

Summary of EPA's 2011 Sustainability Performance

For the second year in a row, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and agencies across the federal government are publicly posting scorecards detailing their sustainability performance. This year's sustainability scorecard includes a range of criteria including energy intensity, water intensity, fleet petroleum use, greenhouse gas pollution, green building practices and renewable energy use.

During 2011, EPA accomplished a number of important achievements in its efforts to lead environmental protection by example:

- The Environmental Protection Agency's Greenhouse Gas Reduction Target for 2020 is 25%. EPA is on track for a 56.9% reduction in 2011. EPA achieved these reductions through major energy efficiency projects at its facilities, improved fleet management practices, installation of videoconferencing hardware and extensive green power purchases.
- EPA continued to be a leader among federal agencies by offsetting 100 percent of its 2011 electricity use with purchased green power and renewable energy certificates (RECs). EPA will continue to purchase 100 percent green power for 2012 and is working to procure green power RECs for 2013. While the scorecard requires that 5% of each agency's energy come from renewable sources, EPA purchased 123% above scorecard requirements in 2011.
- EPA also far exceeded the proposed requirements for reducing industrial, landscaping, and agricultural (ILA) water use set forth in the sustainability criteria. EPA estimates that the amount of non potable water it used in 2011 was 58.6 percent lower than its 2010 baseline.
- Four office buildings that EPA occupies received the ENERGY STAR label in 2011. Currently, all 10 EPA regional offices have received the ENERGY STAR building label, eight of which received it within the last three years.
- In 2011, EPA acquired 153 alternative fuel vehicles (AFVs) and reduced fleet petroleum use by over 32% compared to the required 12% in 2011.

While EPA continues to meet and exceed many of the sustainability criteria, the Agency continues to look for ways to improve on its 2011 performance for 2012. The Agency will continue to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions in 2012 by reducing its fleet by 42 vehicles, and will continue to replace existing fleet vehicles with hybrid and plug-in vehicles. As an agency with over 17,000 employees, EPA's greenhouse gas emissions will continue to be monitored and analyzed for potential areas of reduction. Additional areas for improvement in 2012 include:

- EPA is working with GSA to re-survey EPA's commuters to help track Region 7 commuter emission impacts from the move to the new regional office buildings. EPA will promote vanpools, carpools, and other commuting options to help mitigate Region 7's commuter impacts.
- EPA continues to face challenges with finding E85 alternative fuel availability. The Agency has numerous E85 vehicles, but the fueling infrastructure remains an obstacle for 100% compliance.
- Some EPA facilities are not currently able to obtain waste and recycling weight data. EPA intends to continue to work with facilities that do not have access to data to identify the barriers and possible solutions to obtaining their recycling data.