



**Letter of Intent**

**For**

**Williams Creek Generating Station**

# Williams Creek Generating Station El Paso County 1041 Application

## Letter of Intent



Colorado Springs Utilities

*It's how we're all connected*

### Prepared by:

Vertex Consulting Services LLC  
5825 Delmonico Drive, Suite # 320  
Colorado Springs, CO 80919  
303.906.8800



September 29, 2026

PCD File No. AASI26\_\_\_\_

## **INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

### Introduction:

The proposed Williams Creek Generating Station (WCGS) is planned to be a 400-megawatt natural gas-fired power plant. The WCGS will be served via a new natural gas pipeline, known as Rocky Mountain Express Pipeline (not a part of this application), and construction of an onsite service line from the existing Colorado Springs Southern Delivery System raw water pipeline.

### Background Information:

Owner: City of Colorado Springs  
P.O. Box 1575 MC 525  
Colorado Springs, CO 80901-1575

Applicant: Colorado Springs Utilities  
1521 Hancock Drive  
Colorado Springs, CO 80903

Authorized Representative:  
Vertex Consulting Services, LLC  
5825 Delmonico Dr., Suite 320  
Colorado Springs, CO 80919

Property Location: Generally southeast of the City of Fountain on a parcel of land located south of Squirrel Creek Road and approximately 2¼ miles northeast of the Birdsall Road and Old Pueblo Road intersection.

Tax Schedule No: 5600000123

Current Zoning: RR-5 (Residential Rural)

Proposed Zoning: RR-5 (Residential Rural)

### Request:

This is a request for approval of a permit to allow Colorado Springs Utilities to design, site, construct, and operate a 400 MW natural gas-fired powerplant and associated improvements pursuant to Appendix B, Guidelines and Regulations for Areas and Activities of State Interest, of the El Paso County Land Development Code. The site of the proposed power plant is owned by the City of Colorado Springs and is located southeast of the City of Fountain, Colorado, in an

unincorporated area of El Paso County.

Utility Service:

The property is included within the Mountain View Electric Association (MVEA) service area; however, MVEA is unable to serve the property for the purposes of onsite electrical demands. There are no existing central water or wastewater providers having infrastructure in the immediate vicinity and that would be capable of providing domestic water or wastewater service to the site to support ongoing operations of the site. An onsite wastewater treatment system (OWTS) is planned to provide wastewater treatment resulting from infrequent operations activities performed at the facility by Colorado Springs Utilities personnel.

## **ESTIMATED ENTITLEMENT AND CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE**

Entitlements:

Land use entitlements, including approval of the proposed 1041 permit application, are underway and planned for completion by the 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2027. This also includes approval of the required site development plan and associated stormwater and construction permits, which have not been submitted to date but are anticipated for submission to El Paso County following initial review of the proposed 1041 permit application.

Building permitting through Pikes Peak Regional Building Department is anticipated to occur following site development plan approval in the 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2027.

Construction:

Initial construction mobilization is anticipated to occur in September of 2027 and site grading will begin April of 2028 with foundation completion to occur in early September 2028. Major equipment assembly is anticipated for completion in December of 2029 followed by mechanical completion in January of 2030. Substantial completion of the project is planned for May of 2030 with final completion in July of 2030.

Please see below list of preliminary construction key dates for Kiewit scope.

- Mobilization – 9/27/2027
- Site Prep and Grading – 9/27/2027 through 2/21/2028
- Construction – 2/22/2028 through 12/16/2029
- Commissioning – 12/17/2029 through 5/30/2030

## **PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT**

A community open house was hosted by Colorado Springs Utilities beginning at 4:30 p.m. on Sept. 15, 2026, at the Pikes Peak Library District's Fountain Library, 230 S. Main Street, Fountain, Colorado. Multiple outreach methods were used to raise awareness of the project and provide opportunities for participation. Methods included:

- A dedicated project webpage
- Direct mail notifications
- Coordination with the City of Fountain
- Direct stakeholder outreach
- English- and Spanish-language fact sheets
- A Spanish-language interpreter
- Paid social media campaign from Aug. 14 – Sept. 14, 2026.
  - Reached 9,753 accounts
  - Generated 26,670 impressions
- Direct mail notifications

The questions and comments received during the community open house phase of engagement will be used to inform future communications, project materials and engagement activities specific to the project. As the project progresses through planning, engineering and permitting, additional opportunities for community participation are anticipated.

## **PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

Colorado Springs Utilities is planning to construct a new nominal 400 megawatt (MW) natural gas-fired power generation facility known as the Williams Creek Generating Station (WCGS). The proposed location of the WCGS is on a portion of an approximately 3,654-acre parcel of land owned by the City of Colorado Springs. A land survey plat is being prepared to create a separate approximately 206-acre parcel, upon which the WCGS will be constructed. The current parcel includes multiple solar arrays, two electrical substations, the Southern Delivery System Williams Creek Pump Station and a section of the Southern Delivery System Raw Water Pipeline. The new parcel created via the land survey plat will be created so as to avoid including any of the existing solar arrays.

WCGS is one of Colorado Springs Utilities' Sustainable Energy Plan (SEP) projects. The SEP Portfolio includes several projects and programs to reduce carbon emissions, manage long-term costs and maintain industry-leading reliability. SEP is the public-facing name of the Electric and Gas Integrated Resource Plans

(E/G/IRPs) submitted to the state in 2020 and 2023. As a municipal utility, Colorado Springs Utilities is committed to meeting the energy needs of all segments of the community through careful cost management. Therefore, Colorado Springs Utilities' IRPs included the use of natural gas-based electric generation to responsibly transition to more zero emission energy resources in the years to come, which helps achieve the right balance of cost management, service reliability and cleaner air.

Colorado Springs Utilities (Utilities) plans to install ten (10) natural gas units at WCGS. The units have state-of-the-art emission controls, are quickly available during high demand, and have the ability to start up and shut down in ten (10) minutes. The combustion turbines will be equipped with selective catalytic reduction (SCR) systems for control of oxides of nitrogen (NOx) emissions and oxidation catalysts for control of carbon monoxide (CO) and volatile organic compounds (VOC).

The additional generation will help meet growing demand from both existing and future customers, maintain service reliability, manage costs and ensure a measured shift to increased renewable energy resources. Improvements associated with extension of utilities to the site and within the site are proposed with this application including water service infrastructure and a natural gas service line extension.

Access to the site is primarily from Squirrel Creek Road with secondary access from Birdsall Road via Old Pueblo Road. All construction hauling traffic will follow the Old Pueblo Road to Birdsall Road path, while additional construction crew passenger vehicle traffic will also use the Squirrel Creek Road access.