

Sul Ross State University
Energy Conservation Plan
Adopted November 29, 2005
Revised April 13, 2006

1. Background

Executive Order RP49 - October 27, 2005, requires state agencies to submit an Energy Conservation Plan to the Office of the Governor and the Legislative Budget Board no later than December 1, 2005. Each state agency is required to develop a plan for conserving energy and shall set a percentage goal for reducing its usage of electricity, gasoline and natural gas. This plan is submitted in accordance with the requirements of the Executive Order.

2. Purpose

The purpose of this plan is to state the university's goal for reducing usage of electricity, gasoline and natural gas and to set policy and operational guidelines for meeting the goal.

3. Goal

a. Using FY 2005 as the baseline it is the university's goal to reduce its energy usage by 3% by September 1, 2007, and then reassess and set new energy reduction goals. Energy will be measured and reported on a per unit basis to account for growth or shrinkage of facilities and the vehicle fleet.

Electricity will be measured in kilowatt-hrs (KWH) and reported in KWH/GSF (gross square foot).

Natural gas will be measured in Thousands of British Thermal Units (KBTU) and reported in KBTU/GSF.

Gasoline will be measured in gallons (GAL) and reported in MPG/vehicle (miles per gallon per fleet vehicle). Reporting will not include emergency vehicles.

b. Reports will be made quarterly commencing April 1, 2006. The first quarter reported for the university will be September-November 2005.

4. Policy

a. University facilities will be designed, constructed, renovated, maintained and operated in accordance with the State Energy Conservation Guidelines.

b. The Physical Plant Director and Utilities Superintendent will monitor activities directed by this plan, pursue additional strategies to reduce energy consumption, and be responsible for providing required reporting.

c. The Director of Residential Living will establish an energy conservation education program within the Residence Halls and Apartments.

d. The Physical Plant Director and General Services Superintendent will purchase new vehicles with the highest fuel efficiency consistent with the ability to meet mission needs. A vehicle maintenance program has been established to maximize fuel efficiency. Energy inefficient vehicles will be replaced as soon as possible.

e. The Director of the University Department of Public Safety will ensure that night officers turn off all lighted rooms not in use while conducting nightly rounds

f. The Utilities Superintendent will ensure maximum practical use of the Energy Management System to achieve energy savings.

g. Supervisors will seek to reduce energy in the workplace by using the suggestions listed in Appendix I as appropriate for the individual workplace. Supervisors will enforce the mandatory conservation measures listed in paragraph 5.

5. Conservation Measures

a. The following conservation measures are mandatory and are part of ongoing operations:

- Office computers, monitors, printers, speakers and other appropriate equipment should be turned off at night and on weekends when not in use.
- All radios, calculators, coffee pots, copiers, etc., should be turned off when not in use
- Space temperatures will be maintained at a maximum 74 degrees during heating season and a minimum 74 degrees during cooling season.
- All lights in offices and classrooms should be turned off when unoccupied.
- The use of electric fans, space heaters, or other electronic equipment in an effort to change space temperature set in bullet 3 above is prohibited.
- Outside windows and doors are to be closed when heating and cooling systems are in operation.
- The Physical Plant Director and Grounds Superintendent will continue to improve the campus irrigation program to maximize efficiency.

b. The following conservation measures shall be implemented as funds are available:

- Add additional monitoring and control points to the Energy Monitoring and Control System.
- Fund energy savings projects with payback periods of seven years or less.
- Continue the program to retrofit lighting systems with energy efficient T-8 fluorescent lighting with electronic ballasts.
- Conduct energy audits of buildings.
- Conduct energy audit of underground utilities, starting with the steam and hot water distributions systems.
- Where practical, add occupancy sensors that will turn out the lights after a period of 15 minutes of non-use.
- Perform steam trap survey
- Provide metering of buildings
- Include commissioning of buildings for all new construction and major renovations.

APPENDIX I

SUGGESTED CONSERVATION MEASURES

- Use natural light whenever possible. Turn off light near windows when daylight is adequate.
- Make sure that air vent grills are not blocked.

EXTREME OPTIONS TO CONSIDER

- Require vending machine operators to turn off advertising lighting in the machines.
- Lower lighting levels on campus.
- Change winter heating level to maximum of 68 degrees and raise summer cooling level to minimum of 76 degrees.
- Change the color of our roofs to reflect more heat.
- Consolidate night classes into fewer buildings.
- Require students to vacate residence halls during winter and spring breaks.
- Set building operating schedules and enforce. Grant few exceptions.
- Avoid scheduling athletics and recreation sports at night.
- Reduce areas on campus to be irrigated.