

RENEWABLE ENERGY USE AND CARBON EMISSIONS

INDICATOR: Percent renewable energy used at DNR facilities; carbon emissions from DNR facilities and fleet

WHY IS THIS INDICATOR IMPORTANT?

Renewable energy use is an important indicator of DNR's commitment to environmental sustainability. Renewable energy use furthers energy security, Minnesota's environmental and economic goals, and provides a model to businesses and citizens for protecting the environment and creating jobs. Climate change challenges natural resource management in numerous ways. Reducing carbon emissions can help mitigate climate change.

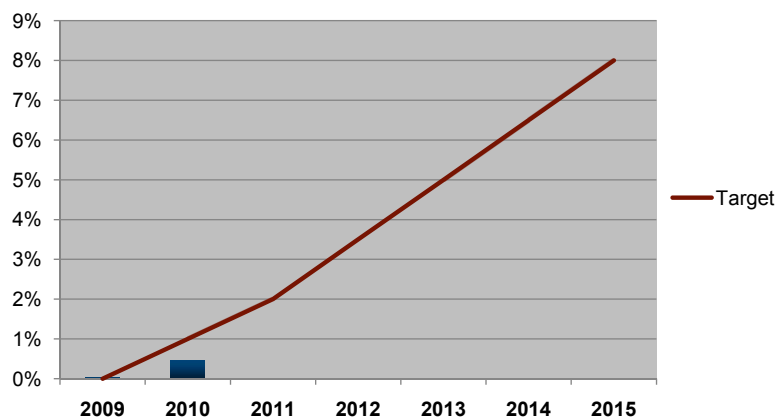
WHAT IS DNR DOING?

DNR has made installation of renewable energy systems standard practice on all new buildings. We currently produce over 124 kW of electricity from 12 photovoltaic systems. In addition, DNR heats and cools eight buildings using geothermal systems, and operates one solar thermal system. The department has numerous renewable energy projects in design, and expects to double its renewable energy production in 2011.

DNR is addressing climate change by increasing energy efficiency of DNR fleet and facilities, increasing conservation-based energy sources on DNR lands, and integrating climate change mitigation and adaptation into management activities. DNR is improving carbon emissions tracking by automatically feeding energy invoice data into the Minnesota B3 Energy Benchmarking System. DNR is a member of the climate registry and reports annually on carbon emissions.

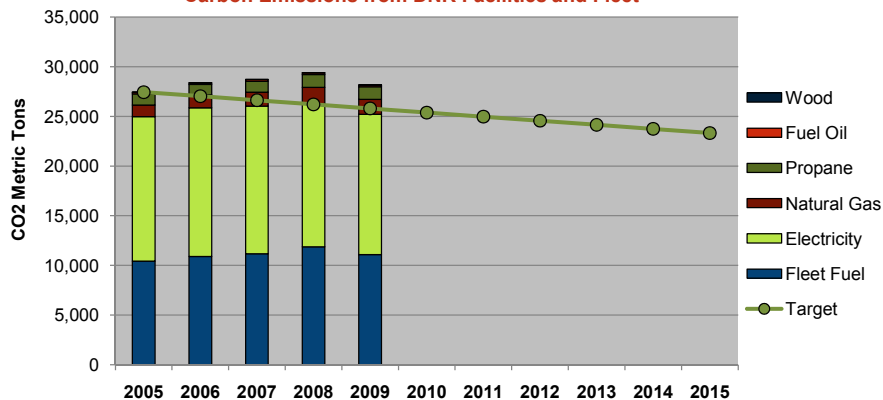
TARGET: Obtain 8% of DNR facilities' energy from renewable sources by 2015; reduce DNR fleet and facilities carbon emissions 15% by 2015. DNR has made a good start on implementing renewable energy and reducing carbon emissions. DNR is exploring a variety of strategies to reach these targets and will adapt strategies as new technologies become available.

Percent Renewable Energy used at DNR Facilities



DNR strives to obtain 8% of its facilities' energy from renewable sources by 2015.

Carbon Emissions from DNR Facilities and Fleet



DNR aims to reduce fleet and facilities carbon emissions 15% by 2015.



This photovoltaic array at the Iron Range OHV Recreation Area tracks the path of the sun, producing over 5,700 kWh per year.

LEARN MORE ABOUT:

- Renewable energy and climate change page in development: see www.mndnr.gov/conservationagenda