

**Myers, Dena**

---

**From:** Trustees  
**Sent:** Friday, October 11, 2019 3:59 PM  
**To:** 'Russell Seal'  
**Subject:** RE: [InternetMail]I don't want to pay more for dirty energy

Dear Valued Stakeholder,

Thank you for your recent email. It was shared with our Board of Trustees and they asked me to respond to you directly. We absolutely welcome your feedback and perspectives and appreciate you sharing your thoughts with us.

Throughout the SA Climate Ready process, people from across the community provided input to help shape the City of San Antonio's Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CAAP). In fact, the City received well over 4,800 written comments alone. Given our role as the community's primary energy provider, we have a responsibility to engage in this discussion and did so by submitting thorough comments that we believe are reflective of our diverse customers' needs and our deep knowledge of the energy industry.

Our core business is to responsibly manage a diverse and dynamic power generation portfolio; we believe that we can continue to do that appropriately and successfully by leaning into our **Flexible Path**.

For the last year and half, we have been in the community talking about the future of energy, our **Flexible Path**, and receiving input from customers on what matters most to them. We have numerous avenues through which we receive public feedback, including stakeholder meetings, our monthly Board of Trustees meetings, and at specially called Board Public Input Sessions. We welcome all opportunities to present to residential customers, businesses, and civic and community organizations. We also conduct ongoing **People First** Community Fairs, host focus groups, and administer customer surveys. At any point, input and feedback is periodically shared via our website.

We continue to hear a resounding message that we must provide affordable, reliable, safe, secure, and resilient electric & gas services, while caring for the environment. It is for these reasons we believe the current fleet of power plants in which our community has invested, and that continue to serve us reliably every day, are vital in transitioning to less and non-emitting energy solutions.

Also, please see the chart below that clearly shows the substantial progress we have made over the last 20+ years to reduce our emissions. We accomplished this substantially by adding:

- over 1,000 megawatts (MW) of wind;
- over 500 MW of utility-scale solar;
- over 1,000 MW of distributed solar; and

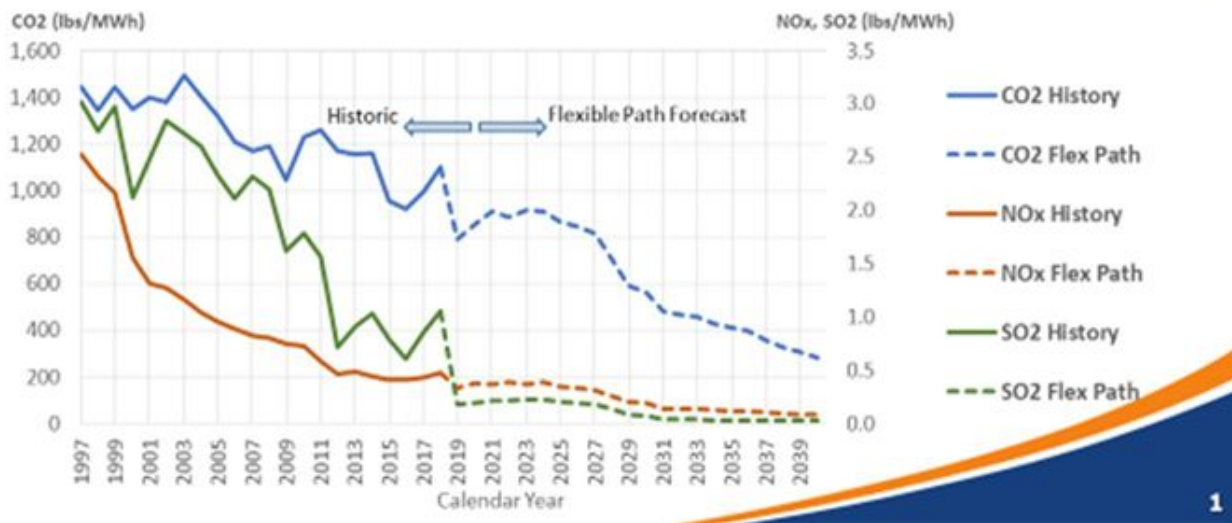
- about 800 MW of energy reductions in one of the largest efficiency and conservation programs in the nation.

In fact, we recently won the top Chairman’s Award from The Alliance to Save Energy, a longstanding bipartisan network of business, government, environmental and consumer leaders from across the United States. Further, also note the significant progress we expect to make to reduce our emissions from 2019 forward under the **Flexible Path**.

## CPS ENERGY EMISSION INTENSITY REDUCTIONS THROUGH FLEXIBLE PATH



**By 2040, the Flexible Path reduces the intensity of CO2, NOx, & SO2 emissions by 80%, 97%, & 99%, respectively, as indexed to 1997**



Announcing the first potential component of **Flexible Path**, we recently proposed a blended power approach for adding incremental generation capacity. Called the **FlexPower Bundle**, we are proposing potential acquisitions of 300-900 MWs of new solar power, 10-50 MWs of new energy storage, and 300- 500 MWs from existing natural gas plants currently operating within Texas. The **FlexPower Bundle** is intended to be a diversified solution set, including some emerging technologies. With it, we can both expand our use of more solar power, while we prudently recognize today’s renewables alone cannot support all our community’s customers consistently and reliably, 24/7/365.

As the energy industry continues to evolve and advance, we continue to think globally and apply locally. There are pros and cons for every power generation source and for each available technology. We will continue to share information with our customers on the complexities and benefits of both existing and evolving energy solutions.

Again, thank you for taking the time to reach out to us.

Sincerely,

Paula Gold Williams, President & CEO, on behalf of,  
The CPS Energy Board of Trustees

Copy to: The CPS Energy Board of Trustees  
City of San Antonio City Council  
City of San Antonio Leadership

**From:** Russell Seal <russellseal@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 22, 2019 5:03 PM  
**To:** Trustees <trustees@cpsenergy.com>  
**Subject:** [InternetMail]I don't want to pay more for dirty energy

**EXTERNAL EMAIL:** Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear CPS Energy Board Member,

I'm upset to learn that CPS Energy has successfully lobbied the city of San Antonio – of which it is a part – to water down goals in the climate plan that would affect the utility. I'm especially concerned about the continued operation of CPS Energy's coal-burning Spruce power plant.

Not only is Spruce the largest source of greenhouse gas emissions, as well as a major source of other air and water pollution, but a recent analysis by Synapse Energy Economics shows that CPS Energy customers are paying more for energy from this polluting facility than we would from clean energy. The study shows that the utility could reduce costs by approximately \$85 million per year — for a total of at least \$1 billion over 15 years — by replacing the coal-burning Spruce power plant with a combination of solar, wind and energy storage.

I expect both the CPS Energy board of directors and the San Antonio City Council to act with urgency to shut down Spruce as quickly as possible. That means sometime within the next three to five years, not decades from now.

This should start with CPS Energy immediately issuing a request for proposals for solar, wind and energy storage. Other utilities are saving money with cheap renewable energy. CPS Energy owes it to its customers to see what cheaper and cleaner options are available.

The next step should be a fully transparent resource planning process, with data about all of the costs and benefits of various scenarios shared publicly. The city owns CPS Energy, which means that we — the people of San Antonio — own CPS Energy. We should be fully informed and involved in these important decisions that affect our health and our finances. A representative group of community members should be selected to engage with resource planning at a deeper level. The costs and benefits of various options should be publicly shared.

As a member of the CPS Energy Board of Trustees it is your duty to ensure that the utility is making prudent decisions that will result in affordable bills for customers. The lack of a public resource planning process and CPS Energy's refusal to issue a request for proposals for cheaper clean energy is resulting in higher than necessary bills. The board should be directing, not rubber-stamping staff's plans.

I urge you to take immediate action to:

- Issue an RFP for renewable energy and energy storage to replace Spruce.
- Make detailed cost and benefit information about the various options public.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,  
Russell Seal

