

# Delaware: Clean Energy Innovators

**Governor Jack Markell, February 17, 2010**

Delaware is moving to meet **aggressive targets** with a **climate prosperity plan** that builds a clean energy economy and workforce.

The state takes full advantage of its small size to collaborate and innovate quickly. As the CEO of electric car manufacturer Fisker Automotive said when they announced plans to hire thousands and locate in Delaware:

“The state pulled together faster than  
I can get my family of four out to dinner.”

With a **diverse population** including rural and urban areas, a **well-educated workforce**, **exceptional research capacity**, and **committed leadership**, Delaware hopes to serve as a “**Laboratory of Innovation**” for the country.

Delaware’s progress is noted: In October 2009, the **American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy (ACEEE)** named Delaware as the **most improved state in the nation** when it comes to energy efficiency policy and programs.

**We invite you to learn about our efforts, beginning with the summary below. Please contact us for additional information.**

## Our Targets

- **Electricity Consumption:** Reduce by 15% by 2015
- **Natural Gas Consumption:** Reduce by 10% by 2015
- **Renewable Sources Statewide:** A renewable portfolio standard of 20% by 2019
- **Renewable Sources for State Government:** At least 30% of overall annual electric energy demand for buildings owned or operated by State executive branch agencies by 2013
- **Energy Consumption by Executive Branch Operations:** Reduce from fiscal year 2008 levels at least 10% by the end of fiscal year 2011, 20% by the end of fiscal year 2013, and 30% by the end of fiscal year 2015
- **Rate of Diverted Waste from Landfills:** 75% by the end of fiscal year 2012 for State office, construction and demolition debris and other state activities
- **State Government Transportation:** Reduce, from fiscal year 2008 levels, petroleum consumption by 25%, vehicle emissions by 25%, and vehicle miles traveled by 15% by the end of fiscal year 2012
- **Demonstrate that the adoption of responsible policies to minimize our impact on the environment can simultaneously reduce operating expenses, create a more efficient government, and improve overall productivity**

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**Driving Towards Offshore Wind:** Delaware is leading the fight to make offshore wind an energy reality in America. We are collaborating with other states on developing common standards and efficient permitting, creating sustained demand, ensuring a sufficient supply chain, providing needed infrastructure and logistics, and providing incentives to early adopters. For example:

- Delaware completed the **first Power Purchase Agreement** for offshore wind in the U.S., aided by cutting-edge research by the University of Delaware.
- Led by Governor Markell, we have been at the **forefront of offshore wind development and collaboration**, working with the Minerals Management Service (MMS).
- With MMS, Delaware hosted **the first Offshore Wind Task Force** and has been pressing for an expedited process that advances offshore wind quickly with appropriate environmental safeguards.
- Governor Markell is **advocating for an offshore transmission backbone** that would speed the development of wind resources and reduce costs for individual projects.
- Delaware is a leading member of the **new mid-Atlantic offshore wind coalition** with Virginia and Maryland.

**Prioritizing Clean Energy:** We established a loading order for new energy supplies that requires energy efficiency to be considered before new supply-side resources are obtained (cost-effective renewable before traditional fossil fuels).

**Created Energy Efficiency Resource Standards (EERS):** In 2009, Delaware established one of the most aggressive in the country, requiring reductions in energy use of 15% by 2015.

**Piloting Vehicle to Grid (V2G) Technology:** Delaware is an international leader in developing this new and exciting technology that could transform our transportation sector. Our researchers and companies have developed a new way to use electric vehicles—as electrical storage systems for the grid to ensure power availability during peak usage. Delaware is the first state to put in place the policy infrastructure needed to support V2G technology.

**Updated Energy Building Codes:** We increased the energy efficiency requirements for new buildings. The updated code promotes the construction of “zero net energy” homes and office buildings, which consume less energy than they generate.

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**Removed Obstacles to Clean Energy At Home:** We enabled the use of rooftop solar and wind power systems by banning the use of deed restrictions to prohibit installation.

**Established Clear and Fair System for Net Metering:** Citizens can sell the energy they produce at home or on their farm back to the grid to earn Renewable Energy Credits to offset future bills. The value of surplus generation is paid to the homeowner at yearend.

**Co-Founded the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI):** Delaware is one of the original seven states to launch the **nation's first market-based cap and trade program** designed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and raise funds for energy efficiency and conservation.

## **Leveraging Stimulus Funds to Conserve Energy & Create Jobs:**

- ***Clean Diesel Program:*** Retrofitting buses to reduce emissions
- ***Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block:*** Assisting local governments with efficiency and conservation
- ***Energy Efficient Appliance Rebate Program:*** Assisting homeowners with the purchase of efficient appliances
- ***Home Energy Efficiency:*** Conducting energy audits and retrofitting homes
- ***Business, Commercial and Manufacturing Energy Efficiency:*** Supporting energy audits; installation of efficient lighting; updated refrigeration systems; HVAC, motor and process efficiency improvements

## **Leading By Example to Save Money, Create Jobs & Cut Resource Consumption:**

- ***Setting Ambitious Targets:*** In February, the Governor established aggressive energy efficiency, vehicle usage and renewable energy targets for state government (see pg 1).
- ***Implementing Comprehensive Environmental Strategies:*** The State will utilize clear benchmarking; energy audits; installation of renewables; thermostat controls; procurement strategies; design for capital projects that meet or exceed LEED Silver standards; lifecycle-cost analysis for fleet vehicles that includes fossil-fuel externalities; hybrid, electric, biodiesel and/or low-emission vehicles; and travel reductions.
- ***Retrofitting State Buildings:*** Utilizing financing through the state's Sustainable Energy Utility, energy services companies and the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, Delaware is cutting energy use through system modernization.

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## Institutional Innovation

**Created the Nation's First Sustainable Energy Utility:** The SEU serves as a one-stop shop for citizens to receive technical and financial assistance for energy efficiency, conservation and renewable energy—all without relying on tax payers or rate payers for their funding stream.

**Transforming Environmental Permitting:** Our Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control is enhancing permitting efficiencies using LEAN practices and implementing a 60-day deadline for review of applications.

**Accounting for Environmental Externalities:** We are modernizing our methods of accounting for externalities, including health and environmental costs, when evaluating energy options.

**Co-Founded the Mid-Atlantic Regional Council on the Oceans:** MARCO is a regional collaboration of five mid-Atlantic governors to ensure a healthy ocean ecosystem while advancing offshore wind and alternative ocean uses.

For more information, please contact:

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