

I-937 POST 2020: The Clean Energy Choice Act (HB 2073)



We're easily meeting our goals, and it's time to take the next step in creating a post-2020 clean energy pathway for utilities. HB 2073 addresses ongoing utility concerns while preserving the will of Washington voters. The Clean Energy Choice Act provides a discussion framework for new resource development after 2020, when I-937's new renewables standard plateaus at 15%, by allowing utilities to meet future increased power needs with any combination of energy efficiency savings and qualified new renewables they choose.

The key elements of HB 2073 are:

1. Allowing **more access to new renewable resources** by including eligible renewables from all of Montana.
2. As of Jan. 1, 2018, **including efficiency upgrades at federal hydropower dams** in the definition of eligible renewable resources, thus giving Bonneville Power Administration customer utilities credit for their shares of those upgrades.
3. Beginning January 2021, supplementing the 15% renewable resource requirement with a **"need for new generation" requirement**. Affected utilities would continue their efforts at saving their customers money through energy efficiency, but those with no need for new resources would not be required to purchase additional power or certificates.



The result is a framework for creating a **comprehensive policy package** that addresses ongoing utility concerns about I-937 implementation while preserving Washington voters' commitment to building a **clean energy economy** and a cleaner energy future. The Clean Energy Choice Act builds on I-937's dramatic success by pointing the way forward to continued clean energy, climate and consumer-protection achievements post 2020.

For more information contact NW Energy Coalition senior policy associate Joni Bosh at joni@nwenergy.org or Renewable Northwest policy associate Kelly Hall at kelly@renewablenw.org

NW Energy Coalition and Renewable Northwest, February 2015