

USM PROGRESS TOWARD STATE ENVIRONMENTAL GOALS

Revised 2/5/13

In 2007, all USM institutions of the USM signed the American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment (ACUPCC). This program also helps institutions achieve State goals for reductions in energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions. Presidents at all institutions agreed to publicly report their progress toward climate neutrality through a variety of programs and practices such as:

- Building to high efficiency "green" building standards
- Adopting an energy-efficient appliance and environmentally friendly procurement practices
- Encouraging use of and provide access to public transportation
- Purchasing or producing the energy required by the institution from renewable sources.
- Reducing energy consumption through energy performance contracts and other programs
- Supporting sustainability in all aspects of institutional operation, research and education
- Adopting waste minimization practices, including reporting recycling rates toward State goals

Implementation of the Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Act of 2009

In 2009, Maryland Governor O'Malley and the Maryland General Assembly passed the Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Act of 2009 (GGRA). The law requires the State to develop and implement a Plan (the GGRA Plan or the Plan) to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions 25 percent from a 2006 baseline by 2020. The State's goal for all segments of higher education (including USM) totals 570,000 metric tons of carbon (MTC_{Co2e}) by 2020. **To-date, the institutions of the USM alone have achieved a combined (documented and reported) reduction in greenhouse gas reduction of nearly 83,000 MTC_{Co2e}.** Of particular interest is that, during a period when full-time enrollment grew by 20%, carbon emissions per FTE student stayed relatively level, while emissions per gross square feet of building space dropped dramatically, by over 6 tons per 1,000 GSF.

Achieving State Recycling Rates

Recycling is a huge, student-driven program on every USM campus. USM institutions regularly place well in national recycling competitions. **Institutions of the USM last year achieved a 37% recycling rate—far ahead of the State-mandated 30% rate for the upcoming year, 2013** and well on track to achieving the State's goal of 40% by 2015.

Renewable Energy at USM

Jumpstarted by the University of Maryland Eastern Shore's 2MW solar farm, installed in 2009, USM in collaboration with the Department of General Services has added an additional 15MW of solar capacity from a project built at Mt. St. Mary's College through a competitive renewable solicitation called "Clean Horizons." In addition to the large solar project, two wind projects were also added under Clean Horizons, 55MW of land based wind in West Virginia, and 10MW of land based wind in Western Maryland.

In 2011, both UMCP and Coppin State added campus solar photovoltaic totaling 630kW and 500kW respectively at each campus. Most recently, USM and DGS announced plans to award a contract minimum of 10MW of poultry litter derived energy to a project on the Eastern Shore.

In total, **USM institutions have committed to over 30MW of renewable energy which supply approximately 20% of the energy needs of the system institutions.** There are additional efforts planned for 2013 to bring additional solar PV projects to institutions, as well as plans to pursue biomass produced energy. Of course, USM will also plan to buy a portion off take of any off shore wind projects in our effort to continue to increase our supply of renewable energy from diversified technologies.