



Commander's Call Talking Points | September 2012

Energy Action Month

October is Energy Action Month, a time for all of us to think about the importance of energy in our daily lives, the lives of our families, and in our ability to accomplish our mission. To protect the security of our nation, we must have assured access to reliable supplies of energy and the ability to protect and deliver sufficient fuel to meet operational needs. The Air Force seeks to reduce demand, increase supply, and foster an energy aware culture.

The Air Force has reduced facility energy consumption by 16 percent since 2003 by replacing inefficient lights, windows, doors, roofs, heating and cooling equipment, and controlling temperature set points. We also have more than 180 solar, wind, geothermal, and other renewable energy projects in operation or under construction at our installations.

In aviation, the Air Force has reduced fuel consumption four percent since 2006 by eliminating unnecessary cargo, flying more fuel efficient routes, cleaning engines regularly, and loading cargo in a new way to better balance aircraft. These initiatives and others have saved 19 million gallons of fuel.

In vehicles, the Air Force has increased alternative fuel use for ground vehicles by 67 percent in the last four years. This equates to 1.7 million gallons of fuel saved.

The last piece of our strategy is to foster an energy aware culture. The theme for Energy Action Month is "I am Air Force Energy" because we all have a role to play in ensuring our energy security to help the Air Force achieve its mission to fly, fight and win in air, space, and cyberspace. Through your day to day activities you can have an impact on our effort to maximize funds for operational needs and improve mission effectiveness. You can do this by:

- Turning off your computer monitor at the end of the day and logging off your computer so that it can properly enter energy-saving sleep mode.
- Monitoring indoor temperature set points to minimize wasted heating or cooling.
- Reducing idling in vehicles. Thirty minutes of idling burns through one gallon of gas.
- Looking at the job you do every day. Each individual can personally impact the Air Force energy vision. Evaluate how you use energy and then find ways to do it smarter.

Resources

Energy Awareness Training Module: <https://afcesa.csd.disa.mil/kc/login/login.asp>

Air Force Energy Page: <http://www.af.mil/energyinitiatives/index.asp>

Air Force Energy Facebook page: <http://www.facebook.com/#!/AirForceEnergy>

CE Portal EAM Page: <https://cs.eis.af.mil/a7cportal/Pages/EAM.aspx>

CE Facebook Page: <http://www.facebook.com/AirForceCE>

For more information, contact AFA7C.StrategicComms@pentagon.af.mil.