

## Why Vote Yes?

- 1) Climate Change
- 2) Resilience
- 3) Costs

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- 1)
    - The best way to mitigate the damages of climate change is to reduce GHG emissions
      - Electricity makes up 1/2 of Boulder's emissions
      - Local control of energy allows Boulder to pursue ambitious reduction in emissions
        - Boulder can achieve emissions reduction faster and at lower cost than Xcel
  - 2)
    - Muni. owned grids are more reliable
    - More Democratic
    - Undergrounding of wires
    - Enabling Micro-grids
  - 3)
    - Muni. grids on average on average charge 15% lower rates
      - Xcel makes \$30 Million in profit on Boulder alone. Boulder will re-invest this money into the city

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Boulder is pursuing 100% reduction in utility emissions by 2030

## Obstacles

-Why has it taken so long to municipalize or have "go/no-go" vote?

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Boulder's municipalization has been tied up in litigation for over 10 years

In 2014, Boulder condemned Xcel's assets inside the county.

Excel replied with a motion for dismissal, Boulder must settle all utility related claims within the Colorado Public Utility Commission (PUC)

The PUC heard the case "The City of Boulder vs. Xcel Energy"

-After 5 years in litigation, the PUC approved the separation of assets outside of substations.

-Assets within substations are to be negotiated between Boulder and Xcel

-Boulder has pushed the "go/no-go" vote from 2020 to 2021 in order to present a worst case-scenario cost analysis

## Finances

To Date:

Financial projections have been the subject of much debate. Boulder is working to calculate 90% accurate cost estimates within the next year. Municipalization litigation has already incurred millions of dollars in legal fees.

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With that said:

Boulder's Estimates for muni. costs as of 10/10/2019 include....

Separation costs of up to:  
\$110,000,000

Stand-up costs of up to:  
\$30,000,000

However!

Stay updated regarding these numbers, as wholesome financial analysis is still under way. Updates can be found at <https://bouldercolorado.gov/local-power/costs>

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If Boulder votes not to municipalize, Xcel will still face challenges.

By state law, Xcel must achieve an 80% reductions in emissions by 2030.

According to Xcel projections, Xcel will have a gap in reductions of 35% that must be bridged within 3 years

Impact on customers is to be determined

## Why Vote No?

- 1) Upfront Costs
  - 2) Safety Concerns
  - 3) Devaluing xcel Energy
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- 1)  
-There are considerable upfront costs associated with municipalizing the energy grid in Boulder
  - 2)  
- xcel Energy has been providing utility services for much longer than Boulder. Therefore, Excel is more experienced
  - 3)  
-If xcel loses Boulder as a client, xcel Energy company stock will likely fall
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Additionally, as of the 2019 Colorado Legislative Session, xcel Energy is required to reduce emissions by 80% by 2030

## It's Up To Us!

2021: "go/no-go" vote will happen!

20+ years of work is on the line!

- CU Boulder makes up nearly 1/3 of Boulder's population
- CU students have the power to make or break this initiative

The Climate is  
**C H A N G I N G**

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We Need  
**A C T I O N**

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Everyone Has A Role To Play  
**V O T E**  
**B e E d u c a t e d**

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## Voter Brochure

Topic:  
Municipalization of  
the Energy Grid in Boulder

What is municipalization?

- Local government acquisition of corporate assets

Didn't Boulder already vote on this?

- Yes, and No...

2011: Boulder citizens vote to end franchise agreement with Xcel Energy

2012-2017: Boulder citizens approve funding and strategy development for municipalization

Argument:

There has never been "go/no-go" vote

So:

2021, "go/no-go" vote will take place