any additional pollution controls installed (SCR or SNCR)





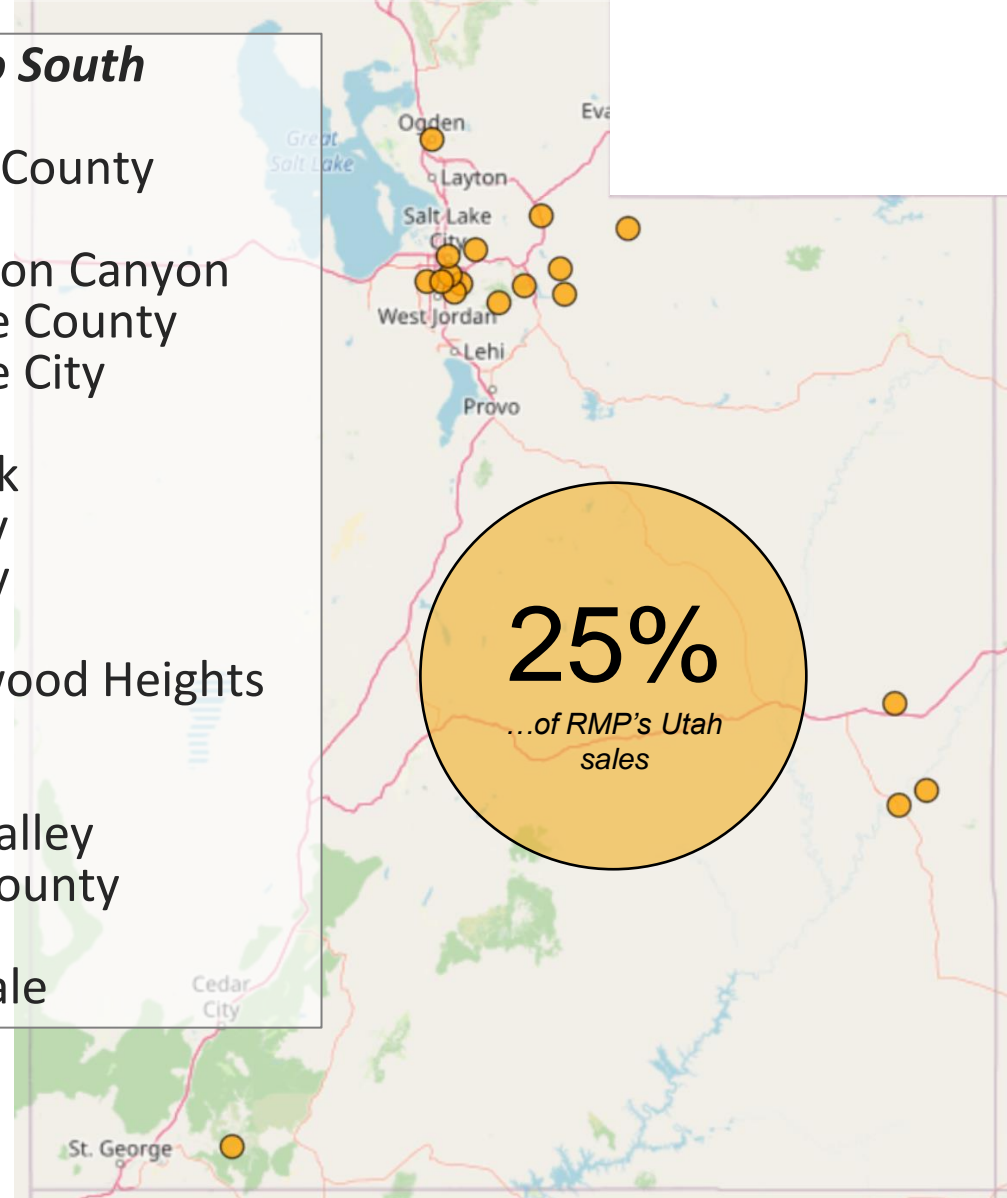
Agency  
Participation  
Status

Class	Annual Energy Usage (Million MWhs)
Residential	1.9
Commercial	3.2
Industrial	1.2
Other	.037
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6.3 Million</b>

## Participating Communities (18)

### North to South

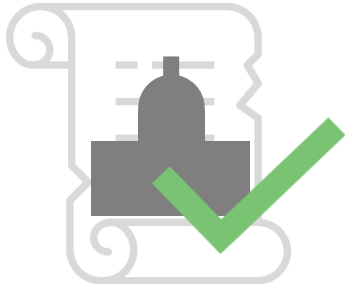
- Ogden
- Summit County
- Coalville
- Emigration Canyon
- Salt Lake County
- Salt Lake City
- Oakley
- Millcreek
- Holladay
- Park City
- Kearns
- Cottonwood Heights
- Francis
- Alta
- Castle Valley
- Grand County
- Moab
- Springdale



# Steps to design and launch the Utah Renewable Communities (URC) Program

1

**Enabling Legislation and Rules Adopted**



**State legislature and Utah PSC**

Establishes requirements & defines pathway to develop program

**2016 - Mar 2019**

2

**Community net-100% Resolution Adopted**



**23 communities adopted**

Establishes net-100% goal to ensure eligibility for Program, as required by law

**Mar-Dec 2019**

3

**Governance Agreement Signed**



**18 communities signed**

Maintains eligibility for Program, as required by law, and outlines Utah Renewable Communities (URC) interlocal cooperative arrangement and governance

**2020 – May 2022**

4

**Utility Agreement**

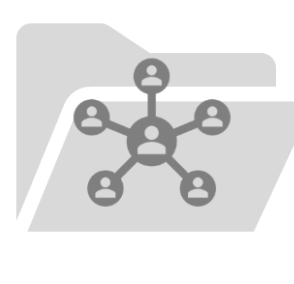


**All communities sign with the utility**

Maintains eligibility for Program, as required by law  
One agreement, approved by the Board and signed by each community  
*(New/Amended)*  
**Target: Fall 2024**

5

**Program Application**



**Agency approves and utility submits**

Describes detailed Program information including projected Program rates  
**Target submission: Summer – Fall 2024**

6

**Program Approval**



**Utah Public Service Commission (PSC) Reviews Program Application**

PSC order may approve, change, or deny Program; finalizes initial Program rates

**Potential timeline: 3-6 months**

7

**Participation Ordinance**



**Each community adopts**

Communities review approved Program and initial Program rates and decide whether to finalize participation

**90 days from Utah PSC approval**



# Utah Renewable Communities

## Utah Renewable Communities

- Interlocal Cooperative
- 18 communities joined
- Outside counsel & energy consultants

## Board of Directors

- 2 board members per community
- Monthly Meetings
- Officers:
  - Chair: Dan Dugan, Salt Lake City
  - Vice Chair: Angela Choberka, Ogden
  - Treasurer: Jeff Silvestrini, Millcreek
  - Secretary: Emily Quinton, Summit County

## Program Design Committee

- Coordinate and negotiate with RMP, other state agencies
- Bring recommendations to board regarding program design, utility agreement, key program design decisions

## Low-Income Plan Committee

- Research, study, consult with community members to develop options for communities to adopt in their required low-income plans
- Support program design committee with recommendations around low-income components

## Communications Committee

- Manages website, supports Board with communications assets, develops press releases
- Will be critical to support communities with outreach & education before and during program launch



# Agency Funds

## SCHEDULE 1

[Listed Entities/Original Weights/Initial Payments]

A	B	C	D	E
	Listed Entities:	Original Weight (%):	Phase 1 Initial Payment [Due 7/31/21]	Phase 2 Initial Payment [Due 7/31/22]
1	Grand County	0.603	2,109.37	2,109.37
2	Salt Lake County	3.306	11,570.26	11,570.26
3	Summit County	3.074	10,759.97	10,759.97
4	Town of Alta	0.063	218.93	218.93
5	Bluffdale City	3.168	11,088.57	11,088.57
6	Town of Castle Valley	0.030	106.74	106.74
7	Coalville City	0.161	562.99	562.99
8	Cottonwood Heights	3.126	10,942.10	10,942.10
9	Emigration Canyon Township	0.130	456.22	456.22
10	Francis City	0.120	421.54	421.54
11	City of Holladay	2.682	9,387.72	9,387.72
12	Kamas City	0.212	743.49	743.49
13	Kearns	2.745	9,606.01	9,606.01
14	Moab City	0.639	2,237.95	2,237.95
15	Millcreek	5.263	18,421.40	18,421.40
16	Oakley City	0.149	520	520
17	Ogden City	10.211	35,737.26	35,737.26
18	City of Orem	8.863	31,019.52	31,019.52
19	Park City	1.926	6,742.38	6,742.38
20	Salt Lake City	28.872	101,050.33	101,050.33
21	Springdale City	0.138	481.26	481.26
22	West Jordan City	10.833	37,916.77	37,916.77
23	West Valley City	13.685	47,899.22	47,899.22
	<b>SUM</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>350,000.00</b>	<b>350,000.00</b>

### Community Renewable Energy Agency Budget Status:

Budget usage	Budget	Spent	Remaining
Legal & technical	\$406,500	\$297,344.15	\$109,155.85
Communications	\$93,500	\$56,299.24	\$37,200.76
Division of Public Utilities and Office of Consumer Services	\$200,000	\$898.75	\$199,101.25
	<b>\$700,000</b>	<b>\$354,542.14</b>	<b>\$345,457.86</b>



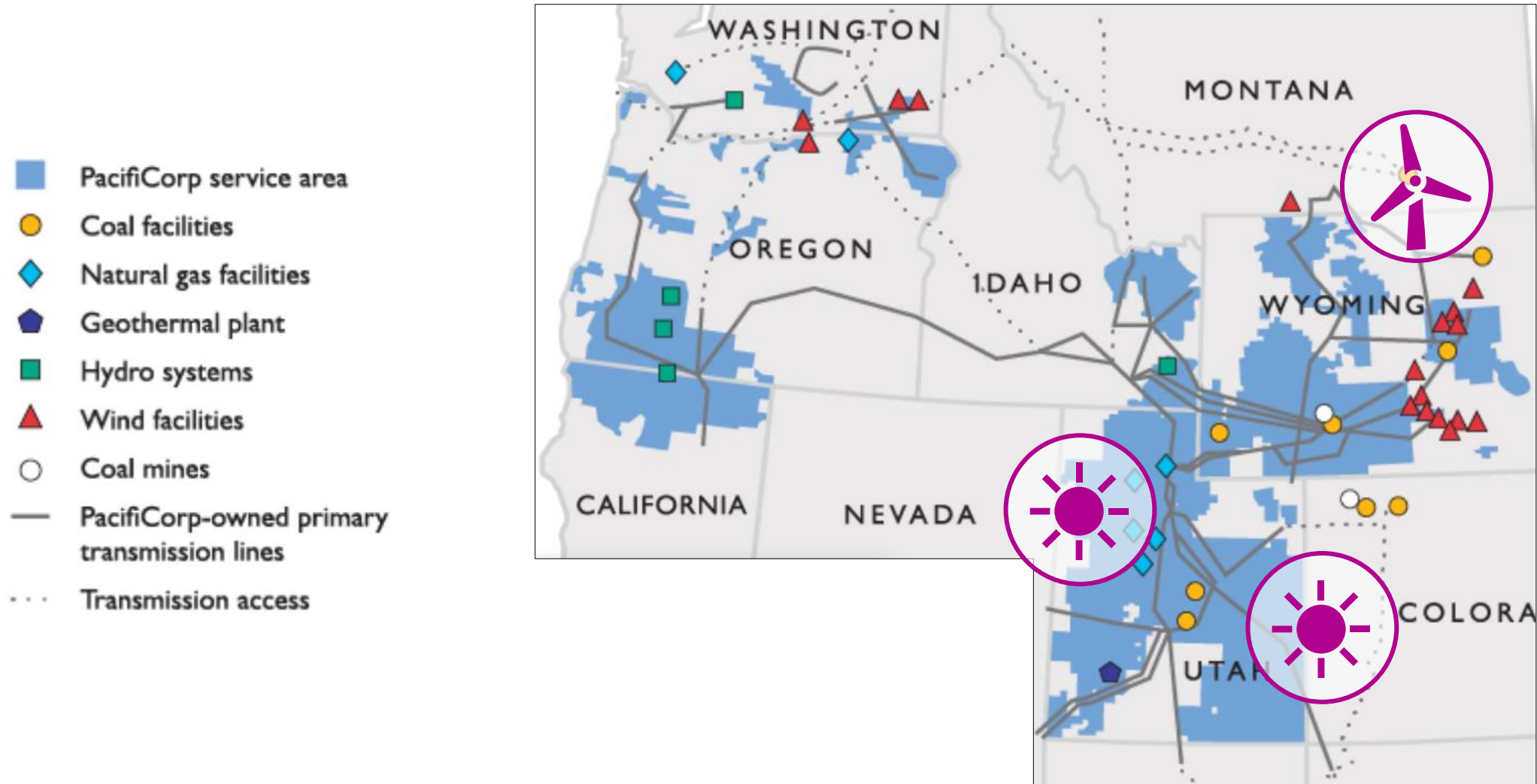
<https://www.jdrslaw.com/>



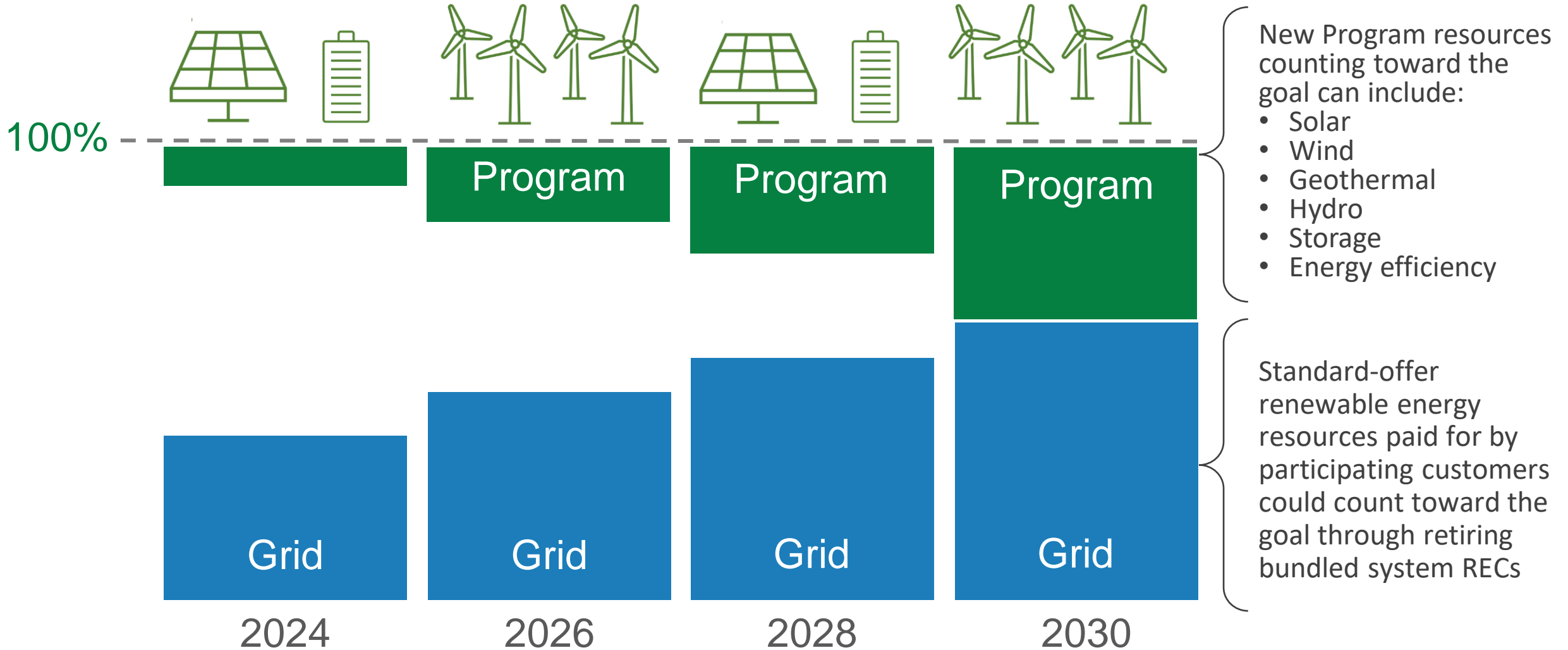
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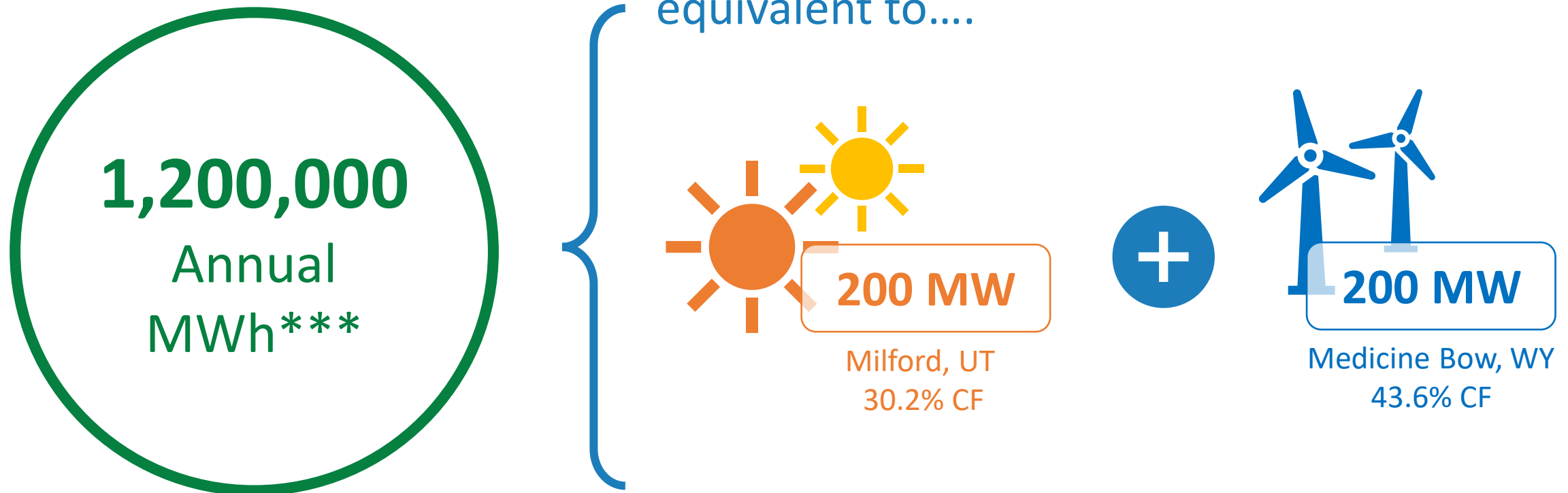
# Where could new Program renewable resources be located?



# Achieving Net-100% Renewable Electricity by 2030



# What Renewable Energy Resources Might the Program Acquire?



\*\*\*Estimated new clean energy target of 18 member communities in 2030 assuming 80% residential, 30% commercial, and 5% industrial participation rates

# How Much Will Participating Participants Pay?

Estimated  
**\$2 - \$7**  
extra per month  
for the typical  
household

- We estimate the program will cost between \$2 and \$7 extra per month, on average, for the typical household
- We plan to offer an **enhanced bill credit** for qualifying lower-income households
  - This bill credit would stack on top of the existing assistance
  - No additional eligibility requirements are planned— Schedule 3 customers should automatically qualify
  - Any program termination fee (perhaps \$30 for a household) would be waived for Schedule 3 customers
- The initial rate will be set by the Utah Public Service Commission and may be adjusted once per year

# Legislative Change Opens the Door to New Communities

- In the 2024 Utah legislative session, [SB214 S1](#) (Senator Hinkins) made changes to the Community Renewable Energy Act, removing the requirement that a municipality or county adopt a resolution no later than Dec. 31, 2019, stating a net-100% renewable energy goal
  - Entering into a governance or other agreement, the Utility Agreement, and adopting the Program Ordinance remain as necessary steps to participating in the program
- This change presents the possibility that other communities could participate in the URC program
  - RMP is aware of this possibility and stresses their desire to negotiate only with one entity (the Utah Renewable Communities) on one program (the URC program)
- Since the end of the 2024 legislative session, the Board Officers have heard directly or indirectly of at least 5 communities that might be interested in joining

# Potential Pathway for New Communities

- The URC Board is considering creating a pathway for new communities to join; it will likely address:
  - A payment to join commensurate with what other communities paid
  - Voting rights
  - Developing a consistent low-income plan
  - Developing a consistent community boundary map
  - Requesting community electricity consumption from Rocky Mountain Power
  - Signing an amended Utility Agreement
  - Confirming a desire for net-100% renewable electricity by 2030
  - Signing the Governance Agreement
  - A deadline to join that allows the Program Application to be filed in a timely manner
- Also: Need to budget for the cost of noticing Rocky Mountain Power customers in your community
- The list of requirements to join will be subject to a vote of the URC Board

# Suggested Next Steps for Interested Communities

- The URC Board could adopt a pathway for new communities to join as soon as **June 3**
- Interested communities should budget for:
  - Agency payments
  - Noticing costs (these costs will only be paid as a reimbursement to Rocky Mountain Power if a community adopts the final Participation Ordinance)
- Follow the Utah Renewable Communities
  - <https://www.utahrenewablecommunities.org/>
  - Utah Public Notice website:  
<https://www.utah.gov/pmn/sitemap/publicbody/7373.html>
- Questions:
  - Christopher Thomas, Salt Lake City, [Christopher.Thomas@slcgov.com](mailto:Christopher.Thomas@slcgov.com)
  - Emily Quinton, Summit County, [equinton@summitcounty.org](mailto:equinton@summitcounty.org)