

Senate Engrossed House Bill
corporation commission; reliable energy

State of Arizona
House of Representatives
Fifty-seventh Legislature
First Regular Session
2025

HOUSE CONCURRENT MEMORIAL 2014

A CONCURRENT MEMORIAL

URGING THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION TO ENSURE RELIABLE AND
AFFORDABLE UTILITY SERVICES.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 To the Commissioners of the Arizona Corporation Commission:

2 Your memorialist respectfully represents:

3 Whereas, in 2006 the Arizona Corporation Commission approved the
4 Renewable Energy Standard and Tariff Rules mandating that regulated
5 electric utilities generate 15% of their energy from renewable resources
6 by 2025, costing ratepayers \$2.3 billion; and

7 Whereas, in 2020, the Arizona Corporation Commission opened a docket
8 to consider mandating utilities to obtain 100% renewable energy by 2050;
9 and

10 Whereas, an independent third-party analysis found that the proposed
11 mandates would cost ratepayers \$6 billion by 2050, resulting in the
12 mandate being rejected by a three-to-two vote; and

13 Whereas, following the rejection of renewable mandates by the
14 Commission, Arizona's utilities announced voluntary commitments to go "Net
15 Zero" by 2050; and

16 Whereas, Net Zero requires retiring all coal generation by 2031 and
17 relying almost exclusively on solar, wind and battery storage; and

18 Whereas, solar and wind are intermittent and therefore unreliable
19 sources of energy generation that cannot be dispatched at all times to
20 respond to demand; and

21 Whereas, countries that have committed to going Net Zero have
22 experienced increased costs and reduced reliability, including in Germany
23 where the cost of electricity per kilowatt hour is more than 42 cents
24 compared to an average cost of 15 cents per kilowatt hour in Arizona,
25 representing an annual cost of \$3,300 more for the average customer; and

26 Whereas, utilities have to "overbuild" the grid when replacing
27 reliable sources of energy with unreliable sources of energy to account
28 for the intermittent nature of those sources, increasing the cost of
29 electricity and making the grid less reliable and secure; and

30 Whereas, the retirement of reliable generation sources would plunge
31 Arizona into energy poverty, putting reliability at risk and making
32 electricity unaffordable for Arizonans; and

33 Whereas, Arizona citizens, including families, schools, hospitals,
34 small businesses, farms and industries, depend on reliable and affordable
35 electric utility service for everything they do, from operating lifesaving
36 medical equipment to operating lifesaving building temperature and
37 humidity control systems; and

38 Whereas, on January 20, 2025, President Donald J. Trump declared a
39 national energy emergency, finding that the policies of the previous
40 administration have driven our nation into a national emergency where a
41 precariously inadequate and intermittent energy supply and an increasingly
42 unreliable grid require swift and decisive action; and

43 Whereas, consistent with the national energy emergency, on April 8,
44 2025, President Donald J. Trump issued executive orders to reinvigorate
45 America's beautiful clean coal industry, strengthen the reliability and
46 security of the United States electric grid and secure America's energy

1 dominance by removing unlawful and burdensome state-level impediments to
2 domestic energy production; and

3 Whereas, these executive orders recognize the importance of coal to
4 fuel growing energy demand and ensure a secure, reliable and affordable
5 grid and aim to keep vital power plants across the country online; and

6 Whereas, Arizona utilities have already shuttered 3,453 megawatts of
7 coal generating capacity since 2013, including three out of five
8 generating units at the Four Corners Power Plant, two out of four units at
9 the Cholla Generating Station and three out of three units at the Navajo
10 Generating Station; and

11 Whereas, Arizona utilities plan to shut down 426 megawatts of coal
12 generating capacity from the remaining two units at the Cholla Generating
13 Station in 2025; and

14 Whereas, Arizona utilities plan to retire the remaining 3,520
15 megawatts of coal generating capacity by 2032, including the Springerville
16 Generating Station, the remaining units at the Four Corners Power Plant
17 and the Coronado Generating Station; and

18 Whereas, reactivating Arizona's shuttered coal plants and bolstering
19 our remaining coal fleet would unleash a reliable, diversified energy
20 supply to support local industries, creating good paying jobs and reducing
21 our reliance on foreign energy sources in the process.

22 Wherefore, your memorialist, the House of Representatives of the State of
23 Arizona, the Senate concurring, prays:

24 1. That the Arizona Corporation Commission ensure the Arizona grid
25 is powered by affordable and reliable energy generation.

26 2. That the Arizona Corporation Commission prevent regulated
27 utilities from going "Net Zero" and shutting down this state's critical
28 dispatchable sources of energy generation and replacing them with costly,
29 intermittent and unreliable solar, wind and battery storage.

30 3. That the Arizona Corporation Commission immediately reconsider
31 previous decisions approving the closure of existing coal plants,
32 including the planned retirement of the Cholla Generating Station in 2025
33 and the Four Corners Power Plant in 2031.

34 4. That the Arizona Corporation Commission direct regulated
35 utilities to revise, update and resubmit their most recent integrated
36 resource plans to provide portfolios that prioritize reliable sources of
37 baseload and dispatchable power that are the most cost effective for
38 ratepayers to meet future demand.

39 5. That the Arizona Corporation Commission support President Trump's
40 agenda to unleash American energy with the use of reliable sources of
41 power generation including coal.

42 6. That the Secretary of State of the State of Arizona transmit
43 copies of this Memorial to the Chairperson and each Commissioner of the
44 Arizona Corporation Commission.