

Nuclear Power Support Plummets in Pueblo County

Presenter: Alexander Gaskins

Pueblo County - Home of the Comanche Generating Station

The largest coal powered plant in the state of Colorado, whose lifetime is approaching its final days.
In an effort to decrease carbon emissions, debate has emerged over the best replacement option.

Nuclear Proposition

County Commissioners Expressed Interest in Implementing a Nuclear Reactor

Environmental groups pushed the utility to accelerate the closure timeline to 2030

Believed the small modular reactors by NuScale could replace the retiring coal plant

Only carbon-neutral way to replace the jobs and energy from Comanche

Public Backlash

- Nuclear energy seen as dangerous since the incident at Fukushima in 2011
- Criticism against NuScale reactor model, quoting its potential rising costs and construction delays
- Pueblo residents outraged that commissioners attempted to act without community input



The Response

Pueblo County Officials
withdraw their support for a
nuclear reactor



Commissioner Chris
Wiseman directs interest
toward solar energy instead



Community input is given
priority, commissioners
apologize for negligence



Thank You



Original Publication

<https://www.cpr.org/2022/02/22/pueblo-county-drops-support-nuclear-power-backlash/>