

**Climate Energy and Environment Policy Committee
PROPOSED 2013-2016 ACTION PLAN**

Regional Greenhouse Gas Reduction

Goal: To reduce the region's greenhouse gas emissions to 20% below 2005 levels by 2020.

Implementation measures:

Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Inventories and Plans	
1	100% of jurisdictions complete GHG inventories for government operations.
2	100% of jurisdictions complete community-wide GHG inventories.
3	100% of jurisdictions adopt GHG emission reduction plans for government operations.
4	50% of jurisdictions adopt plans to reduce GHG emissions community-wide.

Built Environment and Infrastructure

Goal: To reduce non-transportation energy consumption, which accounts for two thirds of the region's greenhouse gas emissions, by 20% below 2005 levels by 2020.

Implementation Measures:

Energy Efficiency	
5	100% of jurisdictions track and benchmark energy performance in all government buildings and participate in a regional EPA Portfolio Manager Master Account.
6	60% of jurisdictions disclose energy performance of all government buildings.
7	100% of jurisdictions prepare an energy plan for local government facilities.
8	Jurisdictions perform energy audits of local government facilities.
9	50% of jurisdictions participate in US DOE Better Buildings Challenge which includes pledging to reduce 20% energy use in building(s).
10	50% of jurisdictions develop a policy or ordinance to increase the energy efficiency of outdoor lighting in appropriate areas such as streets, parking lots, parks and/or signage.
11	At least 3 jurisdictions continue implementation of Integrated Community Energy Planning efforts, including active consideration of deploying combined heat and power, district energy, and/or microgrid systems.
12	At least 2 jurisdictions encourage private commercial building owners to benchmark energy performance using USGBC's Building Performance Partnership .
13	2% of households region-wide participate in Home Performance with Energy Star Program (home energy assessments and retrofits).
Energy Financing	
14	Develop 2 new financing programs to support sustainable building retrofit programs for energy efficiency.
15	Support public-private partnership initiatives focused on securing 3rd party private sector financing for building retrofits.
16	One community pilots a residential "Solarize" volume purchasing program (like Solarize Portland).

High Performance/Green Building	
17	100% of jurisdictions adopt a green building policy.
18	35% of jurisdictions implement an affordable housing green rehabilitation program.
19	35% of jurisdictions offer incentives for commercial and residential buildings certified by a high efficiency building green rating system (e.g. LEED, ENERGY STAR, EarthCraft, Green Globes, etc) such as expediting development review process, offering reduced/waivers of development fees and/or density bonuses.
20	35% of jurisdictions outline a policy to implement green or “energy-aligned” lease terms and requirements in contract agreements for leased public spaces and/or facilities.
Water Resources	
21	75% of potable water and wastewater entities (i.e. local government or utilities) in the COG region implement energy efficiency measures, alternative energy and/or renewable energy generation at their facilities.
22	30% of local governments and /or wastewater utilities implement a rainwater capture/reuse or wastewater reuse project.

Renewable Energy

Goal: To increase renewable energy production in line with state Renewable Portfolio Standards, meeting 10% of regional electricity consumption with power from renewable sources by 2016.ⁱ

Implementation Measures:

Renewable Energy	
23	5,000 residential, commercial or government buildings to have renewable energy systems installed.
24	100% of jurisdictions have renewable energy systems on local government property.
25	100% of jurisdictions become an EPA Green Power Partner .
26	25% of jurisdictions become an EPA Green Power Community Partner .
27	Implement two regional pilot projects promoting a renewable energy park.

Transportation and Land Use

Goal: To minimize the greenhouse gas impact of our transportation system, which contributes one third of regional emissions, by reducing vehicle miles travelled and increasing the use of alternative fuel and high efficiency vehicles.

Implementation Measures:

Transportation	
28	100% of jurisdictions have idling regulations and enforce them, as reflected through review of citations and education/ outreach.
29	100% of jurisdictions offer a commuter options program (telework, flex time, alternative work schedule, car pool, van pool, guaranteed ride home, bike/pedestrian, and/or financial incentive) for their employees.

30	100% of jurisdictions have a commuter options program (telework, flex time, alternative work schedule, car pool, van pool, guaranteed ride home, bike/pedestrian, and/or financial incentive) for residents and businesses operating in their jurisdiction.
31	100% of jurisdictions adopt transportation demand management plans in activity center(s).
32	100% of jurisdictions adopt and implement a bicycle/pedestrian plan.
33	Jurisdictions with existing or planned Metrorail access invest in bicycle and pedestrian facilities that increase access to existing stations.
34	75% of jurisdictions adopt a complete streets policy .
35	75% of jurisdictions adopt a green fleet policy.
36	75% of jurisdictions implement alternative fuel vehicle infrastructure projects (e.g, natural gas, biofuel, electric, hydrogen).
37	25% of jurisdictions participate in car sharing programs, such as Zip Car, as an alternative to expanding fleet.
Land Use	
38	100% of jurisdictions with land use authority adopt land use plans that allow for and incentivize walkable, higher density, mixed use, mixed income and/or transit oriented development in activity centers.
39	75% of jurisdictions identify, promote and incentivize the redevelopment of greyfield and/or brownfield sites.
40	75% of jurisdictions have one or more of its facilities at a former greyfield and/or brownfield site(s).
41	Jurisdictions implement transfer of development rights policies/programs.

Sustainability and Resiliency

Goal: To increase the resiliency and sustainability of the region's infrastructure, economy, and environment.

Implementation Measures:

Climate Resiliency	
42	Jurisdictions assess their community's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change.
43	Jurisdictions develop and adopt strategies to adapt to the impacts of climate change/increase the community's resiliency to climate impacts.
44	State, regional and local agencies responsible for transportation and utility infrastructure assess vulnerability of critical assets.
Energy Security	
45	50% of jurisdictions apply the energy assurance planning framework and related tools in a collaborative process to assess the potential role of integrated energy planning, energy efficiency, distributed generation, grid modernization, and alternative power systems, including renewable energy strategies, to enhance community resiliency and energy security.
Green Infrastructure	
46	75% of jurisdictions implement a plan to preserve and enhance ecologically valuable green spaces (such as forests, wetlands, stream buffers) in urban, suburban and rural areas, such as a green infrastructure plan, natural resource management plan, or green space plan.
47	100% of jurisdictions in the region are a Tree City USA .
48	50% of jurisdictions adopt shade tree policies for parking lots (e.g.. 50% shade coverage of

	parking stalls within 15 years)
49	50% of jurisdictions have a green roof located on government property.
50	35% of jurisdictions adopt a tree canopy/forest cover goal.
51	Jurisdictions adopt a green streets policy .
Green and Local Economies	
52	60% of local governments to adopt green purchasing policies.
53	75% of jurisdictions provide public land and/or support for community gardens.
54	50% of jurisdictions allow for and encourage urban agriculture in zoning codes, where appropriate.
55	Jurisdictions adopt policies/implement tools that preserve working farmland, where appropriate.
Waste Reduction and Recycling	
56	Increase diversion rate (percent of waste diverted from landfills/incinerators) from 30% to 40%. Divert 50% of solid waste in the region from disposal.
57	Jurisdictions provide sufficient educational, technical, and logistical support to public schools to ensure that recycling is successful.
58	Jurisdictions no longer collect grass and leaf waste curbside in plastic bags – will be collected loose or in paper bags.
59	Jurisdictions support establishment of sufficient public or private regional capacity for organics (grass, leaf, and food) composting.

Outreach

Goal: To improve public understanding of climate change and promote positive change in individual and institutional behaviors to reduce energy use and greenhouse gas emissions.

Implementation Measures:

Outreach	
60	50% of jurisdictions promote existing and/or provide new incentives for consumer purchase of renewable energy generation capacity and/or renewable energy credits.
61	50% of jurisdictions promote existing and/or provide new incentives for consumer participation in energy efficiency and grid reliability programs such as demand response, smart metering, etc.
62	50% of jurisdictions promote existing and/or provide new incentives for consumer purchase of energy efficient appliances which must be, at a minimum, ENERGY STAR rated.
63	50% of jurisdictions implement challenge or pledge programs for energy and sustainability aimed at the community and citizens.
64	50% of jurisdictions implement green business challenges or certifications for businesses and employees in the region.
65	35% of jurisdictions develop an employee education program on energy/sustainability policies and practices at work and home.

ⁱ 10% represents the weighted average of renewable portfolio standards impacting the COG region: mandatory standards in MD and DC, and a voluntary standard in VA. The goals are weighted according to relative share of regional electricity consumption by jurisdictions in each state.