

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES MONTHLY REPORT

Review of August 2024

Highlights

- The Energy & Environment Division is reposting the Environmental Analysis position acquisition. The position will assist with oil and gas regulation, spill/release remediation, mine subsidence, air quality, and other environmental challenges faced by the Town. The new position is anticipated to start in early November.
- The EPA awarded both DRCOG & the Colorado Energy Office Climate Pollution Reduction Grants, totally \$328 million dollars for emissions reducing efforts across the Front Range and Colorado.
- Be on the lookout for Waste Diversion Rebates from the Sustainability Division and Economic Development teams. These rebates will support waste diversion resources and activities for Town businesses and residents, funded through bag fee funds.

OIL & GAS

News & Notes

Draco OGDG

The Energy and Carbon Management Commission (ECMC) postponed the Draco Oil and Gas Development Plan (OGDP) pending a Rule 511 Public Hearing, requested by Flatiron Meadows Oil & Gas Monitoring Group (FMOGMG). The Rule 511 Hearing will likely occur in mid-October and facilitation is being coordinated by Town and ECMC Staff. Representation by Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment (CDPHE) staff has been requested.

The Town will participate in the mid-October hearing to express remaining concerns and issues, though staff continues to meet regularly with the Operator to address the remaining unresolved concerns.

The final hearing before the Commission will be held at a date uncertain after the conclusion of the Rule 511 public hearing. More information will be provided as available.

Spills & Releases

Operators reported 121 spills/releases during the month of August 2024, state-wide, of which 5 were reported within the municipal boundary of Erie.

- Warren H Wiggett 13-2
 - Reported by Civitas Aug 8, 2024
 - Past spill identified during site decommissioning. Date of release unknown.
 - Extent and type of release being determined
- CPC 4-42-4
 - Reported by Occidental Aug 16, 2024
 - Past spill identified during well re-plugging. Date of release unknown.
 - Extent and type of release being determined
- Koch 41-6 Flowline
 - 3 separate releases re-reported by KP Kauffman August 9, 2024
 - The releases were identified October 24, 2022 during removal of the flowlines
 - Initial remediation plans were rejected by ECMC, requiring the resubmissions in Aug

Inspections

ECMC Inspectors visited 3 oil and gas wells at 2 locations in Erie during the month of August 2024.

- **YOUNG-61N69W 23SWSW**
 - **YOUNG 5-23**
 - **YOUNG MC 23-14D**
- **FUTHEY-61N69W 25NENE**
 - **FUTHEY 2**

No Notices of Alleged Violation (NOAV) or Corrective Actions (CA) were issued during inspections.

So far in 2024, inspections have occurred at 56 of the 137 total active wells (those designated producing, shut-in, or temporarily abandoned) within Erie (41%).

AIR QUALITY MONITORING

BoulderAIR

The BoulderAIR ECC monitoring station reported the following events where measured values exceeded their “alert” thresholds:

- Five days included 8-hour averaged measurements of ozone concentrations exceeding the federal primary air quality standard of 70 ppb, with the highest reported 8-hour average value being 88.0 ppb on Aug. 1. Elevated ozone is of major concern across the region and will become more common as the weather warms and the area sees increased UV radiation during summer. The Northern Front Range is currently considered to be in Severe violation of Federal Air Quality Standards for ozone concentrations, with an attainment deadline of July 20, 2027. More information is available from CDPHE here: <https://cdphe.colorado.gov/ozone-pollution-and-your-health>
- 14 measurements of PM2.5 concentrations exceeding the alert threshold of 35.0 µg/m3, with the highest reported value being 251.9 µg/m3 (720% the National Ambient Air Quality Standard for 24-hour exposure of 35.0 µg/m3), though the measured event was less than 10 minutes in duration. While no observations exceeded the 24-hour primary 24-hour standard (highest 24-hour average reading being 27.5 µg on Aug 1), high PM2.5 measurements have been frequent since the BoulderAIR station was installed. When compared to the other BoulderAIR monitoring stations in the region, Erie’s (ECC) PM2.5 measurements are similar to those at Longmont’s Union Reservoir (LUR), higher than those at Broomfield’s Soaring Eagle (BSE), and considerably lower than measurements in Commerce City (CCF). It is suspected that maintenance activities at the adjacent ballfields (mowing and raking of the clay infield and warning tracks) contribute heavily to the fine particulate matter detected.

Ajax/CSU

Three canisters trigger events to collect samples due to elevated PID sensor readings occurred this month, at the Landfill South, Landfill East, and Upland South Stations. Analysis of these events is in progress. Analysis of the events in July are available here:

- **July 8** - Upland West: <https://trello.com/c/UqhpaBVX>
- **July 13** - Upland South: <https://trello.com/c/RUrqNW9r>
- **July 20** - Cosslett Southeast: <https://trello.com/c/POjKjFSt>
- **July 23** - Landfill Northeast: <https://trello.com/c/2DUaCXmx>

A reminder that residents of Erie can rent an air quality sample canister free-of-charge from Town Hall.

LANDFILL TASK FORCE (LTF)

The fifth LTF meeting was held on Sept. 3, 2024, focusing on landfill land use recommendations and community benefits. LTF resources and September's full meeting summary will be available on the Landfill Task Force Website (www.erieco.us/LandfillTaskForce) once comments and edits from Task Force Members are complete.

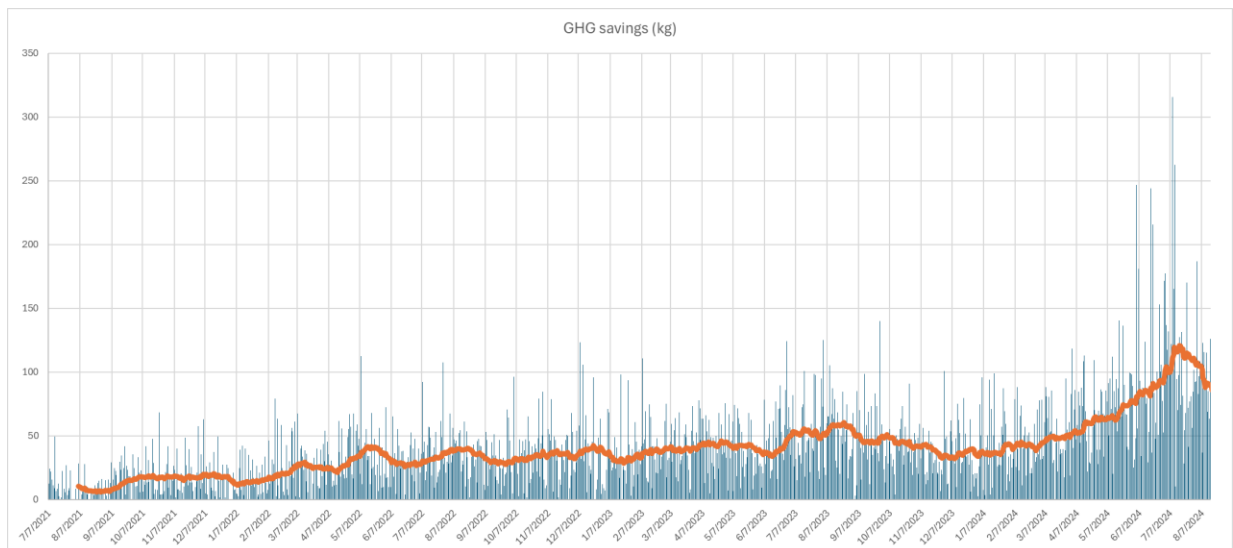
SUSTAINABILITY & WATER CONSERVATION

General Updates

The Sustainability Division continues to participate in the initial stages of the [Denver Regional Collaboration of Governments \(DRCOG\) EPA Climate Pollution Reduction Grant](#) of \$199 million dollars to the Front Range focused on beneficial electrification of the built environment and improving air quality and reducing greenhouse gas emissions in Colorado. Colorado was unique in being awarded two grants with the [Colorado Energy Office the recipient of a \\$129 million implementation grant](#) to support methane emissions monitoring and reduction, large building decarbonization and local government climate action accelerator efforts. The Sustainability Division is part of the DRCOG steering group for this grant as well as supporting partner organizations including the regional Code Cohort and the Front Range Beneficial Electrification Network in their participation. Sustainability staff will be engaging and supporting specific grant development and implementation responsibilities as they become available.

Air Quality & Transportation

- Sustainability is working through the final stages of the [Charging Smart pilot program](#) certification process. We should know more about Erie's designation in this process soon. The Charging Smart program is modeled from the SolSmart program of which Erie was awarded bronze in 2023.
- Indoor air quality rebates continue including financial support for radon systems and indoor air purifiers. Rebate applications can be found here: <https://erieco-sustainability.app.transform.civicplus.com/forms/37974>.

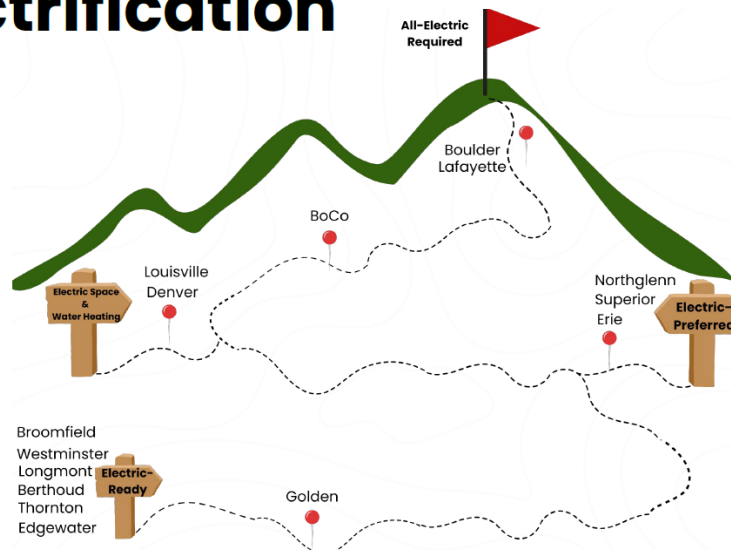


The above ChargePoint Town of Erie graph (22 ports of Level 2 charging) outlines the greenhouse gas savings per day (in blue) so far since July 2021 at Town of Erie ChargePoint EV charging stations. Since January 1st, 2024, Town of Erie EV charging stations avoided 17,013 kg of Co2 or the avoidance of 17,013 beach balls filled with carbon dioxide (1 beach ball=1 kg Co2).

Energy & Efficiency

- [Energy Efficiency rebates](#) continue to support residents with 121 rebates totaling \$22,650 as of Sept. 13.
- The Sustainability, Facilities, Building, Planning, Transportation and Communications Divisions launched into development of Erie's [Beneficial Electrification Plan](#) in September. This plan is supported by Xcel Energy and the Partners In Energy Program and is therefore free for the Town. Despite still needing to flesh out details regarding the scope of the plan, Erie was notified that components of an EV Action Plan will be allowed. EV planning has been on hold for Xcel due to its Transportation Mobility Plan negotiations with the Public Utility Commission. This plan will identify a high level decarbonization and EV strategy for the Town.
- The Sustainability Division and the Building Division continue to participate in the Regional Energy Code Cohort. This group had its 4th meeting in September facilitated by Lotus Sustainability and Engineering and is in the process of identifying regional code adoption strategies and base adoption levels across the Front Range. Below are two images from the 4th meeting of the current Code Cohort illustrating where participating communities are on the electrification pathway as well as specific current codes for each jurisdiction.

Pathway to Building Electrification



Part of the most recent Code Cohort's power point presentation illustrating current code adoption for local municipalities as related to building electrification.

Current Codes

Community	Current Energy Code
Berthoud	2021 IECC
City of Boulder	2021-based + all-electric and commercial EUI path
Boulder County	2015 IECC + strengthening amendments and commercial EUI part
Broomfield	2021 IECC + electric-ready (state min)
Denver	2021 IECC + commercial electric space & water heating, commercial EUI path, residential electric-preferred
Edgewater	2021 IECC + electric-ready
Erie	2021 IECC + electric preferred
Golden	2021 IECC
Lafayette	2021 IECC + all-electric
Longmont	2021 IECC
Louisville	2021 IECC + commercial electric space & water heating, residential net zero
Northglenn	2021 IECC + electric-preferred
Superior	2021 IECC + all-electric or high efficiency
Thornton	2021 IECC
Westminster	2021 IECC + electric-ready (state min)

Waste Diversion

- Support continues for Erie’s Communitywide Waste Hauling and Pay As You Throw research with the [Technical Assistance Service Provider \(TASP\) program through the Front Range Waste Diversion program](#). The Town was accepted into the Tier 1 support which includes 50 hours of technical support over 6 months.
- HOA Resident and HOA waste hauling surveys and interviews continue: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ErieWasteSurvey>. The Sustainability Division has contacted all 38 HOAs registered in Erie and have interviewed two so far. If you are an HOA board member and would like to discuss your waste hauling perspective and experience, please email SustainableErie@erieco.gov.
- Erie’s Parks Division purchased 30 recycling cans through financial support from the [Front Range Waste Diversion mini grant](#) in August paired with 30 cans that were purchased at the beginning of 2024 through budgeted funds. The Parks Staff will be deploying a total of 60 additional recycling cans in 2024 to increase its waste diversion efforts. The Town has committed to pairing every trash can with a recycling can where possible by 2026.
- The Sustainability Division and Economic Development teams are partnering up to develop new Waste Diversion Rebates for Town businesses and residents. This program has not yet launched but will include rebates for businesses such as compost and recycling support and back yard compost equipment for residents. This program will be funded through the Bag Fees from Town of Erie businesses, required by state legislation.

Outreach & Education

- The Sustainability Division is again co-sponsoring [Ecotoberfest](#), a collaborative event with Louisville, Lafayette and Superior that showcases sustainability in the Front Range. This year’s event is Oct. 5 from 2-6 p.m. at the Louisville Community Park. If you would like to volunteer for this event, please sign up here: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0849ADAC23ABFAC16-50664564-ecotoberfest#.

Water Conservation

- Waiting on redlined draft of Town of Erie Water-Wise Landscaping Ordinance from WaterNow and Western Resource Advocates.
- Moving forward with design firm Kimley Horn for a turf replacement design for the front area at the Leon A. Wurl Service Center. Currently waiting on final scope of work and agreement to sign.
- [Turf Replacement Rebate Program](#)
 - 71 total projects in pipeline or completed.
 - Project pipeline represents \$38,720.00 in potential rebates.
 - 35 projects completed to date with 44,059 sq. Ft. of turf replaced and \$52,071.00 spent on rebates.
 - If all projects are completed, total rebates will be \$90,791.
- Town of Erie Water Efficiency Rebates: 192 rebates provided to residents representing \$17,642.10 so far in 2024.
- [Resource Central](#) programming is complete including Slow the Flow audits and Garden In a Box.

