

Resolution No:	<u>16-757</u>
Introduced:	<u>September 9, 2008</u>
Adopted:	<u>October 28, 2008</u>

**COUNTY COUNCIL
FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND**

By: Council President at the request of the County Executive

SUBJECT: County Energy Policy

Background

1. On November 14, 1995, the Council approved the County Energy Policy in Resolution 13-335, which replaced the policy approved in 1990.
2. On February 8, 2000, the Council amended the Energy Policy in Resolution 14-427.
3. On March 18, 2003, the Council amended the Energy Policy in Resolution 15-100.
4. The County took a leadership role in 2003 by being one of the first entities in the State to conduct joint procurement of electricity supply, and continues to take a proactive approach to ensuring that the interests and concerns of County residents are met in a competitive electricity marketplace.
5. The County's joint procurement consists of an aggregated load of sufficient size potentially to influence the development of clean and renewable resources in the electricity marketplace.
6. It is the policy of the County to "Continually improve the efficient use of all energy resources in order to ensure a future with a secure and sustainable energy supply" and to "look to increase the amount of clean and renewable energy purchased in a competitive marketplace." (County Energy Policy, Resolution 14-427, February 8, 2000)
7. Following the Council's unanimous passage of Resolution 15-100 on March 18, 2003, the members of the electricity buying group of the Interagency Committee on Energy and Utilities Management (ICEUM) developed a solicitation for the joint purchase of electricity that includes 5% wind energy.

8. On July 11, 2006 the Council amended the Energy Policy in Resolution No. 15-1529 to increase the share of renewable energy purchased by the County in FY2007 from 5% to 10% and to further increase the share to 20% by FY2011.
9. The purpose of this resolution is: to specify that the goal of the share of renewable energy purchased by the County in FY2009 is 15%; and to update certain existing purchasing specifications.

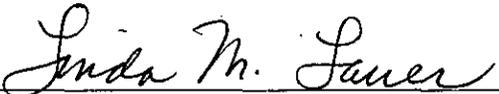
Action

The County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland approves the following resolution:

At least 15% of the County's total annual electric load will be supplied by renewable energy in FY2009 and that amount will be increased to 20% by FY2011.

The County Energy Policy as amended is attached and made a part of this resolution, which replaces Council Resolution No. 15-1529.

This is a correct copy of Council action.


Linda M. Lauer, Clerk of the Council

MONTGOMERY COUNTY ENERGY POLICY

The County's energy policy consists of the County accomplishing the following:

1. Continually improve the efficient use of all energy resources in order to insure a future with a secure and sustainable energy supply. Fuels availability and the need to improve air quality may limit energy use of fossil fuels.
2. Seek creative ways that the public sector can take advantage of cost-saving opportunities presented by utility restructuring, including undertaking an aggregated cooperative competitive procurement of electricity supply at the earliest opportunity practicable, look to increase the amount of clean and renewable energy purchased in a competitive marketplace, and serve as an education and information resource about restructuring for the County's residents and businesses.
3. Integrate energy consumption and sustainability considerations into land use, development and transportation planning as a means of evaluating the impact of growth and development on energy consumption and the environment in the County.
4. Increase energy efficiency in County facilities and vehicles; work with the private sector to encourage enhanced energy efficiency for commercial buildings, dwellings and vehicles.
5. Promote increased use of alternative-fueled vehicles in the County fleet, and in private fleets that operate in the County.
6. Integrate requirements for greater energy efficiency into commercial and residential building codes and effect adequate energy code enforcement.
7. Promote the efficient use of energy through example, education, and legislation.
8. Support government funding for projects that promote public and multi-person modes of transportation as one means of conserving energy, alleviating traffic congestion and reducing harmful emissions. Use legislative, regulatory and fiscal policies to discourage use of single-occupancy vehicles and encourage use of mass transit.
9. Educate the citizens of Montgomery County to the importance of more efficient energy consumption and the direct linkages between energy usage and a healthy environment.
10. Seek intergovernmental cooperation in developing effective, cost-efficient methods to meet the requirements of federal energy and environmental legislation.
11. Encourage the reduction of per capita energy consumption in Montgomery County from 1995 base levels by 20% by the year 2010; support further per capita reductions in energy consumption thereafter as deemed practicable and appropriate.

12. Recognize and reward individual initiative and collective efforts that contribute to the County's energy/environmental policy goals.
13. Utilize the best efforts possible to jointly purchase renewable energy. It is anticipated that the County will extend the opportunity to participate in its renewable energy procurement to other municipalities in the State of Maryland and the Greater Washington Metropolitan Area subject to the following conditions:
 - a. A minimum of 15% of the County's total annual electric load will be supplied by renewable energy in FY2009 with that amount to be increased to 20% by FY2011. The County Council, in conjunction with the County Executive, may, at some future date, alter or adjust the minimum percentage of renewable energy required in electricity procurements;
 - b. The renewable energy purchased will also meet the following specifications:
 - i. Be generated from wind, solar, methane from the anaerobic decomposition of organic materials in a landfill or wastewater treatment plant, geothermal, tidal ocean energy, and biomass, as defined as a Tier 1 renewable source in the Maryland Code, Public Utility Company Article, §7-703 that are located and generate electricity within the United States;
 - ii. Qualify as "green power" as defined by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Green Power Partnership;
 - iii. Not be included in a supplier's renewable portfolio standard (RPS) requirement for any year, consistent with Maryland Code, Public Utility Company Article, §7-703, or supplant clean energy purchased to comply with either federal law or the laws of states other than Maryland; and
 - iv. Be registered and tracked in a regional tracking system. Applicable tracking systems include Eligible tracking systems –WREGIS, ERCOT, NEPOOL-GIS, M-RETS, PJM-GATS, the North American Renewable Registry, or comparable system. Other comparable systems include those recognized by the Regional Transmission Operator/Independent System Operator responsible for the generator's region.
 - c. The County may satisfy the specifications of subsection (b) through on-site clean energy generation. The County will retain ownership of the project's renewable energy certificates and meet all other specifications of subsection (b). The County may exchange the renewable energy certificates for certificates from an alternate source that complies with the specifications of subsection (b).
 - d. The purchase of clean renewable energy generated power would begin at the earliest date practicable, and would continue through future electricity procurements.

14. Develop an "Energy Wise Offices" program to encourage County employees to reduce energy consumption through behavioral modification.
 - a. The "Energy Wise Offices" program will consist of outreach and education for County government employees, to be conducted by the Department of Environmental Protection.
 - b. The program will include such actions as turning off lights in unoccupied areas, fully enabling energy saving features on computers and office equipment, shutting down equipment that is not in use overnight or over weekends, and using appropriately sized fleet vehicles.
15. As a pilot program, in order to gather information and support efforts to ensure that County buildings are designed, constructed and maintained in as energy efficient a manner as possible, the County will procure the services of an energy auditor to assess the status of energy efficiency of three County buildings which are large energy consumers. The audits will also identify potential cost effective energy saving improvements. The results of the audits will be reported to the County Council. The County Council may, at some future date, expand the number of buildings subject to audit.