



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FACT SHEET

SAN DIEGO RATED #1 IN THE NATION FOR “GREEN” POWER IN NEW ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY LISTING

MAYOR SANDERS ANNOUNCES SAVINGS OF \$5.4 MILLION COMING FROM CITY’S RENEWABLE ENERGY EFFORTS FOR WASTEWATER TREATMENT

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY LISTS SAN DIEGO AS TOP USER OF GREEN POWER

- Mayor Jerry Sanders today announced that San Diego has been named #1 on the Environmental Protection Agency’s “Green Power Partnership” list of local governments that acquire power through environmentally friendly resources.
- The Mayor said that San Diego ranks first among all local government agencies in the nation and, since 2003, has been on the EPA’s top 25 list of “green” power purchasers that includes both government agencies and private businesses (www.epa.gov/grnpower/pdf/top_25_jul_06.pdf).
- The EPA’s Green Power Partnership list for local governments was established this year as a way to focus attention on the energy needs and “green” power opportunities available for local government agencies.
- In announcing the EPA’s listing, the Mayor also announced that the City’s Metropolitan Wastewater Department is saving more than \$5.4 million each year in part by using its own “green” power in cogeneration facilities at its major treatment and reclamation plants.
- “This is part of our overall strategy to reduce costs, improve our local environment and to build our relationships with other government agencies,” said Sanders during the announcement.
- “These kinds of savings show the value of paying attention to our resources and to making the most of what we already have to reduce our dependence on outside energy,” said the Mayor.

- “The City of San Diego is providing an excellent example by purchasing green power,” said Blaine Collison, program director of the EPA’s Green Power Partnership.
- “The City of San Diego’s actions are helping to reduce the risks associated with climate change as well as the environmental impacts of conventional electricity use,” he said.
- The United States Environmental Protection Agency, using data on national average avoided Carbon Dioxide emissions, estimates that the City of San Diego’s action is equivalent to avoiding the emissions of more than 91 million pounds of Carbon Dioxide.
- Using 65,400 Mega-Watt hours of green power is comparable to removing the emissions of nearly 8,000 cars annually or planting more than 12,000 acres of trees.
- “The City is committed to finding new ‘green’ power resources and to doing everything it can to conserve energy wherever possible,” said the Mayor.

EPA GREEN POWER PARTNERSHIP RANKINGS

RANK	GREEN POWER PARTNER	GREEN POWER USED (MEGA-WATT HOURS)
1	CITY OF SAN DIEGO	65,400.00
2	AUSTIN, TEXAS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT	48,827.00
3	MONTGOMERY COUNTY WIND BUYERS GROUP (MARYLAND)	38,412.00
4	NEW YORK STATE MUNICIPAL WIND BUYERS GROUP	31,584.17
5	EAST BAY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT (CALIFORNIA)	26,000.00
6	ROUND ROCK INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT (TEXAS)	18,000.00
7	CITY OF PORTLAND, OREGON	17,602.00
8	CITY OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS	17,300.00
9	ROCHESTER CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT (NEW YORK)	8,920.00
10	INLAND EMPIRE UTILITIES AGENCY (CALIFORNIA)	8,643.00

GREEN POWER GIVES SAN DIEGO OPPORTUNITIES FOR EVEN GREATER SAVINGS IN THE FUTURE

- Green power is a term for electricity that is generated from environmentally preferable renewable energy sources. These include solar, wind, geothermal, biomass, biogas, and low-impact hydro-electricity generation.
- The majority of the green power used by the City of San Diego comes from cogeneration facilities that use biogas – a byproduct of sewage treatment and refuse disposal.
- The City also maintains a small hydro-electric generation facility that takes advantage the flow of treated wastewater leaving the Point Loma Plant to meet a portion of the plant’s energy needs.

FACILITY	TYPE OF GREEN POWER USED
PT. LOMA WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT	BIOGAS (PRODUCED ON-SITE) & HYDRO-ELECTRICITY
NORTH CITY WATER RECLAMATION PLANT	BIOGAS (FROM LANDFILL)
METRO BIOSOLIDS CENTER	BIOGAS (PRODUCED ON-SITE AND FROM LANDFILL)
MIRAMAR LANDFILL	BIOGAS (PRODUCED ON-SITE)

- Mayor Sanders said that the City has aggressively pursued these alternative energy and energy conservation strategies for many years and established the City’s Energy Conservation and Management Division in 2001 at the height of the most recent energy crisis in California.
- The Mayor said that goal of the Division is to pursue energy independence in City facilities by using renewable resources to generate electrical energy and by implementing energy conservation measures.
- Mayor Sanders said that these efforts will save the City an additional \$3.5 million in utility costs in the coming year with greater savings expected in each future year.