



State Gov Expands Energy Savings and Recycling Programs

This year has been marked by several major initiatives and achievements by our state government in its ongoing commitment to conserve energy and resources in its buildings and operations. The

State Department of Central Services (DCS) in Oklahoma City recently tapped into natural energy in a big way, gained a prestigious award and expanded its recycling program.

Last January, two 10kW wind turbines were installed in the Capital Complex on the Governor's mansion grounds and near the Department of Human Services Building (HSB) that are expected to produce at least 15,000 kW annually. Plans exist for the HSB to feature a state-of-the-art Building Management System, geothermal heating/cooling system, energy-efficient lighting to facilitate light harvesting, highly reflective roofing, and photo-voltaic solar panels.

The DCS was named an ENERGY STAR Leader last April by the Environmental Protection Agency for improving the energy efficiency in its buildings. The ENERGY STAR label appears on more than 60 different kinds of products, homes, and commercial and industrial buildings that meet criteria in reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

On Earth Day, April 22, the Re-Invent Your Print recycling program, managed by the DCS' Office of Facilities Management and Property Reutilization division, expanded from collecting paper in the State Capitol Building to include aluminum, plastics and cardboard. The facility houses more than 900 employees and hosts more than 100,000 visitors annually.

"Reducing the amount of waste generated is ultimately the goal," said John Richard, Director of DCS. "Diverting recyclable materials from landfills and making them available for reuse in the manufacturing process is more than just good business practice; it is our responsibility."

The DCS also reported savings of between 15 percent and 29 percent on water, natural gas, electricity and total energy consumption for the nine-month period that ended March 31 compared with the same period spanning 2007 to 2008.

For more info on the state capitol recycling program, call 405-521-3315. Also visit dcs.ok.gov or EnergyStar.gov/leaders.