



SPEAK OUT FOR THE CLOSURE OF COLORADO'S CRAIG COAL-FIRED POWER PLANT!

Attend Virtual Hearing March 30 @ 6PM

The Craig coal-fired power plant in northwestern Colorado is a massive source of carbon and other toxic air pollution.

Although its primary owner and operator, Tri-State Generation and Transmission, has [pledged to retire the plant by 2030](#), climate science says we need to [move beyond coal completely by 2025](#).

On March 30, we have an opportunity to deliver the message to the Colorado Air Quality Control Commission that Tri-State needs to Tri-Harder!



The Colorado Air Quality Control Commission is weighing whether to renew a permit that would allow Tri-State to keep operating the Craig coal-fired power plant. The [draft permit and other materials are online here >>](#) As part of this process, [they're holding a public hearing to consider public testimony](#).

This hearing presents a critical opportunity for us to show up virtually and deliver the message that Tri-State needs to move more quickly to retire the Craig coal-fired power plant and support just and equitable transition from coal.

Tri-State's customers are rural communities in Colorado and other western states. Because of the company's reliance on costly coal, these communities are paying more for power. Tri-State needs to transition from coal and provide affordable electricity for the American West. The Air Commission needs to help make that happen!

Attend the virtual hearing and speak out for clean air, affordable energy, and a safe climate!

What: Public Hearing on Craig Coal-fired Power Plant Air Pollution Permit
When: 6 PM, March 30, 2021
Where: Register to attend the hearing here, https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYuceGpqjgrE9T8Yb6RB_gR03sXQH5ypeBm and register here to provide public comment, https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1zR82YMZtLoLwDaxim1jr-ErjaT2r4b7Hv7AoNF2Zl1o/viewform?ts=6036c5d3&edit_requeste d=true.

For More Information Contact:

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Follow WildEarth Guardians' Climate and Energy Program [@ClimateWest](https://twitter.com/ClimateWest).

If you can attend the virtual hearing, we need you to speak out to the Air Commission! Here are some talking points to guide your comments:

- 1. Thank you for the opportunity to comment today. My name is _____ (first and last name). I'm here on behalf of _____ (myself/organization/community, etc.).**

- 2. I am very concerned over the proposal to renew Tri-State Generation and Transmission's air pollution permit for the Craig coal-fired power plant. I believe the permit should be denied and Tri-State directed to fully retire the coal-fired power plant by 2025.**
 - Colorado needs to move beyond coal to meet House Bill 19-1261's requirement that we reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the state 26% by 2025 and 50% by 2030.
 - Coal-fired power is dirty. The Craig power plant releases massive amounts of haze forming pollution, toxic heavy metals, including mercury, and smog-forming emissions.
 - Coal is costly. As a power source, coal is the most expensive form of electricity.
 - Tri-State needs to move more quickly to retire the Craig coal-fired power plant, protect clean air and the climate, deliver more affordable power to rural communities, and advance a just and equitable economic transition in northwest Colorado.

- 3. I am very concerned that the proposed permit will not ensure the Craig coal-fired power plant operates in compliance with the Clean Air Act. Given this, the permit must be denied.**
 - The permit allows Tri-State to violate its pollution limits during startup, shutdown, and malfunction incidents, allowing the Craig coal-fired power plant to emit pollution at levels that violate health-based air quality standards and limits on haze pollution.
 - The permit does not ensure that Tri-State shuts down portions of the Craig coal-fired power plant by legally required deadlines.
 - There are three units at the Craig plant. Tri-State has committed to retiring Unit 1 by 2025, Unit 2 by 2028, and Unit 3 by 2030. The permit does not ensure Tri-State meets these deadlines.
 - Any permit must ensure Tri-State meets retirement deadlines for the Craig coal-fired power plant, if not meet earlier deadlines, or else be denied.

If you can't show up to the virtual hearing, send an e-mail to the Air Quality Control Commission at cdphe.aqcc-comments@state.co.us. Thank you!