



Renewable Energy Planning Principles

1. Renewable energy is the first option.

We plan to aggressively pursue cost-effective renewable resource opportunities that work toward lowering generation costs on the grid. Additional renewable resources can be added cost-effectively, ahead of RPS requirements, as the technology of energy storage matures and costs decline. Removing Hawai'i from the volatility of world energy markets gives future generations a tremendous advantage, and creates a clean energy research and development industry for our state.

2. The energy transformation must include everyone.

Electricity is essential. Our plans, as well as public policy, should ensure that ratemaking is fair and equitable, and ensure access to affordable electricity—especially those least able to buy self-generation and energy storage.

3. Today's decisions can't crowd out tomorrow's breakthroughs.

Our plan keeps the door open to developments in the rapidly evolving renewable generation market. We must be able to easily accept new, emerging, and breakthrough technologies that are most cost-effective and more efficient when they become commercially viable.

4. The power grid needs to be modernized.

Energy distribution is rapidly moving to the digital age. We must re invent our grid to facilitate a 100% renewable energy generation portfolio and enable technologies such as demand response, dynamic pricing, grid-edge devices, and electrification of transportation. Flexible generation is also needed to better integrate renewables.

5. The lights have to stay on.

Reliability and resiliency of service and quality of power is vital for our economy, for our national security, and for critical societal infrastructure. Our customers expect it, deserve it, and pay for it. All of our plans must maintain or enhance the resiliency of the network—the grid—that delivers energy to the military, businesses, and homes.

6. Our plan must address climate change.

Power plants are significant producers of greenhouse gas emissions. We have reduced those emissions more than 15% over the past five years. Still, our plans must go further to reduce the warming of our planet and to minimize the impacts climate change will have on the energy-delivery network—rising sea levels, coastal erosion, increased temperatures, and erratic storm activity.

7. There's no perfect choice.

No single energy source or technology can achieve our clean energy goals and every choice has an impact, whether it's physical or financial. While we can mitigate those impacts, attaining our 100% renewable energy goal has major implications for our land and natural resources, and the state economy. We seek to make the best choices by engaging with customers, regulators, policy makers, and other stakeholders.