

# EPA MATS rule poses material risks to Montana customers

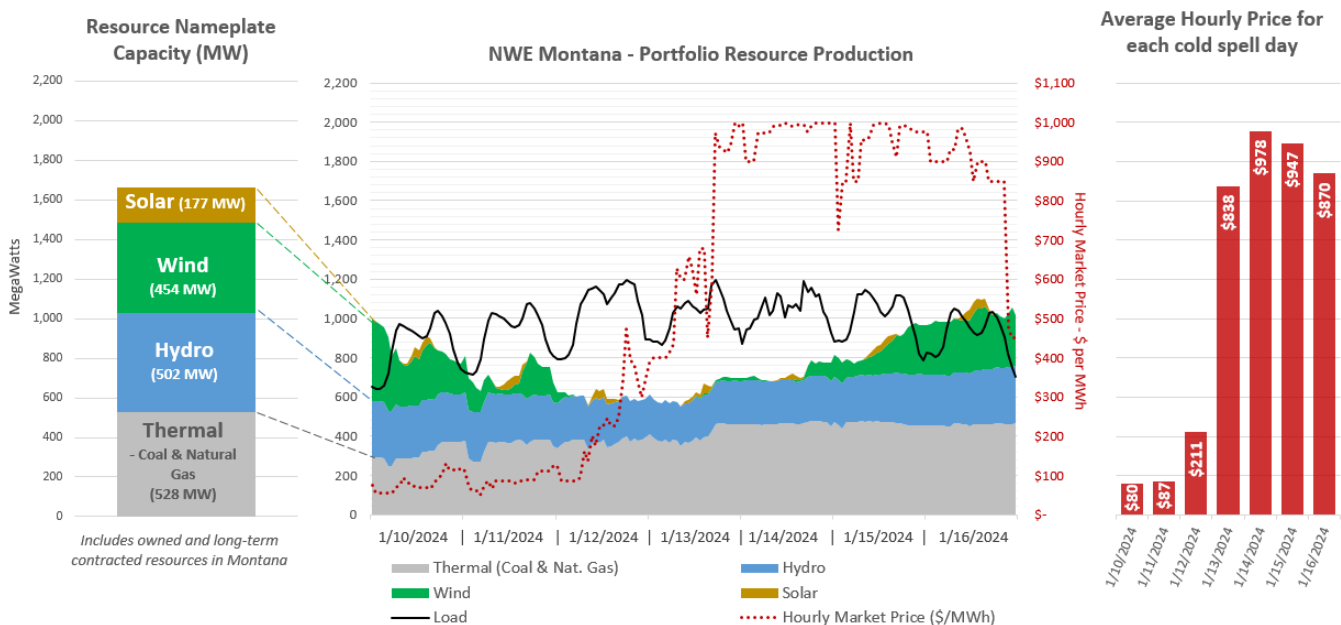
## Montana Energy customers face an immediate and potentially life threatening energy short-fall without the Colstrip Generating Station.

- MATS reductions at Colstrip are unfeasible without cost prohibitive upgrades. Est. Cost = \$300-500 million or \$1,000 per electric customer.
- Lack of adequate generation and import capability to backstop our 58% carbon free portfolio puts lives and property at risk.
- MATS & GHG deadlines preclude development of replacement generation, especially viable carbon-free alternatives.

## Loss of Colstrip exacerbates Montana's energy crises

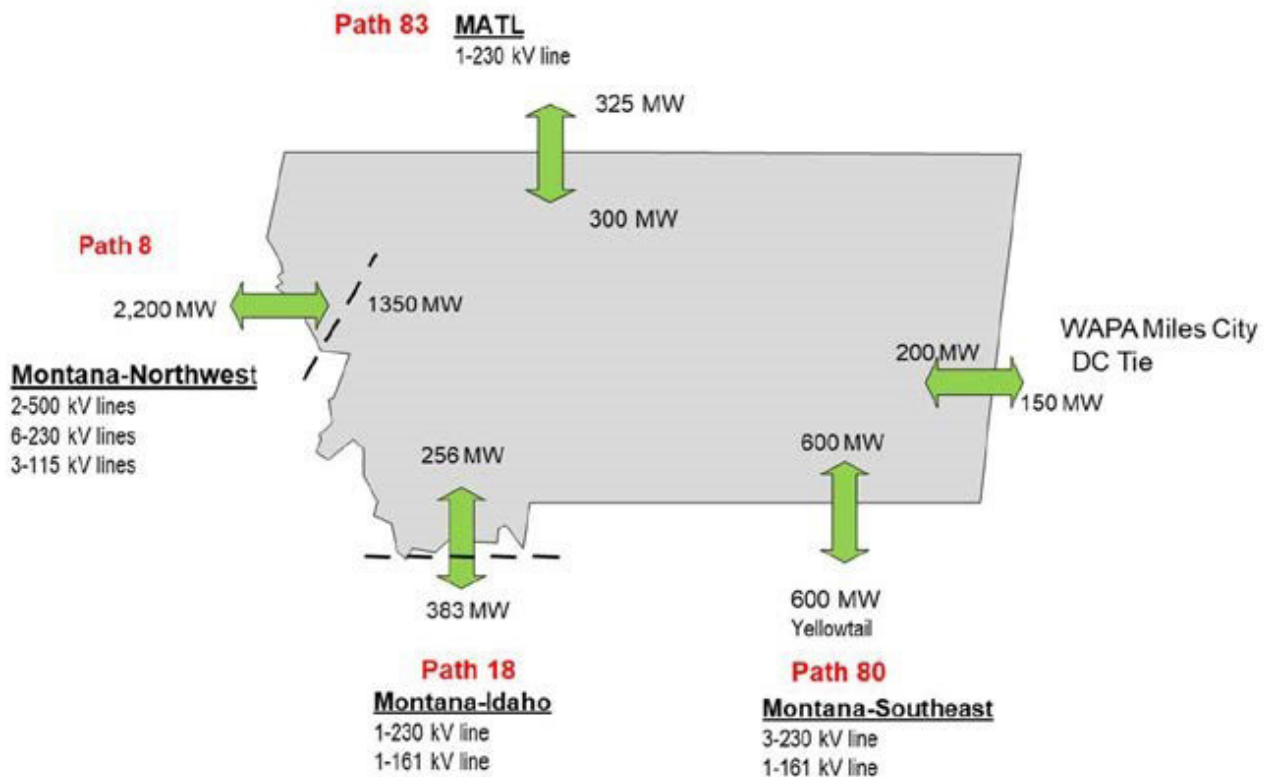
The Colstrip Generating Station supplies 1,480 MW of on-demand generation available under ALL WEATHER CONDITIONS.

NorthWestern's 30% share of Colstrip Unit 4 and planned acquisition of Avista's 222MW share is critical to serve customers during severe and extended weather events like customers experienced in January 2024.



## Energy Imports are not a viable replacement for Colstrip Generation

Montana's transmission system lacks available firm capacity to off-set the loss of Colstrip generation.



Replacing NorthWestern's share of Colstrip in 2027 requires 444 MW of transmission capacity, but NorthWestern only has 281 MW of firm capacity available on our system.

These figures don't include industrial and commercial customers who receive power from Colstrip's other partners.

## MATS and GHG deadlines undermine a responsible energy transition

NorthWestern leads the nation's energy transition with a 58% carbon free portfolio and a commitment to reach Net-Zero by 2050. Premature closure of the Colstrip Generating Station under the MATS rule undermines this commitment.

**Addressing the reliability and affordability crises brought-on by the MATS rule requires construction of a long-lived fossil fuel asset to preserve energy reliability.**

**Bottom Line: Aligning the GHG and MATS deadlines to the 2035 timeframe supports a responsible Montana Energy Transition.**