

Humboldt County Draft General Plan --Chapter 12. Energy Element

E-G1. Countywide Strategic Energy Planning. An effective energy strategy based on self-sufficiency, development of renewable energy resources and energy conservation that is actively implemented countywide through Climate Action Plans, General Plans and the Redwood Coast Energy Authority's Comprehensive Energy Action Plan.

Policies	Standards	Implementation Measures
<p>E-P1. Land Use and Development Review. The County shall adopt a residential and commercial energy conservation ordinance that establishes energy conservation incentives and performance standards exceeding state mandates for building construction, retrofit and sales. <i>(Alternative A Version)</i></p> <p>E-P15. Wind Energy Overlay Zone. The County shall develop a wind energy overlay zone to protect potential wind energy sites identified as having "excellent" wind energy potential by the California Department of Water Resources in their Humboldt County Wind Resource Map (1985). <i>(Alternative A Policy)</i></p> <p>E-P7. County Government Energy Consumption. The County government shall reduce building and transportation energy consumption by implementing energy conservation measures and purchasing renewable energy and energy efficient equipment and vehicles whenever cost-effective. Conservation and renewable energy investments should be planned and implemented in accordance with and performance-based action plan and County Greenhouse Gas Emission Reduction goals.</p> <p>E-P8. County Building Design Standards. Design, construct and operate all new and renovated County-owned facilities to U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) "Silver" or better energy efficiency standards consistent with State Executive Order S-20-04, or to similar California Green Building Standards.</p> <p>E-P9. Electrical Transmission. Promote PG&E funded capacity</p>	<p>E-S6. Consistency with Climate Action Plan. The County's implementation of the Redwood Energy Authority (RCEA) Comprehensive Action Plan for Energy shall be consistent with the Board-adopted Climate Action Plan.</p>	<p>E-IM12. Existing Regulations. Assess and revise as necessary the existing subdivision, zoning, and building code implications associated with the potential development of renewable energy and distributed energy generation facilities and related electrical transmission lines. <i>(Modified Alternative A Implementation Measure)</i></p> <p>E-IM13. Renewable Energy Permitting Process. Develop a clear permit process to provide for the installation of renewable energy and distributed energy generation systems. Identify zones where renewable energy and distributed energy generation facilities will be allowed as a permitted use. Identify small-scale systems that meet annual onsite energy needs, and that would not require a use permit. Zoning regulations should address the following types of renewable energy and distributed energy generation facilities: commercial wind farms, wave and tidal energy facilities, biomass energy facilities, biogas energy facilities, small-scale hydroelectric facilities, cogeneration and distributed generation facilities, and solar electric and solar heating facilities. <i>(Modified Alternative A Implementation Measure)</i></p> <p>E-IM14. Energy Conservation and Green Building Ordinance. The County shall adopt a residential and commercial energy conservation and green building ordinance that establishes energy conservation incentives and performance standards exceeding state mandates for building construction and retrofit. <i>(Modified Alternative A Implementation Measure)</i></p> <p>E-IM1. Alternative Energy Use. Develop or modify regulations that</p>

E-G1. Countywide Strategic Energy Planning. An effective energy strategy based on self-sufficiency, development of renewable energy resources and energy conservation that is actively implemented countywide through Climate Action Plans, General Plans and the Redwood Coast Energy Authority’s Comprehensive Energy Action Plan.

<p><u>upgrades to electric distribution lines to facilitate distributed renewable energy production and electricity export from the county.</u></p> <p><u>E-P9x. Electricity Buyback. Support revisions to the electricity buyback program that encourages more distributed local generation and more equitably compensates such generation.</u></p>		<p>eliminate obstacles to alternative energy use. Regulations may include, but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Allowing height exceptions for solar equipment. B. Allowing alternative heating and cooling systems components such as collectors, shading louvers, or reflectors to project into yards in a manner similar to cornices and canopies. C. Defining solar heating systems and cogeneration facilities as accessory uses. D. Preventing planned development covenants, conditions, and restrictions (CC&Rs) from unreasonably restricting alternative energy systems. <p>E-IM2. Comprehensive Action Plan for Energy. Seek funding and support efforts to implement the Redwood Coast Energy Authority (RCEA) Comprehensive Action Plan for Energy., as amended.</p> <p>E-IM3. County Energy Consumption Reduction. Develop a comprehensive program to reduce County energy consumption in operations including: public buildings and facilities, street lighting, vehicle fleet management, equipment procurement, and employee energy awareness program.</p> <p>E-IM4. Install County Systems. Pursue the installation of cost-effective conservation measures, renewable energy systems, cogeneration systems, and distributed energy systems in County facilities.</p> <p><u>E-IM-10. County Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Improvements Plan.</u> <u>The County shall develop and maintain a performance-based action plan to guide the implementation of energy efficiency and renewable energy improvements in county operations.</u></p>
--	--	--

E-G1. Countywide Strategic Energy Planning. An effective energy strategy based on self-sufficiency, development of renewable energy resources and energy conservation that is actively implemented countywide through Climate Action Plans, General Plans and the Redwood Coast Energy Authority’s Comprehensive Energy Action Plan.

		<p><u>E-IM11. County Facility Efficiency and Alternative Energy Fund.</u> <u>Establish a “County facility efficiency and alternative energy fund” to support implementation of County energy efficiency and alternative energy investments in County owned or operated facilities. The fund would receive up to 75% of the County’s monetary savings from improved County energy efficiency and conservation practices. The estimate of monetary savings will be based on the likely energy costs that would have been incurred had the energy efficiency measures and/or conservation practices not been implemented.</u></p>
--	--	--

E-G2. Increase Energy Efficiency and Conservation. Decrease energy consumption through increased energy conservation and efficiency in building, transportation, business, industry, government, water and waste management.

Policies	Standards	Implementation Measures
<p><u>E-P10. Transportation Management Plans.</u> Major commercial, business, industrial, or mixed-use facility developments shall be required to submit a transportation management plan that addresses energy conservation measures such as connectivity to alternative transportation modes; preferential parking for carpools, vanpools, motorcycles, mopeds, and bicycles; shuttle services; alternative fueling stations; transit passes; bike lockers; and locker-room facilities. (Modified Alternative A Policy)</p> <p><u>E-P11. Energy-efficient Landscape Design.</u> Require energy-efficient landscape design in development projects, subdivisions, and in new and existing streets and parking areas in order to reduce</p>		<p><u>E-IM5. Wind Energy Development.</u> Develop wind-permitting guidelines for residential and small commercial-scale wind energy systems. Adopt and modify, as appropriate, the guidelines established in California State Law AB 1207. Educate the public about the benefits of small-scale wind energy systems.</p> <p><u>E-IM6. Energy-conserving Landscaping.</u> Consider the use of natural and drought-resistant planting materials and efficient irrigation systems and the siting of trees to reduce energy demand in the preparation of the County landscaping ordinance.</p> <p><u>E-IM9. Develop Incentives for Private Sector.</u> Develop incentives</p>

Humboldt County Draft General Plan --Chapter 12. Energy Element

E-G2. Increase Energy Efficiency and Conservation. Decrease energy consumption through increased energy conservation and efficiency in building, transportation, business, industry, government, water and waste management.		
<p><u>impervious surfaces, minimize heat and glare, control soil erosion, conserve water, and promote pedestrian safety and vehicular traffic calming measures.</u> Split Vote 3-2 (Modified Alternative A Policy)</p> <p>E-P13. Water Efficiency. Promote the efficient use of water in residences, businesses, industries, and agriculture by requiring water-saving plumbing and landscaping devices in new developments or plumbing-related remodels. (Modified Alternative A Version)</p>		<p><u>to encourage the installation of cost-effective energy efficiency measures, distributed generation, and solar electric and solar heating systems in all new construction and building retrofits. Develop incentives that support the development and implementation of Electric Vehicle (EV) charging stations and heat pumps in new commercial developments and retrofits. Incentives may include: density bonuses, fast-track permitting, fee reductions, expedited low-cost approval of standardized designs, property tax exemptions, sales tax rebates, and award programs that recognize builders and developers for well-designed systems.</u></p>

E-G3. Supply of Energy from Local Renewable Sources. Increased local energy supply from a distributed and diverse array of renewable energy sources and providers available for local purchases and export.		
Policies	Standards	Implementation Measures
<p>E-P3. Local Energy Supply. The County shall support energy development projects including biomass, wind, solar, “run of the river” hydro-electric, and ocean energy, consistent with this Plan that increase local management and ownership of energy supply and decrease expenditures for imported energy. (Modified Alternative A Version)</p>		<p>E-IM7. Small Hydroelectric Development. Support local efforts to develop cost-effective, environmentally sensitive, small-scale, run-of-the-river hydroelectric facilities in the County.</p>

No Goals.		
Policies	Standards	Implementation Measures
<p>E-P2. Oil and Gas Development. Oil and gas development shall be permitted consistent with the following:</p> <p>A. The development is performed safely and consistent with the geologic conditions of the well site.</p> <p>B. New or expanded facilities related to such development are</p>	<p>E-S1. Oil and Gas.</p> <p>A. Development associated with onshore oil and gas wells shall be conditionally permitted by a conditional use permit in agricultural, timber, rural lands, industrial general, and resource-related industrial land use classifications.</p> <p>B. A permit will be required for each drill site and a separate</p>	

Humboldt County Draft General Plan --Chapter 12. Energy Element

consolidated, to the maximum extent feasible and legally permissible, unless consolidation will have adverse environmental consequences and will not significantly reduce the number of producing wells, support facilities, or sites required to produce the reservoir economically and with minimal environmental impacts.

C. Such development will not cause or contribute to subsidence hazards unless it is determined that adequate measures will be undertaken to prevent damage from such subsidence.

D. Hydraulic fracturing for release and recovery of hydrocarbons is prohibited.

permit will be required for production facilities. Additional wells proposed for an approved drill site may be administratively approved provided that they can be accomplished within the limitations and conditions of the original use permit for the drill site.

E-S5. Electrical Transmission Lines.

- A. Transmission line rights-of-way shall be routed to minimize impacts on the viewshed in the coastal zone, especially in highly scenic areas, and to avoid locations that are on or near habitat, recreational, or archaeological resources, whenever feasible. Scarring, grading, or other vegetative removal shall be minimized and revegetated with plants similar to those in the area.
- B. Where above-ground transmission line placement would unavoidably affect views, underground placement shall be required where it is technically and economically feasible, unless it can be shown that other alternatives are less environmentally damaging. When above-ground facilities are necessary, design of the support towers shall be compatible with the surroundings to the extent safety and economic considerations allow.
- C. Above-ground transmission lines should be sited so as to minimize visual impacts.
- D. Siting of transmission lines should avoid the crests of roadways to minimize their visibility on distant views. Where visual impacts would be minimized, lines should cross the roadway at a downhill low elevation site or a curve in the road.
- E. New major steel tower electrical transmission facilities should be consolidated with existing electrical steel-tower transmission facilities unless there are social, aesthetic, or significant economic concerns.
- F. Existing rights-of-way should be utilized for other related utilities to provide consolidated corridors wherever such uses are compatible or feasible.
- G. Access and construction roads should be located to minimize landform alterations. Road grades and alignments should follow the contour of the land with smooth, gradual curves where possible.

