



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**MAYOR JERRY SANDERS**  
**FACT SHEET**

**SAN DIEGO'S USE OF GREEN POWER TO FUEL  
OPERATIONS WINS NATIONAL RECOGNITION**

*City Ranks Third Among Top-20 "Green Power Partners"  
Working with U.S. Environmental Protection Agency*

The city of San Diego has been honored with recognition from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for generating and consuming "green power" on-site at its facilities.

The city is ranked third on the EPA's list of the top 20 on-site generator/consumers issued under its Green Power Partnership Program. Only the Kimberly-Clark Corp. and the Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts place higher than San Diego on the agency's list.

"This is another welcome recognition of our commitment and success in the clean-energy arena," said San Diego Mayor Jerry Sanders. "We have continued to build our green power infrastructure because it makes financial and environmental sense for the city."

According to the EPA, the five highest-ranked green power partners used more than 535 million kilowatt-hours of on-site green power in the past year, which the agency reports prevented carbon dioxide emissions equivalent to the emissions from more than 70,000 automobiles.

The city of San Diego generates and uses green power from landfill gas extraction, methane drawn from sewage digesters and a small hydro-electric plant at the Point Loma Wastewater treatment plant, as well as from a host of solar energy installations throughout its operations.

Among the city of San Diego's uses of renewable power are:

- Point Loma Wastewater Treatment Plant's on-site gas utilization system, which generates 4.5 megawatts of electricity.
- Hydro-electric generation from the outfall at PLWTP, which generates 1.35 megawatts of electricity.
- Metro Biosolids Center's digester gas extraction, which generates 6.4 megawatts of power.
- North City Water Reclamation Plant, which uses 3.8 megawatts of methane gas from the Miramar Landfill and the Metro Biosolids Center to fuel its operations.
- The Alvarado Water Treatment Plant, which generates 1 megawatt of power through onsite solar panels.
- Rooftop and carport solar power installations at 14 city facilities.

The EPA's ranking is the second recognition the city has received recently for its leadership in clean energy efforts. Earlier this month, Mayor Sanders announced that San Diego had been ranked first among California cities for use of solar energy.

That ranking, from a study by Sacramento-based Environment California Research & Policy Center, showed that San Diego leads the state in both the number of solar energy installations as well as in amount of electricity generated using photovoltaic panels.

Six years ago, the San Diego City Council set a goal of having 50 megawatts of solar power within the city limits by 2013, with 5 megawatts generated at city-owned facilities. So far, the city has 15 solar-power systems installed, totaling about 1.2 megawatts – most of it at the Alvarado Water Treatment Plant. The City Council has also recently approved an additional 800-kilowatt system at the Otay Water Treatment Plant.

“San Diego has embraced energy innovation to become a national hub for clean power,” Sanders said. “The EPA's ranking helps confirm our leadership in this important area.”

The EPA's Top 20 On-site Partner List is available online at:  
[www.sandiego.gov/mayor/news/index.shtml](http://www.sandiego.gov/mayor/news/index.shtml)

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