

# UTILITY CUSTOMERS WOULD SAVE BIG WITH EARLY VALMY CLOSURE DATE

## New Report Finds that Polluting North Valmy is More Expensive to Operate than Clean Energy

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Reno, Nev. - Today, the Sierra Club released an [economic analysis](#) authored by Synapse Economics which concludes that continuing to operate the North Valmy coal plant is more expensive than other energy sources, including solar and natural gas. The report found that transitioning to Nevada clean energy resources by 2019 rather than continuing to import hundreds of millions of dollars a year in dirty coal would benefit NV Energy's customers as well as Nevada's environment.

"This report makes it perfectly clear - Valmy is a bad deal for NV Energy's customers," said Elspeth DiMarzio, Organizing Representative for the Sierra Club's Nevada Beyond Coal Campaign. "Every year Nevada spends hundreds of millions of dollars on imported coal that pollutes our air and atmosphere rather than using Nevada's abundant clean, renewable energy resources to create jobs at home. The Valmy coal plant is more expensive to operate than a clean energy facility would be, and the likely need for future pollution controls exposes NV Energy customers to serious financial risk."

The Valmy coal plant is Nevada's largest source of carbon pollution, emitting 2.9 million short tons of carbon annually. Valmy is already tentatively scheduled to stop burning coal in 2025. Advocates are pushing for NV Energy to stop burning coal at Valmy before 2020 so Nevada can create clean energy jobs, clean up the air, and get rid of the state's biggest source of climate pollution.

"I urge the Governor's New Energy Industry Task Force to review this study closely," said Travis Ritchie, Staff Attorney with the Sierra Club Environmental Law Program. "We now have clear evidence demonstrating that the Valmy coal plant is more expensive to operate than clean energy. The simplest way for the task force to promote the development of utility-scale clean energy is by recommending early closure and replacement of Valmy with clean technologies like solar and energy efficiency."

"As an NV Energy customer in Reno, I am deeply concerned that over a quarter of my electricity comes from a coal-fired power plant," said Joe Johnson, NV Energy residential customer. "Reno is leading the state and even the nation on creating a new clean energy economy. Our city's identity is

...tied to our support for clean energy. But NV Energy’s dirty little secret - the Valmy coal plant - is standing in the way of our clean energy future.”

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**Campaign Name:**

[Beyond Coal](#)