



Energy Resources

Energy resources provide the power necessary to maintain the quality of life enjoyed by most Riverside County residents. Many of the energy resources used within the County are non-renewable. Electricity and natural gas are the primary sources of household energy, while fossil fuels are the primary source of energy for most modes of transportation. Energy conservation and the substitution of renewable resources should be encouraged if these resources are to be preserved for the County's future generations.



Oil and gas seeps are natural springs where liquid and gaseous hydrocarbons (hydrogen-carbon compounds) leak out of the ground.

Petroleum Resources

Riverside County's petroleum resources are deposited in the form of oil and gas seeps. The State Division of Oil and Gas does not report significant or active petroleum extraction in the County. Should extraction activities be undertaken in the future, the following policy provides direction for the siting of oil and gas facilities.

Policies:

- OS 15.1 Enforce California Division of Oil and Gas policies that direct the siting of oil and gas facilities in urban and non-urban areas.

Energy Conservation

Conservation is an important component of using energy resources in an efficient manner. Lowering energy demand by conserving both renewable and non-renewable energy is critical. Sensible energy conservation and design practices can also mitigate the "heat island" effects of urban development that increase local temperatures and result in increased energy demand.

In conjunction with the tactics proposed by the Southern California Association of Government's Regional Air Quality Management Plan, the following policies address energy conservation in Riverside County.

Policies:

- OS 16.1 Continue to implement Title 24 of the State Building Code. Establish mechanisms and incentives to encourage architects and builders to exceed the energy efficiency standards of Title 24. (AI 62)
- OS 16.2 Specify energy efficient materials and systems, including shade design technologies, for County buildings. (AI 68, 70)
- OS 16.3 Implement public transportation systems that utilize alternative fuels, as well as associated urban design measures that support alternatives to private automobile use.
- OS 16.4 Undertake proper maintenance of County physical facilities to ensure that optimum energy conservation is achieved.
- OS 16.5 Utilize federal, state, and utility company programs that encourage energy conservation. (AI 63, 64)