Table 4. State renewable portfolio standards

State Program mandate

- AZ ACC Decision No. 69127 requires 15 percent of sales to be renewable by 2025, with interim goals increasing annually. A specific percentage of the target must be from distributed generation. Multiple credits may be given for solar generation and in-State manufactured systems.
- CA Public Utilities Code, Section 399.11-399.20, mandates that 20 percent of sales be renewable by 2010. There are also longer-term goals. Renewable projects with above-market costs will be funded by supplemental energy payments from a limited fund, possibly limiting renewable generation below the 20-percent requirement.
- CO House Bill 1281 strengthened the renewable target to 20 percent by 2020 for investor-owned utilities. There is a 10-percent requirement in the same year for cooperative and municipal utilities. Moreover, 2 percent of total sales by investor-owned utilities must be from solar power. In-State generation receives a 25-percent credit premium.
- CT Public Act 07-242 strengthened the original RPS provisions and mandated a 27-percent renewable sales requirement by 2020. Included in the total is a 4-percent mandate from greater efficiency or CHP systems. Three percent of the overall total may be met from waste-to-energy facilities and conventional biomass.
- DE Senate Bill 19 strengthened the RPS to 20 percent of sales by 2019. There is a separate requirement for solar generation (2 percent of the total), and compliance failure results in higher penalty payments. Solar technologies receive triple credits.
- DC Enacted in 2005, the RPS mandates that 11 percent of sales be renewables by 2022. Some technologies receive bonus credits and awards for early installations of renewable systems.
- HI Senate Bill 3185 amended the RPS to increase the mandate to 20 percent by 2020. All existing renewable facilities are eligible in meeting the target, which has two interim milestones.
- IL Public Act 095-0481 created an agency responsible for overseeing the mandate of 25 percent renewable sales by 2025. There are escalating annual targets, and 75 percent of the requirements must be from wind-generated electricity. The plan also includes a cap on the incremental costs added from renewable penetration.
- IA An RPS mandating 105 megawatts of renewable energy capacity has already been exceeded.
- ME In 2007, Public Law 403 added to the State's RPS requirements. Originally a mandate of 30 percent renewable generation by 2000 was set to be lower than current generation. The new law states that new renewable resource capacity must increase to 10 percent of electricity generation by 2017 and in the subsequent years. The years leading up to 2017 also have new capacity milestones.
- MD Senate Bill 595 revised the RPS to contain a 9.5-percent target by 2022. Moreover, renewable generation technologies are categorized into differing share requirements. Penalty payments for compliance shortfalls were also determined.
- MA The RPS has a 4-percent renewable sales total by 2009 with an optional 1-percent annual increase thereafter (not reflected in AEO2008). The State also imposes penalty payments for compliance shortfalls.
- MN Senate Bill 4 created a 30-percent renewable requirement by 2020 for Xcel, the State's largest supplier, and a 25-percent requirement by 2025 for others. Also specified was the creation of a State cap-and-trade program that will assist the program's implementation.
- MT House Bill 681 expanded the RPS provisions to all suppliers. Initially the law covered only public utilities. A 15-percent share of sales must be renewable by 2015. The State operates an REC market.
- NV Established in 1997 and revised in 2005, the State's escalating target reaches 20 percent by 2015. Up to one-quarter may be met through efficiency measures. There is also a minimum requirement and bonus requirements for solar resources.
- NH House Bill 873 legislated that 23.8 percent of sales must be renewable by 2025. 16.3 percent of total sales must be from renewable facilities that have begun operation after 2006. Compliance penalties vary by generation type.
- NJ In 2006, the RPS was revised to increase renewable energy targets. The current level for renewable generation is 22.5 percent of sales by 2021, with interim targets. There are different requirements for different technologies, including a 2-percent solar mandate.
- NM Senate Bill 418 directs investor-owned utilities to have 20 percent of their sales renewable by 2020. The renewable portfolio must consist of diversified technologies, and wind and solar each must account for 20 percent of the target. There is a separate 10-percent standard by 2020 for cooperatives.
- NY The Public Service Commission issued RPS rules in 2005 that call for renewable sales of 24 percent by 2013, from current levels of 19 percent.
- NC Senate Bill 3 created an RPS of 12.5 percent by 2021 for investor-owned utilities. There is also a 10-percent requirement by 2018 for cooperative and municipal suppliers. Through 2018, one-quarter of the target may be met through efficiency standards; that proportion increases to 40 percent in later years.
- OR In June 2007, Senate Bill 838 required renewable targets of 25 percent by 2025 for large utilities and 5 to 10 percent by 2025 for smaller utilities. Any source of renewable electricity on line after 1995 is considered eligible. Compliance penalty caps have not been determined
- PA The Alternative Energy Portfolio Standard has an 18-percent requirement by 2020. At least 8 percent of the sales must be renewables, but there is also a provision that allows for certain coal resources to receive credits.
- RI The program requires 16 percent of total sales to be renewable by 2020. The interim program targets escalate more rapidly in later years. If the target is not met, a generator must make an alternative compliance payment.
- TX Senate Bill 20 strengthened the State's RPS to mandate 5,880 megawatts of renewable capacity by 2015. There is also a target of 500 megawatts of renewable capacity other than wind.
- WA Voters approved Initiative 937, which specifies that 15 percent of sales from the State's largest generators must come from renewable sources by 2020. There is an administrative penalty of 5 cents per kilowatthour for noncompliance. Any facility on line after 1999 is eligible.
- WI In March 2006, Senate Bill 459 increased the RPS law to 10 percent of renewable sales by 2015. Requirements vary by supplier, and out-of-State generation is eligible.