

# Energy

CREATED BY YOUR STUDENT  
SUSTAINABILITY EDUCATION  
COORDINATORS

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## LINKS

[www.ci.berkeley.ca.us/energy](http://www.ci.berkeley.ca.us/energy)

[www.energy.ca.gov](http://www.energy.ca.gov)

[www.energy.gov](http://www.energy.gov)

[www.energystar.gov](http://www.energystar.gov)

[www.ase.org](http://www.ase.org)

[ceep.udel.edu/ceep](http://ceep.udel.edu/ceep)

[www.eere.energy.gov](http://www.eere.energy.gov)

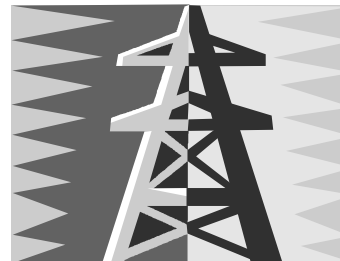
## WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL?

Energy is something that most people have come to depend on for their everyday existence. Energy lights up our living spaces and runs our appliances and electronics, items that most people cannot imagine living without. Just think—what would you do if you could not use your computer, lamps, cell phones, refrigerators and televisions?

Like most resources, our supply of energy is limited and subject to many complicated processes that control its availability. Just think back to California's 2001 energy crunch and you'll see that running out of energy sources is not a distant far-off problem.

In addition to ensuring supply, conservation saves money. A 10% reduction in demand can reduce wholesale power prices by as much as 50%, translating into savings for you, the consumer.

By conserving now, we can ensure that we will have enough to meet our needs in the future without fear of power rationing and constant rolling blackouts.



## HOW CAN I HELP?

- Turn off lights when you leave the room. Likewise, turn off electronics and appliances when not in use.

- Shut down or put your computer on standby when not in use. For easy-to-use software that will put your computer to sleep after a set time, search for "EZ Wizard" at the Energy Star® website or e-mail your SSECs.



- Buy Energy Star® electronics and appliances. These are more

energy efficient, saving both money and the environment.

- Spread the word about energy conservation.
- Write to your local energy company requesting that they look into alternative sources of energy, such as wind, water and solar.
- Don't use hot water when you can use cold—it takes a lot of energy to heat up water.
- Use a power strip and turn it off when the devices plugged into it are not in use—this reduces constant unseen energy draw.

## SOME QUICK FACTS:

- Though accounting for only 5 percent of the world's population, Americans consume 26 percent of the world's energy.
- Total U.S. residential energy consumption is projected to increase 17 percent from 1995 - 2015.
- Worldwide, some 2 billion people are currently without electricity.
- Residential appliances, including heating and cooling equipment and water heaters, consume 90% of all energy used in the U.S. residential sector.
- The earth receives more energy from the sun in just one hour than the world uses in a whole year.
- Energy efficient light bulbs cut waste by 75% and last up to 10 times longer than conventional bulbs.
- California ranks 1st in the use of energy in the residential, commercial and transportation sectors and 3rd in the industrial sector.



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