

TO: Interested Parties  
FROM: Global Strategy Group and Dan Jones & Associates  
DATE: February 27, 2020  
RE: **Survey: Utah Voters Support Plan to Close PacifiCorp Coal Plants in Favor of Renewables**

---

**According to a new statewide survey conducted by the bipartisan team of Dan Jones & Associates and Global Strategy Group, a strong majority of likely Utah voters —59% to 18%— believe that a transition away from coal-fired power to renewable energy use in Utah is important for improving life for future generations of their families, and 57% do not think it would have a negative impact on the state’s economy and job outlook.**

A 20-point majority of those Utah voters — 53% to 33% —support a proposal to phase out PacifiCorp’s coal plants across Utah and Wyoming by 2030 and replace them with renewable energy. Support for the proposal is largely cross-partisan and wide-ranging.

#### KEY SURVEY FINDINGS:

**Most voters reject the idea that transitioning from coal-fired power to renewable energy use in Utah would have a negative impact on their electricity bills in the long term, and a large majority, 72%, reject the idea that this proposal would have a negative impact on the reliability of their electricity.**

***Proposal Language:***

*As you may or may not already know, Utah gets much of its electricity from PacifiCorp, which operates two coal power plants in Utah and another four coal plants in Wyoming. Recently, PacifiCorp announced that it would close one of its oldest coal plants and part of another by 2025 in favor of renewable energy like wind and solar. But some of its other coal plants would stay open until 2042 or later. Some people have proposed a plan to phase out all of PacifiCorp’s coal plants across Utah and Wyoming by 2030 and replace them with renewable energy.*

*Just based on what you know, do you support or oppose the state enacting this proposal?*

**Among the voters surveyed, a strong majority — 58% — say a transition to clean energy would have a positive impact in mitigating the effects of climate change in Utah, and 56% said that would help improve the health of families like theirs. And 65% believe the transition to clean energy by retiring the coal plants would help improve air quality.**

#### ABOUT THIS POLL

*Dan Jones & Associates and Global Strategy Group conducted a statewide telephone survey of 800 likely voters in both rural and urban Utah between December 12 and December 18, 2019. The survey was commissioned by Western Resource Advocates. Voters were reached on both cell phones and landlines. The survey had a margin of error of +/- 3.5%. Care was taken to ensure the political, geographic, and demographic divisions of the population of likely voters were properly represented.*