

Attachment A
Meeting Summary
Power Ahead Colorado Technical Committee
Tuesday, April 7, 2026
Virtual Meeting Only – Hosted on Zoom

Members (or Voting Alternates) Present:

Amanda Perkins	Adams County
Susie Strife (Chair)	Boulder County
Elizabeth Babcock	City and County of Denver
Gabrielle Rink	Center for Energy and Environment
Bridger Tomlin	Jefferson County
Jeff Wong	Jefferson County
Brooke Pike	Non-Profit LIDAC
Adam Sanderson	Longmont Power and Communications
Eryka Thorley	Southwest Weld County
Shawn LeMons	Zero Homes

DRCOG staff: Chris Selk, Emily Loker, Mac Prather, Robert Spotts, Clay McCombe.

Call to Order

Chair Susie Strife called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

March 3, 2026 Power Ahead Colorado Technical Committee Summary

The summary was accepted.

Discussion Items

Power Ahead Colorado Innovation Pilot Program Policy

Mac Prather Program Manager for Incentives, Advising and Innovation, informed the committee of Power Ahead Colorado's \$6 million innovation pilot program which is a competitive grant program that funds targeted pilot projects testing new approaches to reducing the structural, financial, and operational barriers limiting adoption of efficient electric equipment in buildings across the Denver region. Funded pilots are expected to generate practical, scalable insights that strengthen Power Ahead Colorado's broader programs and those of its partner agencies. The policy establishes parameters for the Innovation Pilot Program, including program goals, eligible applicants and uses, award structure, evaluation criteria, and the approval and post-award processes. There are four tracks for funding: Making Electrification Easier to Deliver, Demand Flexibility and Technical Performance, Coordinated Deployment and Planning Strategies, Expanding Access, Health, and Trusted Delivery and Expanding Access, Health and Trusted Delivery.

Martin Postma asked a clarifying question that a city cannot be a lead applicant but that they can be a partner agency. Mac confirmed that is correct and that the city would not act as the fiscal agent for the grant and would largely act in a partnership capacity.

Jeff Wong inquired about the timeline and if 12-16 months would be enough time to yield results from say, a pilot program. Desmond Kirwan, from VEIC, replied with the Tech Clean California example, which is a California quick start grant program that VEIC worked on. Desmond clarified that 12-16 months is intended as the starting guardrails but it's not intended to be the end all be all. That timeline will yield insights into what direction VEIC needs to be trending in to overcome market barriers during that time frame.

Martin Postma wanted clarification around funding amounts for future rounds. Desmond noted that that will depend on how the first round goes, with a total of \$6 million dedicated to the entirety of the program. If the first round allows for a second round, DRCOG will have that, or even a third round, open in the future.

Shawn LeMons asked about a project's readiness and what the process will look like for documentation. Desmond explained that the application is 25 questions, then VEIC and DRCOG will reply to all applicants, provide input and feedback as well. There will be a standardized scoring rubric as well.

Administrative Items

Member Comment/Other Matters

Chris Selk requested that members follow Power Ahead Colorado's social media pages and to help DRCOG spread the word of the opportunities that the program is currently offering. This includes round 2 for jurisdictional subaward applications as well as the innovation grant opportunity. Shawn LeMons asked what the strategy is for socials and if it is more of a push versus pull strategy. Chris replied that Karsh Hagan, the Marketing consulting firm leading Power Ahead Colorado's advertising and social media, is carefully tracking best approaches.

Robert Spotts added that the contract between Xcel Energy and the Building Decarbonization Coalition was executed and will be partnering with Power Ahead Colorado on the Colorado Contractor Hub and will allow for the Hub to expand outside of DRCOG's planning area and across Colorado. Holly Harris answered Shawn LeMons questions about how to decide who the top recommended contractor is. She noted that the best way they have seen is to see what neighbors are saying to one another.

Emily Loker announced upcoming Earth Day events that Power Ahead Colorado will be attending and explained that the goal of these events is to meet people where they are on their heat pump journey.

Next Meeting – May 5, 2026

Adjournment

There were no additional comments, and the meeting adjourned at 10:37 a.m.