

## History of the Energy Challenge

In a speech to City Council on September 19, 2005, Mayor Hieftje issued a Green Energy Challenge, calling on the Energy Commission to investigate how Ann Arbor might use 20 percent green energy by 2010 for municipal operations and by 2015 for the whole community.

On February 13, the Energy Commission reported to City Council on ways to meet the Challenge. The Commission's presentation detailed a path to 30 percent green energy for municipal operations and outlined strategies for community-wide energy conservation and green energy.

As a result of the Energy Commission's presentation, Mayor Hieftje raised the goal for municipal operations to 30 percent, and on May 1, 2006, City Council unanimously passed a resolution to formally adopt the following goals:

- 30% renewable energy for municipal operations by 2010;
- 20% renewable energy by 2015 for the Ann Arbor community; and a
- 20% reduction from 2000 greenhouse gas emission levels by 2015 for the Ann Arbor community.

The Energy Commission has now been charged with the task of working with the community to achieve these challenging goals.

## About the Energy Commission

In 1981, Mayor Louis Belcher created the Mayor's Energy Advisory Board, which became the Energy Commission in 1985 and was charged to:

- Oversee energy-related City policies and advise City Council;
- Report on recommendations to improve municipal and community energy efficiency;
- Prepare, adopt, amend and transmit to City Council plans identifying municipal and community-based energy efficiency and production projects;
- Research, formulate, and oversee community education programs; and
- Identify and make recommendations regarding energy project financing options.

In 2006, Mayor John Hieftje challenged the Energy Commission to come up with a strategy to move Ann Arbor into a renewable energy future.

## To Learn More or to Join the Energy Challenge:

Visit [www.a2gov.org/energy](http://www.a2gov.org/energy) or contact the Energy Office at [energy@a2gov.org](mailto:energy@a2gov.org)

*Fossil fuels are dirty, nonrenewable, warming the planet, a national security concern, and increasingly expensive.*

*We need clean, affordable, local, renewable energy. This is...*

## **Ann Arbor's** **Energy Challenge**



**30% Renewable Energy for  
Municipal Operations by 2010  
20% Community-Wide by 2015**

Brought to you by the Ann Arbor Energy Commission and Ann Arbor Energy Office



# Meeting the Challenge: *3 Forms of Energy We Use Every Day*



## **Electricity**

### **Conservation First**

- Not using it? Turn it off!
- Buy compact fluorescent bulbs
- Get Energy Star appliances



### **Move to Renewable Energy**

- Buy green electricity:
  - Watch your local utility for a green power program; or
  - Visit the US Dept. of Energy's Green Power Network website for other options
- Install photovoltaic panels
- Put up a small wind turbine



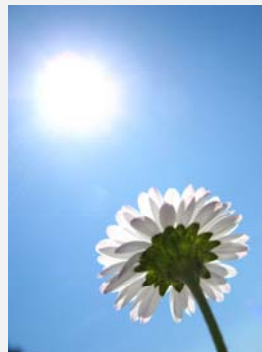
## **Natural Gas**

### **Easy Ways to Use Less**

- Dial it down in winter and up in summer: every degree can save you up to 3% off your bill
- Install a programmable thermostat
- Upgrade your home's insulation and weatherstripping
- Turn your water heater down to 120°F and insulate your pipes
- Take shorter or cooler showers, and install low-flow showerheads

### **Use the Sun**

- Look into solar water heating
- Incorporate passive solar design into your new home!
- Use sun-shading trees and window overhangs to reduce summer cooling costs



## **Transportation**

### **Different Modes**

- Try the bus
- Dust off your bike
- Move closer to work if possible



### **Different Fuels**

- Try using biodiesel!
- Find a gas station that sells E10 (10% ethanol)
- E85 is coming soon, so buy that flex-fuel vehicle

### **Efficient Cars**

- Keep your tires properly inflated
- Drive smoothly and avoid fast starts and stops
- Buying a new car? Make fuel efficiency a priority and consider hybrids, flex-fuel vehicles, and (bio)diesels!
- Combine trips when running errands

% Renewable Energy

2006

2010

2015