

<http://energy.state.nv.us/>

The following activities have taken place in Nevada as a result of the SEP program.

The Nevada State Energy Assurance Plan was updated to follow the latest guidelines established by NASEO. The plan is ready for review by the surrounding states of Arizona, California, Idaho, Oregon and Utah in preparation of a peer review to be held later this year. The peer review will evaluate the interactions between these states and Nevada in case of emergencies and determine the effects of an energy emergency in the surrounding states on each other.

The Nevada Rural Development Council (NRDC) has established a rural energy outreach committee with the support of the Nevada State Office of Energy (NSOE). They have connections with the Nevada Association of Counties, the Farm Bureau, the Cattlemen's Association, the Dairy Association and the extension service that allows better communication with rural Nevada on energy issues. The NRDC has a full time director that can spend a great portion of his time on these rural issues.

Geothermal Outreach has been centered with the Nevada Division of Minerals and the Great Basin Center for Geothermal Energy with SEP funding through NSOE. Outreach education workshops have been held that presented new geologic, geochemical and geophysical information pertinent to evaluating potential geothermal resources. This information has been helpful in expanding the Nevada geothermal energy utilization. In the past, geothermal outreach has taken place with geothermal trade missions to Idaho, Alaska and the native American tribes in the region. There is a Renewable Energy Center (REC) at the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR) Redfield Campus where geothermal fluids will be used for heating the campus and high temperature fluids will be available for research projects.

WindPowering America has been active in Nevada. While no utility scale turbines have been installed, there are still successful efforts being made. The Investor Owned Utilities have added renewable energy individuals to their staff that are well versed in wind. A workshop was held in July 2006 with almost 200 in attendance. The significant result of the workshop was the meeting acted as a catalyst for BLM, DoD, DOE, DHS, FAA, USFS and the energy office to get together to discuss issues concerning military radar and wind development in Nevada. This was followed by a similar meeting sponsored by the National Wind Coordinating Coalition that brought the military issue to the forefront.

There are approximately 9 schools in urban and rural settings that have kiosks showing real-time displays of wind and solar energy that have an educational curriculum attached. The science teachers in each school were very excited about this teaching opportunity. The anemometer loan program is still active with over 13 anemometers in use.

The educational component of renewable energy is one of the more interesting segments of the SEP program. The community college system in Nevada has established a cooperative network to coordinate and develop an accelerated, statewide Industrial Energy Efficiency program. The program provides training for current and future employees working within industries that consume a high level of energy resources through their operations in Nevada. An additional program through the Department of Labor had the Desert Research Institute (DRI), DRI, the Redfield Campus, and NSOE working on activities to train technicians to support the renewable energy activities in the State. The Clark County School District (in Las Vegas) is moving forward on their plan to reduce their utility bill by \$6.5 million this year. They have incorporated revised scheduling, education, efficient building design and renewable energy to accomplish this. This school district builds a new school each month. SEP funding got this activity going.

The Clean Cities activities in the state consist of two coalitions, one in the north and one in the south. In the Las Vegas area they boast of over 7,000 alternative fueled vehicles and have 2 hydrogen fueling facilities along with biodiesel, E-85, propane and compressed natural gas. An effort is going forward to combine the northern coalition with Lake Tahoe to expand the use of alternative fuels. The NSOE is working with rural school districts and the Nevada Department of Environmental Protection (NDEP) in a clean school bus program where older busses are identified for an emission controls update. Even though this was an earmark through the Environmental Protection Agency, SEP training and technical awareness made this possible. Nevada currently displaces 45 million gallons of fossil fuels with alternatives.

Codes and Standards have been successful in that the state now uses the IECC 2006 code in all areas that do not have codes specified. Those jurisdictions that have existing codes, are updating to newer codes. An incentive is in place to allow up to 10 years of tax abatement for up to 50% of the real estate tax on new construction, retrofits and core and shell construction if the buildings comply with LEED silver or better. The present legislative session is considering the inclusion of residential buildings in the program.