

**Visioneering Wichita Environmental Sustainability Alliance**  
**Designing a Sustainable Future**  
**Community Discussion on Energy**  
January 27, 2011

**Priorities**

Considering today's presentations and your knowledge, if you could do only one thing to promote **energy conservation and reduce energy use**, what would it be?

- Turn off lights in spaces not in use
- Upgrade home & pay within utility bill
- Peak based pricing
- Improve home electric – AC efficiency
- Education
- Economic awareness
- Stay closer to home, work from home, garden
- Building envelopes
- Fuel efficient vehicles
- Educate
- Consumer incentives
- Regulate cost from energy company
- Incentivize – conservation & efficiency – bill rebates, tax incentives
- Education
- Increase energy costs
- Lose the cost decrease for increased use
- Margin profit controls
- Education/marketing
- It would be to have some energy generation being done by each homeowner & business
- Caulk the house
- Personal efficiency responsibility
- Educate students
- Lighting retro-fits
- Energy audits
- Workforce education
- Finish windows
- Weatherize home
- Efficiency Kansas

Similarly, if you could do only one thing to start using nontraditional **alternative energy source** for potential use, what would it be?

- Automated thermostat control with the energy company
- Small wind for swimming pool
- Tax incentives (economic incentives)
- Solar batteries for some power usage
- Solar panels

- Something solar
- PV panels
- Wind generator or solar thermal
- Net metering
- Solar thermal
- Vertical wind generator
- Full net metering
- Increase energy efficiency
- Solar
- Solar – I'm already investigating this for my home
- Riding a bike – but that requires changing the built environment
- Buy local, grow local
- Biking
- Solar roof
- Carpooling
- City Planning Policy added
- Smart power strips, other home renovations
- E-star appliances
- Solar
- Solar x 3
- Geothermal
- Pedal power

What fuel source(s) for electrical generation should our region use? (Circle all that apply)

- A. Coal - 0
- B. Natural Gas - 1
- C. Petroleum - 0
- D. Nuclear Power - 2
- E. Wind - 7
- F. Solar - 7
- G. Other alternatives - 2
- H. ALL - 7
- I. That should be up to Westar

*Comments:*

- Increase use of wind and solar
- Other – waste pyrolysis
- Up to Westar & government
- Decrease coal
- Kansas is windy!
- If consumer was involved in selecting which to use they would be more invested in energy efficiency
- Increase sun, buy local, not much coal
- Wind when costs are more comparable
- All with increasing solar

What fuel source(s) for personal and fleet vehicles should be used in the area? (Circle all that apply)

- A. Gasoline - 1
- B. Diesel - 1
- C. Ethanol - 2
- D. Electricity - 7
- E. Biodiesel - 4
- F. Compress Natural Gas (CNG) - 3
- G. Other alternatives - 2
- H. ALL - 2
- I. That should be up to the suppliers

*Comments:*

- Gas hybrid
- Increase d & f, decrease fossil fuels
- Electricity – only for short range trips
- Based on what cars used for
- Short term should be electric

## **Resources**

What are you currently doing to promote energy conservation and reduce energy use in our region?

- A. As an individual?
  - Conscience of electrical use
  - Car selection
  - Improve efficiency - geothermal heat pump, 'smart' thermostat
  - Looking at solar heating
  - Looking at solid waste utilization
  - Insulate house
  - Turning off all non-essential devices
  - Added extra insulation – passive solar
  - Thermostat
  - Plan trips
  - Thermostats
  - Added insulation
  - New furnace
  - Westar get back
  - Recycle at home
  - Weather striping
  - Insulation
  - Decreased hot water tank
  - Programmable thermostat
  - Light bulbs
  - Programmable thermostats
  - Recycling
  - Retroing

- Insulation
- Programmable thermostats for HVAC and my home is zoned
- Vampire energy users on timers & power strips
- Almost all lights are LEDs or fluorescents
- Recycle
- Conserve water
- Water pipes insulated
- Added extra insulation
- Changing bulbs, power strips
- E-star appliances
- Education
- Education
- Practice personal responsibility

B. As a business organization?

- Automated lighting, efficient windows, bathroom fixture controls
- Teaching sustainable energy at Hutchinson Community College
- Promotional use of biomass (specifically municipal solid waste) as local energy source
- VESA spread the word
- EARTH – educating middle schoolers about environmental education (soil, air, water, natural resources)
- Consulting firm – green choices, LEED design, SSI, trail
- Cessna – reduce phantom loads, energy audits internally & fuel use with new engine & design
- EARTH – EE program for MS & HS
- ELC starting no idling & waste wise program
- Water production must begin to use more renewable energy
- Sewer wastes can be used to generate energy
- Solar can be used to great advantage with water production, as well as wind
- Open spaces of the sewage treatment plants are ideal for a wind generator
- Bio-gas generation off sewer plants and put back into the water treatment
- Our speed limits
- Education – citizen, local governments
- Education – Green Team
- Turn off printer
- Education

**Opportunities/Collaboration:**

What **should** we all be doing – by working together in new ways:

A. to increase energy efficiency in our region?

- Develop policies & incentives
- Weatherize buildings
- Publicize the 'bill financing' of making your home more efficient

- Load based billing
- Policy statement goal for efficiency
- One source for consumers to go for retro money & info
- Wichita Eagle “green article” regularly in paper
  - Topics like conserving, home climate energy, solar panels, phone apps
- Insulate, insulate
- Work close to home/less days
- Education
- More CFL’s etc.
- Educate/consumer incentives to encourage the consumer to save energy at home, naturally work will follow
- Talking about it
- Work towards policy changes
- Educate
- It’s all about \$ - promote options
- Water conservation must be pushed as a point of energy conservation – especially heated water
- Reduce pollutants from energy generation so as to have lower costs when cleaning water (air pollutants pollute water)
- Collective impact – identify decision makers, policy makers
- Information sharing
- Government led audits
- Water conservation
- Education, communication

B. to promote alternative energy resources in our region?

- Invest in alternative energy resources including education
- Economic incentives
- Promote wind & solar for homes
- Educate others about recycling/reduction
- Write to educate self on PV, wind & geothermal
- Conferences/educate – share research with local groups
- Policy & state support is crucial to set right tone for state
- Social marketing
- Build sidewalks – make neighborhoods walkable/bikeable
- Policy changes
- Encourage creativity (don’t try to make one size fit all)
- Thinking long-term over short-term
- Recruit wind energy manufacturing
- Recruit alternative energy manufacturers to come to our region

C. to increase energy security with adequate, affordable energy resource for our region, state and nation for the future?

- Use wind, solar, natural gas
- Look at global realities
- Electric transportation/distribution lines
- Better improvements in transmission
- Clean energy policy
- Regional incentives, policy at the national level – long term

**Evaluation:**

How would you measure success when it comes to energy issues in our region?

- Establish baseline data, measure current progress, set goals, measure results
- % clean
- See pay as you throw or use
- People would change
- People actually implementing energy efficient technologies & techniques
- People paying less for their energy use
- Fewer coal power plants & more alternative sources
- Reductions in energy use while achieving economic development
- 50% reduction in pre-consumer energy loss
- Set verifiable goals and benchmarks for reduction in “e” usage