

Colorado Climate Network

supporting local programs

Wrap-up - 2011 Session of the Colorado General Assembly May 15, 2011

The 2011 session of the General Assembly concluded on May 11. Following is an assessment compiled by the [Rocky Mountain Climate Organization](#) (RMCO) of bills considered during the session that are related to the Colorado Climate Network's state policy agenda items. Tracking and reporting on legislation under consideration by the Colorado General Assembly is one of the 2011 priorities developed by the [Steering Committee](#) of the [Colorado Climate Network](#), based on input from local climate program leaders. As a means to gauge the relevance to local climate programs of laws being considered by the General Assembly, the Steering Committee adopted the state policy agenda, summarized as follows:

- Establish mechanisms that enable the state to achieve goals for reduction of emissions of heat-trapping pollutants (20% reduction of heat-trapping emissions by 2020 and 80% by 2050, compared to 2005 levels).
- Make access to clean energy a priority strategy in promoting the vitality of state and local economies.
- Capitalize on the near-term cost savings and emissions reductions that can be realized through well-designed energy efficiency policies.
- Support the development of an efficient and integrated statewide transportation system.
- Take advantage of opportunities to reduce emissions by adopting promoting statewide waste reduction and diversion strategies.
- Prepare for the changes that are coming through state-level adaptation planning.
- Enable state agencies to offer technical assistance and funding sources that local governments can access to support climate action programs.

Highlights of the 2011 Session:

In general, the session brought very modest progress on items that could benefit local government climate action plans. Of far more significance, though, were the bills that were defeated. Mainly, this is the repercussion of the House and Senate being held by different parties for the first time in 10 years, with a Republican majority in the House and a Democratic majority in the Senate. It is a striking contrast to the prior 2007-2010 sessions, when the Democrats held majorities in both the House and Senate as well as the Governor's seat, and substantial gains were made. The regrettable partisan divide that has developed over climate and clean energy policies was illuminated this past session by bills passed by the House that would have reversed some of those important gains. The Senate acted as a check on those efforts, and all were defeated. On the other hand, some clean energy bills passed by the Senate were rejected by the House.

RMCO tracked a total of 40 bills during the session. Just nine of them passed and 31 were defeated. Of the 40 bills considered, six were deemed to be high priority. Of the high priority items, five were defeated that would have set back climate action strategies, including a rollback of the 30% Renewable Energy Standard for investor-owned utilities adopted in 2010, three bills that would have cut what little state funding there is for mass transit, and a requirement for voter approval for provision of local waste management services. The lone high priority bill that passed in effect just reaffirmed a law passed in 2010 requiring investor-owned electric utilities to retire, replace, or improve aging coal-fired power plants.

Summarized below are some of the more important bills that were considered, grouped according to the Colorado Climate Network Steering Committee's state policy priorities. Following is a table with more detail on the outcome of all 40 bills that RMCO tracked on behalf of the Network, including links to the full text of the bills. **As in the table, high priority items are highlighted in bold.**

Access to Clean Energy

- **Reaffirm conversions of aging coal plants - passed. HB 11-1291 gives legislative approval to plans developed by the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) and the Air Quality Control Commission to implement the 2010 Clean Air Clean Jobs Act (HB 10-1365) provisions to replace some aging coal power plants with less-polluting natural gas plants.**
- **Roll back of Renewable Energy Standard – defeated. SB 11-71 would have rolled back the 30% standard passed in 2010 to 2004 levels (10%).**
- Streamlining electricity transmission line siting and approvals – passed. SB 11-45 sets up a task force to make recommendations by 12/1/11 on needs for streamlining transmission facility-siting processes and whether a statewide facility-siting panel is needed.
- Hydroelectricity in utility resource planning – passed. HB 11-1083 adds hydroelectricity and pumped hydroelectricity to the list of technologies that the PUC may give the fullest possible consideration when considering generation acquisitions for electric utilities.
- Continue ban on local government permitting fees for renewable energy installations – passing was HB 11-1199.

Investing in Energy Efficiency

- **Rescind Xcel Energy's tiered rate structure – defeated. HB 11-1271 would have rescinded the summertime tiered rate structure that Xcel Energy started in 2010.**
- On-bill financing for energy efficiency and clean energy improvements – defeated. SB 11-32 and HB 11-1132 would have directed the PUC to set up rules for investor-owned utilities to front costs for customer investments, to be repaid on monthly bills.
- Commercial property energy performance transparency – defeated. SB 11-130 would have established a system of energy performance ratings for commercial properties, and HB 11-1214 would have required owners of rental properties to provide energy performance data to prospective renters.

Statewide Transportation System

- **Cuts to transit funding – defeated. SB 11-95, HB 11-1075, and HB 11-1084 all would have cut back or eliminated state funds (about \$10 million) the 2009 FASTER legislation dedicated to mass transit and bikeways.**
- Idling restrictions for large diesel vehicles – passed. HB 11-1275 takes a step towards reducing emissions from idling trucks and other vehicles by prohibiting engine idling for commercial diesel vehicles for no more than 5 minutes per hour, but by granting a wide range of exceptions (such as overnight parking and rest areas) appears mainly focused on reining in emissions from delivery and large passenger vehicles.

Waste Reduction and Diversion Strategies

- Voter approval for local provision of waste management services - defeated was HB 11-1116.
- Electronic equipment recycling program – defeated. SB 11-269 and HB 11-1244 both would have set up a statewide system requiring electronics manufacturers to recycle products and phase in landfill bans on such equipment.

State Climate Preparedness Strategies

- Statewide water conservation database – passed. HB 11-1274 funds a \$200,000 Colorado Water Conservation Board project to develop a statewide database and repository of water conservation methods employed by water suppliers, including cost-effectiveness and forecasting measures.

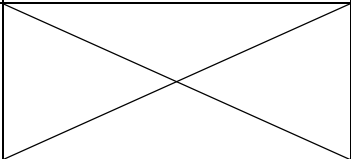
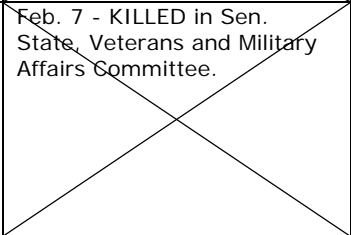
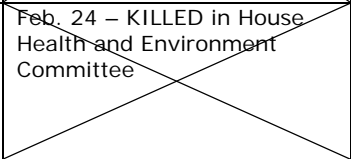
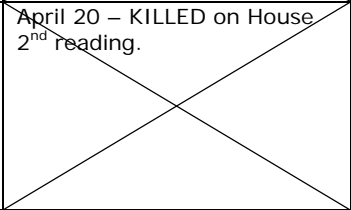
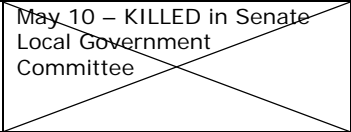
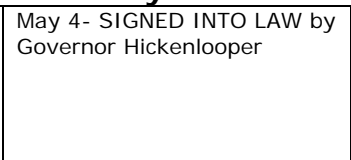
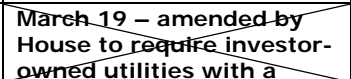
State Technical and Funding Assistance for Local Programs

- Restoration of DOLA mineral impact fund grants to local governments – defeated. SB 11-035 and HB 11-1123 both would have prevented transfers of DOLA-administered mineral impact and severance tax funds to the state general fund.

Detailed Session Recap:

The following table groups bills according to the state policy priorities adopted by the [Steering Committee](#) of the [Colorado Climate Network](#), based on input from local climate program leaders. Among the criteria RMCO uses to assess the relevance of proposed laws to climate action are the provisions of the [Colorado Climate Action Plan](#) announced by Gov. Ritter in November 2007 or the [recommendations](#) made in October 2007 by the Climate Action Panel convened by RMCO. The Colorado General Assembly's [website](#) has additional information about the content and status of legislation considered during the 2011 and prior sessions of the state legislature. Bills that passed are listed first, followed by those defeated (indicated by an X in the Status column).

Bill	Description	Status	Priority/Comments
Access to Clean Energy Sources			
<p>HB 11-1291: Legislative approval of changes to State Implementation Plan to satisfy federal regional haze limits</p> <p>Sponsors: McNulty, Morse</p>	<p>Exercises option for legislative approval of changes to State Implementation Plan regarding regional haze limits, anticipating changes in federal rules regarding this aspect of the Federal Clean Air Act. The effect is to re-affirm the provisions of HB 10-1365 (known as the Clean Air-Clean Jobs Act) passed in 2010, which requires investor-owned electric utilities to by 2018 retire, replace, or repower aging coal plants generating at least 900 megawatts with low-emissions sources (with primary consideration given to natural gas).</p> <p>NOTE: Two bills (SB 11-236 and SB 11-237) that would have negated provisions of HB 10-1365 in different ways were killed by the Senate State, Veterans and Military Affairs Committee on April 24.</p>	<p>May 4 – SIGNED INTO LAW by Gov. Hickenlooper</p>	<p>Partially implements provision in State plan for state agencies to identify regulatory and legislative changes to incentivize investor-owned utilities to invest in clean energy (including replacement of aging coal plants).</p> <p>Partially implements CAP recommendation ES-15, calling for an electricity generation standard for new or aging coal plants of no more than 1,100 pounds of CO₂ per megawatt hour (the amount generated by a high-efficiency gas plant).</p>
<p>SB 11-045: Streamlining electricity transmission line approval process</p> <p>Sponsors: Johnston, Levy</p>	<p>Proposes that siting authority for specified electric transmission facilities could be acquired by getting approval of the PUC and a newly created siting commission (consisting of 3 utility regulators, 3 representatives of local governments affected by the particular application, and one representative of the public) rather than from each county and municipality in which the facility is located.</p>	<p>Feb. 24 – amended in Sen. Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee to form a task force to make recommendations by 12/1/11 on needs for streamlining transmission facility-siting processes and whether a statewide facility-siting panel is needed.</p> <p>May 11 – Passed by both Senate and House; awaits Governor’s action.</p>	<p>Not addressed in either State plan or CAP recommendations</p>
<p>HB 11-1083: Requiring PUC to consider new hydroelectricity projects in utility generation facilities approvals,</p> <p>Sponsors: Swerdfeger/Giron & Grantham</p>	<p>Adds hydroelectricity and pumped hydroelectricity to the list of technologies that the PUC may give the fullest possible consideration when considering generation acquisitions for electric utilities.</p>	<p>March 29 - SIGNED INTO LAW by Governor Hickenlooper</p>	<p>Consistent with State plan renewable energy provisions and with CAP Recommendation ES-11 calling for hydropower development.</p>
<p>SB 11-071: Rollback of Renewable Energy Standard</p>	<p>Rolls back state Renewable Energy Standards (RES) to 2004 levels, those of citizen-initiated Amendment 37 (10% renewable energy sources</p>	<p>Feb. 9 – KILLED in Senate State, Veterans, and Military Affairs Committee</p>	<p>HIGH PRIORITY</p> <p>RMCO opposed this bill. It would</p>

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<p>Prime sponsors: Sen. Shawn Mitchell, R-Broomfield</p>	<p>for investor-owned utilities only). Current standard, last amended by HB 10-1001 in 2010, is 30% for investor owned utilities and 10% for rural electric cooperatives and municipal utilities.</p>		<p>run counter to RMCO's Climate Action Panel recommendation ES-2, which calls for 30% RES for investor-owned utilities and 15% RES for rural electric cooperatives and municipal utilities.</p>
<p>SB 11-058: Repeal PUC requirements to consider renewable technologies in utility generation facilities approvals</p> <p>Sponsor: Renfro</p>	<p>Repeals recent directives requiring the PUC to give special consideration to a number of factors and specific technologies when considering applications by electric utilities for approval of investments in generation facilities and restates the priority of minimizing costs to ratepayers and directs the PUC to adopt rules reflecting the legal standards that prevailed under prior law.</p>		<p>Would discourage PUC from considering renewable energy technologies when considering utility generation plans.</p>
<p>HB 11-1240: Restricting PUC consideration of federal carbon pricing when analyzing utility energy supply plans</p> <p>Sponsors: Swalm/Cadman</p>	<p>Prevents PUC, when analyzing utility company energy supply proposals, from taking into account costs of federal carbon price legislation until such federal law is adopted,</p>		<p>Would discourage PUC from considering renewable energy technologies when analyzing utility electric supply plans.</p>
<p>HB 11-1255: Creating alternative energy parks through Colorado Economic Development Commission and providing financing incentives</p> <p>Sponsors: DelGrosso/Schwartz</p>	<p>Authorizes local governments to apply to Colorado Economic Development Commission for approval to create alternative energy parks, a type of enterprise zone, and allows incentives such as tax increment funding, bonding, sales tax exemptions for equipment, and property and sales tax incentives for taxpayers who invest in the parks.</p>		<p>Consistent with State plan and CAP recommendations for alternative energy development.</p>
<p>HB 11-1312: Reorganizing Governor's Energy Office</p> <p>Sponsors: Becker/Hodge</p>	<p>Changes name of Governor's Energy Office to Colorado Energy Office, adds promotion of fossil fuel energy sources to mission, assigns functions of field representatives to Colorado Office of Economic Development, and mandates 25% staff reduction.</p>		<p>The State Plan assigns a range of implementation responsibilities to the Governor's Energy Office.</p>
<p>Investing in Energy Efficiency</p>			
<p>HB 11-1160: Creating green building incentive for homeowners selling energy-inefficient house</p> <p>Sponsors: Gerou/Jahn</p>	<p>Creates a pilot grants program administered by GEO for homeowners buying a new efficient home; it would make funds available to owners to make energy efficiency improvements on the home they are selling. A House amendment makes the program contingent on the availability of federal funding.</p>		<p>Consistent with energy efficiency goals in the State plan and the CAP recommendations</p>
<p>HB 11-1271: Rescinds any electric utility's existing residential summer tiered</p>	<p>Would rescind by June 1, 2011, any electric utility's (e.g., Xcel Energy started one in 2010) residential summertime tiered rate structure</p>		<p>HIGH PRIORITY</p> <p>RMCO opposed this bill. While tiered</p>

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<p>rate structures</p> <p>Prime sponsors: Rep. Ray Scott, R-Grand Jct.; Sen. Cheri Jahn, D- Jefferson County</p>		<p>tiered rate structure to report its impacts on customer usage to the PUC and then PUC to report its findings to the General Assembly.</p> <p>April 27 – KILLED by Senate State, Veterans and Military Affairs Committee</p>	<p>block rates are not addressed in the State plan, the CAP found tiered rates have the potential to yield significant reductions in energy demand and two CAP Recommendations (RCI-5 and RCI-11) called for two different versions of year-round tiered rate structures by all electric utilities.</p>
<p>SB 11-030: Requirement that energy utilities disclose costs associated with customers' utility bills</p> <p>Sponsors: Renfroe/DelGrosso</p>	<p>Requires investor-owned gas and electric utilities to include new information in customer billing communications, namely disclosing four times a year: types of fuels used to generate electricity, the percentage of electricity attributable to each, load profile for each, all costs associated with the bills they pay for energy and how much each energy source affects their total bill. Also requires disclosure of gas and electric transmission network costs.</p>	<p>Feb. 10 – KILLED in Senate Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee</p>	<p>Somewhat related to energy efficiency goals in the State plan and the CAP recommendations.</p>
<p>SB 11-032: On-bill financing for consumer clean energy improvements</p> <p>Sponsor: Johnston</p>	<p>Requires PUC to promulgate rules to establish an on-bill clean energy improvement financing program under which PUC-regulated public utilities front the costs for energy-efficiency upgrades for residential property, and customers pay back the cost to the utility on their utility bills (through higher temporary rates or surcharges).</p>	<p>May 12 – KILLED by failure of Senate to act on the bill by the session deadline.</p>	<p>Consistent with energy efficiency goals in the State plan and the CAP recommendations.</p>
<p>SB 11-130: Commercial building energy performance ratings</p> <p>Sponsors: Johnston/Renfroe</p>	<p>Requires customer-owned and investor-owned utilities serving more than 40,000 customers to maintain energy consumption data for commercial properties, to set up a reporting system in cooperation with EPA, and for commercial property owners to disclose energy performance ratings at time of sale or lease.</p>	<p>May 9 – KILLED in Senate Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee</p>	<p>Consistent with energy efficiency goals in the State plan and the CAP recommendations.</p>
<p>SB 11-131: Implementing statewide smart grid task force recommendations</p> <p>Sponsors: S. Williams/Solano</p>	<p>Directs Division of Employment and Training, GEO, and Office of Economic Development to develop several smart grid enabling programs and directs PUC to develop rules regarding a statewide system.</p>	<p>Mar. 18 – KILLED in Senate Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee</p>	<p>Consistent with energy efficiency goals in the State plan and the CAP recommendation RCI-7 regarding smart metering for all residential and commercial utility customers.</p>
<p>HB 11-1047: Inclusion of commercial buildings in the Colorado New Energy Improvement District</p> <p>Sponsors: Jones/Schwartz</p>	<p>Expands the scope of the Colorado New Energy Improvement District pursuant to the "New Energy Jobs Creation Act of 2010" by making commercial buildings, including buildings owned or used by nonprofit entities, eligible to be included in the district and making appropriate conforming amendments.</p>	<p>Jan. 31 - KILLED in House Local Government Committee</p>	<p>Consistent with energy efficiency goals in the State plan and the CAP recommendations.</p>

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<p>HB 11-1103: Tax incentives for distributed electrical generation wind turbine systems.</p> <p>Sponsors: Kerr</p>	<p>Creates a sales and use tax exemption for sales, storage, and use of distributed wind turbines; creates a 30% income tax credit for a taxpayer's installation costs; creates a business 40 % investment tax credit; exempts wind turbine manufacturers with net job growth of 100 or more new jobs in the state during 2011 from the income tax withholding requirement for 3 calendar years.</p>	<p>Feb. 25 – KILLED in House Finance Committee</p>	<p>Consistent with energy efficiency goals in the State plan and the CAP recommendations.</p>
<p>HB 11-1132: On-bill financing of energy efficiency improvements to residential real property.</p> <p>Sponsor: Lee</p>	<p>Authorizes a public utility that sells natural gas or electricity to enter into residential property on-bill financing arrangement whereby the utility finances and completes one or more energy efficiency improvements and imposes a meter conservation charge on the customer's subsequent utility bills to recoup the costs, including financing charges. Also sets implementing mechanisms. Similar to SB 11-032.</p>	<p>Mar. 9 – KILLED in House Transportation Committee</p>	<p>Consistent with energy efficiency goals in the State plan and the CAP recommendations.</p>
<p>HB 11-1191: Creating state utility customer data clearinghouse</p> <p>Sponsor: Tyler</p>	<p>Authorizes creation of clearinghouses to collect customer data from utilities subject to individual customer privacy protection, and directs PUC to set up rules to direct clearinghouse operations.</p>	<p>Feb. 25 – KILLED by House Transportation Committee</p>	<p>Consistent with energy efficiency goals in the State plan and the CAP recommendations.</p>
<p>HB 11-1199: Extend limit on local government permit fees for solar installations</p> <p>Sponsors: Gardner/Mitchell</p>	<p>Extends existing law restricting counties and municipalities from charging permit fees for solar energy installations.</p>	<p>Feb. 24 – KILLED in House Transportation Committee</p>	<p>Not addressed in either State plan or CAP recommendations</p>
<p>HB 11-1204: Requiring new construction or renovations in K-12 school buildings to consider energy efficient design</p> <p>Sponsors: Kerr/Johnston</p>	<p>Starting in 2012, all K-12 schools must meet certain requirements to consider energy-efficient design in new construction or renovations.</p>	<p>March 4 - KILLED in House State, Veterans and Military Affairs Committee</p>	<p>Consistent with energy efficiency goals in the State plan and the CAP recommendations.</p>
<p>HB 11-1214: Requiring energy efficiency disclosures for rental properties</p> <p>Sponsors: B. Gardner</p>	<p>Requires landlord to disclose energy efficiency ratings to prospective renters of multi-family or single family residential properties.</p>	<p>Feb. 18 – KILLED in House State, Veterans and Military Affairs Committee</p>	<p>Consistent with energy efficiency goals in the State plan and the CAP recommendations.</p>
<p>HB 11-1228: Assess benefits of distributed generation incentives</p> <p>Sponsors: Solano/Schwartz</p>	<p>Directs Office of Economic Development to commission a study of the potential benefits of adopting incentives to increase the amount of distributed generation.</p>	<p>Feb. 16 – KILLED in House State, Veterans and Military Affairs Committee</p>	<p>Consistent with energy efficiency goals in the State plan and the CAP recommendations.</p>

Bill	Description	Status	Priority/Comments
Statewide Transportation System			
<p>HB 11-1210: Requires CDOT to make recommendations to General Assembly regarding mobility improvements in the I-70 mountain corridor</p> <p>Sponsors: Hamner/Nicholson</p>	<p>Requires CDOT to consult with local governments and businesses and then make prioritized recommendations on mobility improvements in the I-70 mountain corridor to the transportation committees by 12/20/2011. Recommendations must be implementable by 7/1/2014.</p>	<p>March 30 – SIGNED INTO LAW by Gov. Hickenlooper</p>	<p>Somewhat related to State plan and CAP recommendations to reduce growth in vehicle miles traveled.</p>
<p>HB 11-1275: Creating an engine idling standard for large commercial diesel vehicles</p> <p>Sponsors: Priola/Williams S. and Spence</p>	<p>Prohibits engine idling for commercial diesel vehicles for no more than 5 minutes per hour, but grants a wide range of exceptions including overnight parking and rest areas.</p>	<p>May 10 – Passed by House and Senate; awaits Governor’s action</p>	<p>Not addressed in State plan.</p> <p>CAP recommendation TLU-4 calls for a statewide engine idling standard for heavy-duty vehicles with very few exceptions, such as emergency vehicles, accompanied by electrification program for rest areas.</p>
<p>SB 11-095: Eliminates funding for mass transit and bikeways in CDOT FASTER program</p> <p>Prime sponsors: Sen. Kevin Grantham, R-Ordway; Re. Kathleen Conti, R-Littleton</p>	<p>Eliminates fees and fines increased in 2009 FASTER legislation and eliminates FASTER funding for the new CDOT transit and rail division.</p>	<p>Feb. 16 – KILLED in Senate State, Veterans and Military Affairs Committee</p>	<p>HIGH PRIORITY</p> <p>RMCO opposed this bill. Both the State plan and CAP recommendations give high priority to reducing emissions by reducing the growth of vehicle miles traveled and making investments in mass transit.</p>
<p>HB 11-1075: Cut funding for mass transit and bikeways</p> <p>Prime sponsors: Sen. Jon Becker, R-Fort Morgan</p>	<p>Limits requirement of FASTER that department of transportation (CDOT) expend \$10 million per year of the revenues credited to the highway users tax fund for transit-related projects, narrows the definition of road safety project to exclude any project that involves the construction, reconstruction, or maintenance of bikeways or dedicated bicycle lanes and repeals dedication of \$5 million per year of FASTER revenues for grants to local governments for local transit projects</p>	<p>Feb. 2 - KILLED in House Transportation Committee</p>	<p>HIGH PRIORITY</p> <p>RMCO opposed this bill. Both the State plan and CAP recommendations give high priority to reducing emissions by reducing the growth of vehicle miles traveled and making investments in mass transit.</p>
<p>HB 11-1084: Reducing fee for late registration of a vehicle</p> <p>Prime sponsors: Rep. Randy Baumgardner, R-Hot Sulphur Springs; Sen.</p>	<p>Reduces fees for late registration of vehicles and takes that revenue from FASTER legislation funding, including of public transit and bikeway projects.</p>	<p>March 24 – KILLED in Senate State, Veterans and Military Affairs Committee</p>	<p>HIGH PRIORITY</p> <p>RMCO opposed this bill. Both the State plan and CAP recommendations give high priority to reducing emissions by reducing the growth of vehicle miles traveled</p>

Bill	Description	Status	Priority/Comments
Sponsors: Fischer/Newell and Schwartz	<p>cooperation with CDPHE; and phases in a ban on electronic products in landfills within 5 years of the CDPHE rule adoption.</p> <p>NOTE: SB 11-269, introduced late in the session, would have also set up an electronics recycling program, but was killed by the House Agriculture, Livestock and Natural Resources Committee on May 11.</p>	Committee	recommendations.
<p>HB 11-1247: Establishing beverage container deposit program</p> <p>Sponsors: Pabon/Schwartz</p>	Starts a deposit system for most kinds of beverages, with unclaimed deposits devoted to recycling and K-12 education programs.	Feb. 24 – KILLED in House State, Veterans and Military Affairs Committee	Not addressed in Governor's plan nor in CAP recommendations, but consistent with waste management goals.
State Climate Preparedness Strategies			
<p>SB 11-090: Extends sunset date for weather modification permitting</p> <p>Sponsors: Schwartz/Baumgardner</p>	Extends authority of executive director of the Department of Natural Resources to permit weather modification activities until 2018.	April 29 - passed Senate and House; awaits Governor's action	Not addressed in State plan or CAP recommendations.
<p>SB 11-110: Requiring certain counties to establish a permit system for open burning of slash from forest treatments</p> <p>Sponsors: Nicholson/Coram</p>	Requires counties with large amounts of forested areas to adopt, if they do not already have one, a permit system with rules for time and place for open burning of slash from forest health treatments.	April 13 – SIGNED INTO LAW by Gov. Hickenlooper	<p>State plan generally calls for reduction of wildfire hazards</p> <p>Not addressed in CAP recommendations</p>
<p>HB 11-1274: Annual Colorado Water Conservation Board funding bill, including a water conservation database</p> <p>Sponsors: Sonnenberg/Schwartz</p>	Allocates, among other projects, \$200,000 for the Water Conservation Board to create a comprehensive water conservation database to include the conservation potential and the costs and benefits of water conservation methods, and to create water conservation data sets and forecasting models.	May 9 – SIGNED INTO LAW by Gov. Hickenlooper	<p>Not addressed in State plan.</p> <p>CAP recommendation AFW-7 calls for water providers to work with the state and others to encourage state-of-the-art water conservation measures for development and re-development projects</p>
<p>HB 11-1068: Grants state engineer's authority to approve temporary agricultural water transfer agreements from Lower Arkansas Basin for up to 40 years.</p> <p>Sponsors: Fischer/Giron and</p>	Authorizes the state engineer to approve agricultural water transfer agreements from Lower Arkansas Basin to municipal uses for periods of up to 40 years, using a review and public notice and comment process analogous to that used for substitute water supply plans.	Feb. 14 – KILLED in House Agriculture, Livestock and Natural Resources Committee	Not addressed in State plan, but is consistent with CAP Recommendation on agricultural water transfers.

Bill	Description	Status	Priority/Comments
Schwartz HB 11-1158 : Sales and use tax exemptions for all trees harvested or salvaged in Colorado	Expands current exemption from sales and use tax for harvest of trees killed by mountain pine beetles to spruce pine beetles, and starting in July, 2011, expands the sales and use tax exemption for all trees harvested or salvaged in Colorado, including those used for biomass energy production.	May 12 – KILLED by failure of House to act on the bill by the session deadline	Consistent with State plan to encourage energy production from forest health treatment biomass, and with CAP recommendation calling for energy production from forest health treatments.
State Technical and Funding Assistance for Local Programs			
SB 11-035 : Prohibition of transfers to the state general fund from cash funds that have revenue related to the severance of minerals in the state Sponsors: Roberts/Coram	Prohibits the transfers to the general fund from: Higher education federal mineral lease revenues fund; higher education maintenance and reserve fund; local government permanent fund; local government mineral impact fund; and local government severance tax fund. Would restore funding to DOLA local government energy and mineral impact grants program.	Feb. 7 – KILLED in Senate State, Veterans and Military Affairs Committee	Somewhat related to State plan and CAP recommendations concerning local government actions. Mineral impact funds are potential sources for local climate programs.
HB 11- 1123 : Prohibition of transfers to the state general fund from cash funds that have revenue related to the severance of minerals in the state Sponsors: Coram/Roberts	Identical companion bill to SB 11-035.	Mar. 22 –KILLED by Senate State, Veterans and Military Affairs Committee	Somewhat related to State plan and CAP recommendations concerning local government actions. Mineral impact funds are potential sources for local climate programs.