

THE COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS

RESOLUTION ON RENEWABLE ENERGY DEVELOPMENT AT DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE INSTALLATIONS

Resolution Summary

The Department of Defense (DoD) is the federal government's single largest electricity user, consuming 55 percent of total government use. With more than \$5 billion of its annual budget allotted to purchase energy, the DoD is the largest energy consumer in the nation.

The Defense Department can greatly impact the federal government's overall demand for electricity by incorporating renewable sources of energy such as wind, solar, biomass, landfill gas, ocean thermal and mechanical energy, geothermal, municipal solid waste and new hydroelectric generation capacity.

The Defense Department has made great strides toward increasing its usage of renewable energy sources. In 2005, more than 8 percent of DoD's electricity consumption came from renewable energy that was either self-generated or purchased. That year, the DoD issued an internal memo encouraging its service branches to pursue a goal of generating and/or acquiring 25 percent of electricity from renewable sources by 2025. The DoD has also committed \$17 million in FY 2006 and FY 2007 to support life-cycle, cost-effective renewable energy projects. In addition, the Energy Policy Act of 2005 requires that at least 7.5 percent of the federal government's total energy consumption come from renewable energy sources by 2013.

Opportunities for collaboration with DoD installations may exist for states seeking to encourage renewable energy development. In its March 2006 Renewable Energy Assessment Status Report Update to Congress, the DoD stated that it is interested in facilitating renewable energy projects on its lands, where compatible with missions, through lease arrangements and the use of alternative financing with private sector partners. DoD installations typically are reliable and stable consumers of electricity as well as dependable contributors to states' economies. By coordinating renewable energy portfolio development with the DoD as a major energy consumer, states could reap economic benefits.

State governments can help encourage the development of renewable energy projects in many ways: (1) through financial incentives such as grants, loans, rebates, industry recruitment, bond programs, tax incentives and production incentives; (2) through regulatory incentives such as public benefits funds, renewable portfolio standards, net metering, extension analysis, generation disclosure, contractor licensing, equipment certification, solar/wind access laws, construction and design standards, required utility green power options and green power purchasing/aggregation policies.

Because energy costs greatly impact the military as well as the citizens of each state, and because many state and local economies depend on revenues directly and indirectly

flowing from military facilities and personnel, encouraging renewable energy projects in cooperation with DoD installations is in the best interests of the states and the nation.

Management Directives

- **Management Directive #1:** Encourage governors, state legislatures, and the Department of Defense to engage in discussions about how best to promote renewable energy use and development in states and at Department of Defense installations throughout the United States.

- **Management Directive #2:** The Council of State Governments will send this resolution to the governors and adjutant generals of all 50 states, the Secretary of defense, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and each member of the U.S. Congress.

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**Resolution on Renewable Energy Development at
Department of Defense Installations**

WHEREAS, the Department of Defense (DoD) is the largest single consumer of energy in the United States;

WHEREAS, the long term viability of DoD training and testing installations can be impacted adversely by high energy costs and limited energy resources;

WHEREAS, the DoD has established a goal of generating and/or purchasing 25 percent of its electricity from renewable sources by 2025;

WHEREAS, DoD installations are typically reliable and stable consumers of electricity;

WHEREAS, the DoD is interested in facilitating renewable energy projects on its lands, where compatible with missions;

WHEREAS, state and local economies can benefit by maintaining viable and sustainable military installations within the state;

WHEREAS, an enhanced and expanded renewable energy portfolio can benefit both citizens and governmental entities;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that The Council of State Governments supports the enactment of state and federal financial, regulatory and policy incentives for renewable energy development on or near military installations.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that The Council of State Governments supports programs that encourage the development of renewable energy projects in partnership with DoD installations.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Defense and each service branch identify an official to serve as a point of contact for states to facilitate the development of renewable energy projects on DoD lands.

Adopted this 3rd Day of December, 2006 at the
CSG 2006 Annual Trends and Leadership Forum
In Phoenix, Arizona



Governor Jim Douglas
2006 CSG President



Senate President Earl Ray Tomblin
2006 CSG Chair