



County of Los Alamos

1000 Central Avenue
Los Alamos, NM 87544

Agenda - Final Board of Public Utilities Work Session

Robert Gibson, Chair; Eric Stromberg, Vice-chair
Matt Heavner, Charles Nakhleh and Jennifer Hollingsworth,
Members
Philo Shelton, Ex Officio Member
Anne Laurent, Ex Officio Member
Theresa Cull, Council Liaison

Wednesday, October 2, 2024

5:30 PM

Municipal Building, Council Chambers

Public Participation: In person or <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89412512522>

Members of the public wishing to attend may participate and provide public comment via Zoom:
Webinar Link ~ <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89412512522> Webinar ID ~ 894 1251 2522

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PUBLIC COMMENT:

Oral comments are accepted during the two periods identified on the agenda and after initial board discussion on a business item, prior to accepting a main motion on an item. Public comments are limited to four minutes per person. For those participating over Zoom, please use the raise hand function. If you are participating by phone enter *9 to raise your hand. Please submit written comments to the board at bpu@lacnm.us.

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

(on any item)

3. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

4. **PRESENTATIONS**

[19011-24](#)

Pages 3 - 18

Presentation by Luis A. Reyes Jr., Chief Executive Officer, Kit Carson Electric Cooperative, concerning a Green Hydrogen Project

Presenters: Ben Olbrich, Deputy Utilities Manager - Power Supply

Attachments: [A - Green Hydrogen Los Alamos Presentation](#)

5. **BUSINESS**

5.a. [19010-24](#)

Pages 19 - 38

Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) Implementation Update

Presenters: Ben Olbrich, Deputy Utilities Manager - Power Supply

Attachments: [A - IRP Implementation Update 2024](#)

5.b. [19219-24](#)

Pages 29 - 86

Energy Use & Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions Report

Presenters: Robert Gibson, Chair of the Board of Public Utilities

Attachments: [A - Energy Use & GHG Emissions Presentation](#)
[B - Energy Use & GHG Emissions Report](#)

6. **ADJOURNMENT**

If you are an individual with a disability who is in need of a reader, amplifier, qualified sign language interpreter, or any other form of auxiliary aid or service to attend or participate in the hearing or meeting, please contact Human Resources at 505-662-8040 as soon as possible.

Complete Board of Public Utilities agenda packets, past agendas, videos, legislation and minutes can be found online at <https://losalamos.legistar.com>. Learn more about the Board of Public Utilities at <https://ladpu.com/BPU>.



County of Los Alamos

Staff Report

October 02, 2024

Los Alamos, NM 87544
www.losalamosnm.us

Agenda No.: 4.

Index (Council Goals): DPU FY25 - 6.0 Develop and Strengthen Partnerships with Stakeholders

Presenters: Ben Olbrich, Deputy Utilities Manager - Power Supply

Legislative File: 19011-24

Title

Presentation by Luis A. Reyes Jr., Chief Executive Officer, Kit Carson Electric Cooperative, Concerning a Green Hydrogen Project

Body

The Department of Public Utilities (DPU) Electric Production division continues to seek out and evaluate new electrical generation and energy storage resources to achieve DPU's environmental sustainability objectives and goals. One such candidate resource is a Green Hydrogen Project proposed by Kit Carson Electric Cooperative (KCEC). Mr. Luis A. Reyes Jr., Chief Executive Officer, KCEC, will present the project to the Board of Public Utilities, covering the following material:

1. Overview of KCEC
2. KCEC future projects
3. Transmission concepts
4. Hydrogen Project details
5. KCEC and DPU partnership opportunity and next steps

Mr. Reye's presentation is included in its entirety as an attachment to this staff report.

Alternatives

The Green Hydrogen Project is itself one of the new electrical generation and energy storage resource alternatives that the DPU Electric Production division is evaluating to DPU's environmental sustainability objectives and goals. Electric Production staff will continue to seek out a suite of diversified alternatives including wind, geothermal, solar and longer-duration energy storage.

Attachments

A - Green Hydrogen Los Alamos Presentation

Kit Carson Electric Cooperative

Green Hydrogen Initiative October 2, 2024

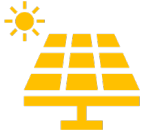
Luis A. Reyes Jr.
Chief Executive Officer
Kit Carson Electric Cooperative, Inc.



Presentation for
County of Los Alamos
Los Alamos, NM



KCEC TODAY



42 MW+
Solar
Generation



16.25 MW+
Battery Generation



36
EV Charging
Stations



65 MW
System Peak
(Nighttime
Winter Peak)

KCEC at-a-glance

Electric Cooperative was **founded in 1937** (formerly Eagle Nest Electric Cooperative)

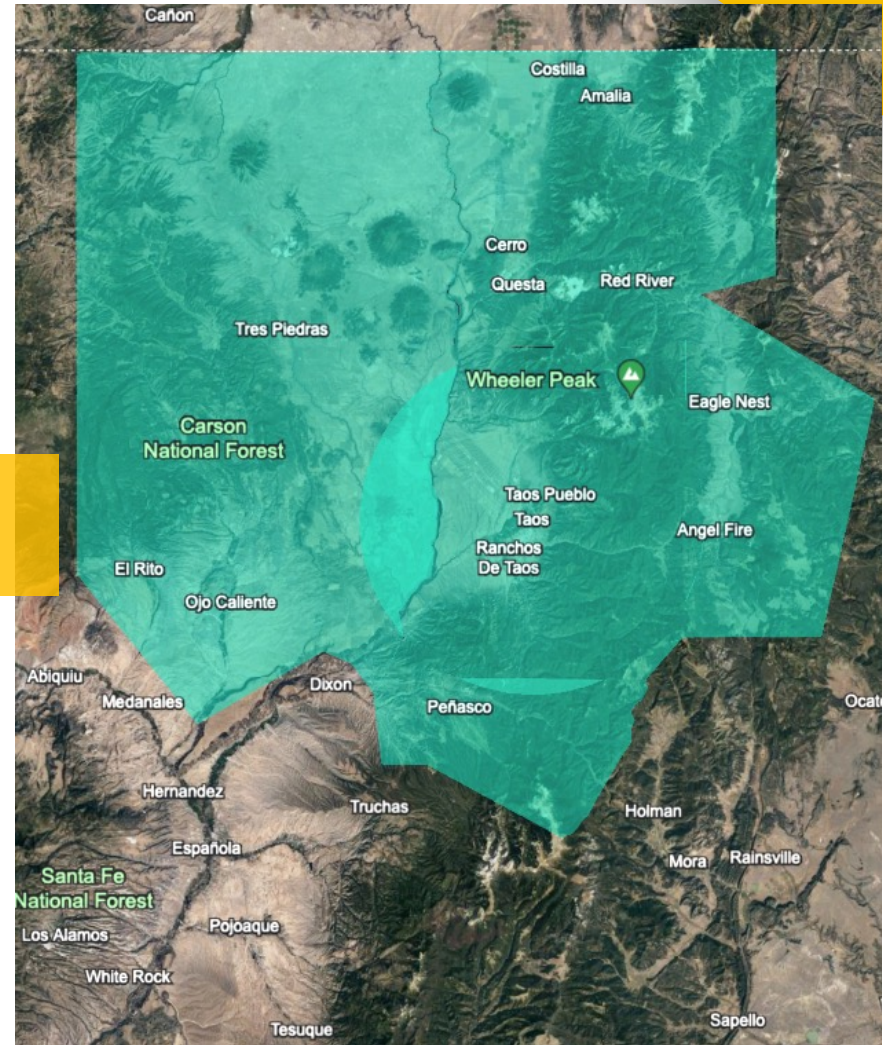
One of the most **diverse and unique** co-ops in the nation

Serving **30,720 Electric Members** in NM

3,011 miles of electric line and **2,500** miles of fiber optic line

Second largest co-op in NM

100% Daytime Solar Distributed + **16.25 MW BESS**



Kit Carson Company Profile

Where We Serve

- Taos County
- Colfax County
- Rio Arriba
- Taos Pueblo
- Picuris Pueblo
- Six Municipalities (Taos, Angel Fire, Questa, Eagle Nest, Red, Taos Ski Valley) River

Electric

- 30,720 Electric Meters
- 3,011 Miles of Electric Line

Innovation

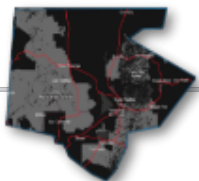
- 100% Daytime Solar
- 42 MW of Solar Generation
- 16.25 MW of Battery Energy Storage
- 36 Electric Vehicle Charging Stations with 58 Points. (Charging 10 Level 3 DC Fast Chargers)
- Proposed Green Hydrogen Facilities

Internet

- 14,000 Internet Customers
- 100 GB Network
- Three Redundant Broadband Paths for Resiliency
- Serves over 30 cell phone tower sites

Propane

- 3,400 Customers
- Serves Approximately 25 Northern NM Communities
- Affordable Propane Rates
- Stabilizes Rates Throughout the Northern NM Region



KCEC provides essential services to improve the quality of life for our members and communities in Northcentral, New Mexico.

KCEC Received Funding Grants

Grants Received for KCEC Infrastructure Projects

• 2005 Clean Renewable Energy Bonds (CREB) for Solar	\$5,000,000
• 2011 RUS USDA Advancing Broadband Grant	\$64,000,000
• 2020 VW EV Settlement Grant	\$200,000
• 2021 PRC Broadband Grant	\$700,000
• 2021 Rural Digital Opportunity Fund (RDOF) Grant for Broadband	\$23,600,000
• 2022 NM DOT EV Charging Station Grant	\$800,000
• 2022 Reconnect Program – USDA Rural Development Broadband	\$18,200,000
• 2023 DOE GRIP Microgrid BESS Fire Mitigation Grant	\$23,000,000
• 2023 Taos Pueblo Solar DOE Grant (ICAST & KCEC)	\$10,000,000
• 2023 EMNRD Forest Fire Prevention Grant	\$125,000
• 2024 DOE Congressionally Direct Spending Grant Green Hydrogen	\$500,000

Total: \$146,000,000

KCEC has received over \$146 million in grants and awards for projects in Solar, BESS, Broadband EV and other infrastructure projects. Most of these projects have been completed or are in progress of being completed.

KCEC Future Projects

Announced projects

- Taos Pueblo (5 MW Solar and 5 MW BESS)
 - The project started in 2022 and is projected to finish in 2025
- Amalia II (8.75 MW Solar and 8.75 MW BESS)
 - The project started in 2021 and is projected to finish in 2025
- KCEC Microgrid Project Fire Mitigation (7.5 MW BESS)
 - Project locations include Taos Ski Valley, Penasco and El Rito
 - The project started in 2023 and is projected to finish in 2026

KCEC Green Hydrogen Proposed Project

- Questa Green Hydrogen Main Hub
 - 60 MW Solar, 57 MW H2 Electrolyzer and 25 MW H2 Fuel Cell Battery
- Taos Hydrogen Hub
 - 17 MW H2 Electrolyzer and 7.5 MW H2 Fuel Cell Battery
- Penasco Hydrogen Hub
 - 3.5 MW H2 Electrolyzer and 1.5 MW H2 Fuel Cell Battery

*All H2 projects are expandable

KCEC Generation & Transmission Route to Los Alamos

KCEC Conceptual Route to Los Alamos County and LANL

Questa Proposed Green Hydrogen Substation (KCEC)



69 kV (KCEC)

Taos 115 kV Substation (KCEC)



345 kV (Tri-State)

Ojo 345 kV Substation (PNM)



115 kV (PNM)

Norton Substation



115 kV(LAC)

White Rock Substation

*Network Integration Transmission Service Agreement (NITSA) with PNM, Tri-State, KCEC and Los Alamos County



KCEC Generation and Capacity Power to Los Alamos County & LANL

A contract for energy delivery from KCEC to LAC could be established through the Tri-State and PNM transmission systems. Transmission capacity is available from Taos to Ojo stations on the Tri-State system. LAC could establish a point-of-receipt (POR) at Ojo station under the LAC/PNM Network Integration Transmission Service Agreement (NITSA). The KCEC energy would become a new designated network resource under the LAC/PNM NITSA.

The energy transaction could be established through KCEC's third-party energy supplier, Guzman Energy. Guzman would purchase the green hydrogen energy and the Tri-State transmission for delivery to Los Alamos County at the new POR with PNM.

To complement green energy deliveries from KCEC, Guzman Energy could integrate energy from Guzman's purchases from solar and storage resources located on the Jicarilla Apache Nation, which will commence operation in mid-2025.

Network Integrated Transmission Service Agreements

- KCEC - PNM
- KCEC - TSGT
- LAC - PNM

Other Transmission Arrangements

- LAC - TSGT (Non-Tariff)



KCEC Green Hydrogen Project & Proposal

KCEC's system currently runs on 100% solar during daytime hours. The initiative will substantially reduce greenhouse gas emissions and serve as a model for what green hydrogen production can be in the United States.

Components of the Green Hydrogen Project include:

- Utilizing solar generation to power facilities
- Co-siting facilities alongside non-potable water resources and wastewater treatment plants
- Creating long-duration (up to 24 hours) storage technology
- In this distributed model, system resilience gets boosted during extreme weather and non-solar times, ensuring a reliable power supply even in challenging conditions
- Accelerate national goals of actualizing green hydrogen production by eliminating known barriers to production
- Sited on some of the most economically challenged communities (*Tribal lands and counties that have been economically devastated by the declining coal industry*)



This is not a pilot project but a bold step towards integrating green hydrogen into KCEC's entire system, including connecting facilities to one of the largest substations in Taos County. Maintaining power for first responders, evacuees, and communication systems is critical in the wake of a recent forest fire.

KCEC Green Hydrogen Project

KCEC's Green Hydrogen Distributed Project Model will utilize water resources from reclaimed mine sites and wastewater treatment facilities. These projects are distributed with capabilities of long-duration storage and load peak shaving. The green hydrogen generation and capacity can be implemented in numerous application scenarios.

Questa Green Hydrogen Main Hub

The primary location for KCEC's ambitious green hydrogen plan is the Village of Questa.

- This site encompasses approximately 2,000 acres; the project will span over 600 acres. It has been identified as the most scalable location due to its vast property and existing 69 kV transmission facilities that go east-west and north-south.
- 25 MW Green H₂ Plant using a water treatment plant and the former tailings facility site.
- 57 MW electrolyzer with 29-ton hydrogen gas storage
- 25 MW fuel cell
- 60 MW solar PV array
- KCEC plans to construct a substation and a half-mile transmission line to connect the facility to the existing system. This substation will be strategically sited next to the proposed green hydrogen plant to ensure seamless integration and operation
- Estimated Production is **44,806 MWh/yr**
- Estimated Facility Operation Date: **End of 2027, Q1 2028**



***All H₂ projects are expandable**

KCEC Green Hydrogen Project Cont..

Town of Taos Wastewater Treatment Hydrogen Hub

Town of Taos (Wastewater Treatment facility): A smaller green hydrogen facility is proposed to be constructed at the Taos Valley Regional Wastewater Treatment and Reclamation Facility.

- Leverage an existing solar facility for power, using solar energy during the day and tapping into stored energy at night. The facility will also site a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS).
- The plan is to use the water from the local treatment facility, which, although high in nitrates, is abundant. In the initial phase, well water will be used while equipment to remove nitrates is purchased and installed. Then, treated effluent water will be used, eliminating water as a barrier to green hydrogen production.
- 17 MW electrolyzer with an 8.5-ton hydrogen gas storage
- 7.5 MW fuel cell
- KCEC plans to perform infrastructure upgrades in its system to handle generation and capacity
- Estimated Production is **13,335 MWh/yr**
- Estimated Facility Operation Date: **End of 2027, Q1 2028**

***All H2 projects are expandable**



KCEC Green Hydrogen Project Cont..

Picuris Pueblo Wastewater Treatment Hydrogen Hub

KCEC is extending its partnership with Picuris Pueblo, one of the smallest and most economically challenged tribes in New Mexico, to foster green independence. This initiative includes the development of a unique solar and battery storage infrastructure, which is already underway, and the siting of solar facilities. Future plans involve the installation of a BESS, which will be integrated into a microgrid for more efficient and sustainable energy distribution and cultural integrity.

- The Picuris tribe's geographical location, bordering another community with established infrastructure, provides an added advantage. In emergencies, such as fire evacuations, there is a safe place for them to go if they must shut down power.
- 3.5 MW electrolyzer with a 2-ton hydrogen gas storage
- 1.5 MW fuel cell
- Estimated Production is **2,745 MWh/yr**
- Estimated Facility Operation Date: **End of 2027, Q1 2028**



***All H2 projects are expandable**

KCEC Green Hydrogen Model

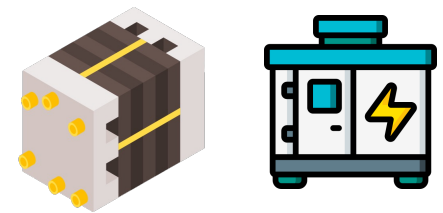
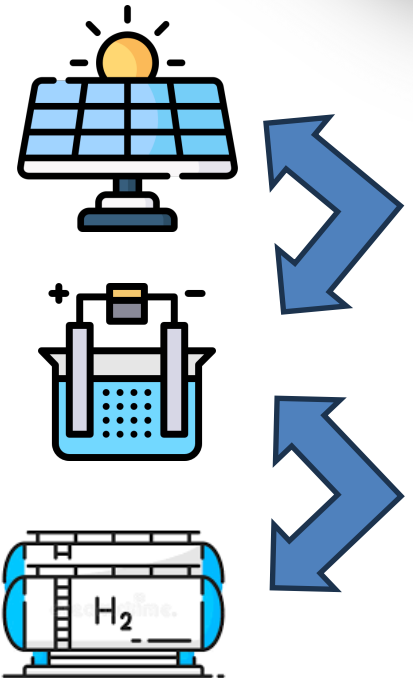
1. New or Existing Solar Renewable Resources Utilized to Power Green Hydrogen Facilities: Solar output will be directly connected to electrolyzers.

2. Electrolyzer Receives Solar Input & Reclaimed Water KCEC will use effluent water from identified resources (Third-party mining facilities and wastewater treatment plants). The water goes through a filtration process to achieve the desired specifications.

3. Extract Produced Hydrogen Gas into Storage Tanks
Hydrogen storage is a long-term duration energy storage solution (LDES)

4. Hydrogen Gas is Released Through Full Cell or Linear Generator to Produce Power

5. Power is Delivered to the Grid for Transmission



Alternative Renewable Sources for LANL

KCEC can potentially deliver green hydrogen capacity and solar and storage resources to LANL and Los Alamos County. Partnering with Northern NM communities to provide green hydrogen generation and capacity will positively impact Los Alamos County's needs while supporting energy economic opportunities in Rio Arriba and Taos County.

Options for renewable energy resources located in Los Alamos County are insufficient to meet near-term demand:

- **Solar:** A 2017 feasibility study identified nine sites totaling 795 acres as potentially suitable, each with unique challenges (ongoing environmental remediation efforts, archaeological resources, floodplains, and endangered species habitat) that affect feasibility or time required for development. Over 2,000 acres (>3 square miles) would be required to generate sufficient and reliable power.
- **Wind:** Based on an analysis of the average 30-meter height wind velocity using National Renewable Energy Laboratory data, the LANL campus is not ideal for wind power generation
- **Geothermal energy production:** This is technically feasible but would involve large-scale clearing of forest land in Santa Fe National Forest and the Valles Caldera National Preserve to accommodate the required wells, generator buildings, and access roads, as well as a new transmission line and a seismic study. A geothermal option would require hundreds of acres and the removal of significant water rights from public usage.
- **Nuclear power:** Micro-reactors would not produce sufficient energy, and Small Modular Reactor technology is not yet licensed or ready for deployment.

Next Steps for KCEC & Los Alamos County

- 1. Enter into a process and agreement with due diligence and viability, determining the best path forward to deliver green hydrogen capacity and associated energy to Los Alamos County**
- 2. Upon completion of due diligence, initiate negotiations to supply green hydrogen to Los Alamos County through a long-term Power Purchase Agreement (PPA).**

Questions?

Contact Me

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[/kitcarsonpublicrelations7143](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCkcarsonpublicrelations7143)



County of Los Alamos

Staff Report

October 02, 2024

Los Alamos, NM 87544
www.losalamosnm.us

Agenda No.: 5.a.

Index (Council Goals): DPU FY25 - 1.0 Provide Safe and Reliable Utility Services;
DPU FY25 - 5.0 Achieve Environmental Sustainability;
DPU FY25 - 6.0 Develop and Strengthen Partnerships with Stakeholders

Presenters: Ben Olbrich, Deputy Utilities Manager - Power Supply

Legislative File: 19010-24

Title

Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) Implementation Update

Body

The attached presentation describes the efforts of staff to identify, evaluate and develop new generation resources for the Los Alamos Power Pool, in comparison with the generation needs and preferred portfolio identified by the 2022 Integrated Resource Plan.

Alternatives

None, this presentation is informational only.

Attachments

A - IRP Implementation Update 2024

Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) Implementation Update

October 2, 2024

LAPP Goals

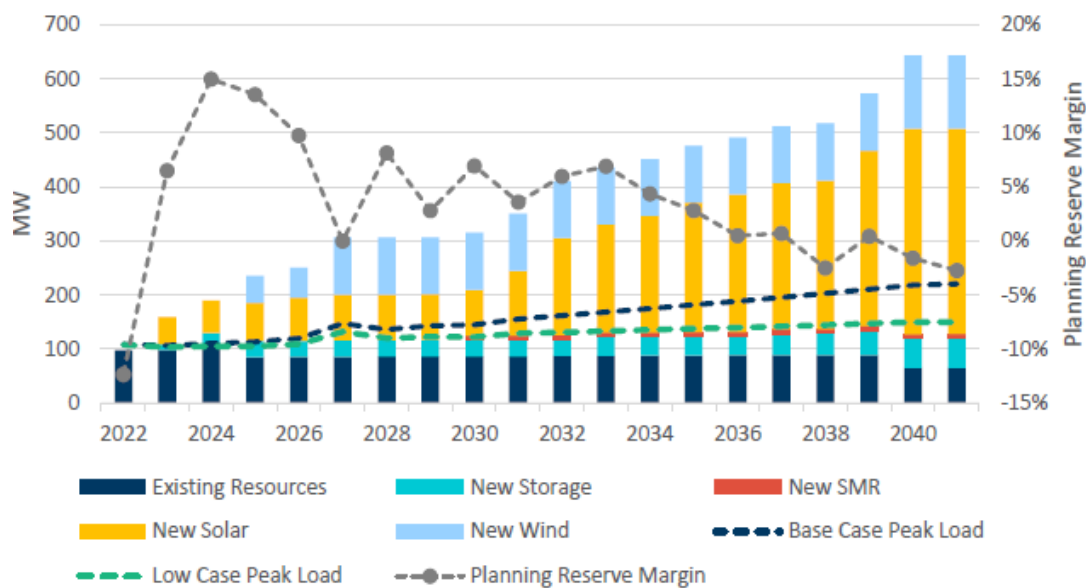
- Provide reliable & cost-effective power
- Achieve carbon free goals
 - LAC carbon neutral by 2040 goal
 - Executive Order 14057: 100% carbon pollution-free electricity (net annual) by 2030, including 50% ATC carbon pollution-free electricity
- Build a diverse generation and storage portfolio
- Transition to a 15% positive reserve margin

Load Forecast & Preferred Portfolio

Exhibit 3: LAC and LANL IRP Preferred Resource Plan Cumulative New Builds Summary

Year	Storage	Solar	Wind	SMR	Total
	MW	MW	MW	MW	MW
2025	30	70	50	0	150
2027	30	85	105	0	220
2030	30	85	105	8	228
2035	35	240	105	8	388
2040	55	380	135	8	578
2041	55	380	135	8	578

Exhibit 4: Preferred Resource Plan Resources, LAPP Peak Load, and PRM



Generation Planning Summary

 Ended

 Contracted

 Investigating

Types		Resources	Considerations
Baseload	Thermal	Combined Cycle (CC) Laramie River Station (LRS)	Inconsistent with carbon neutral goal Exit when economical, no later than 2042 ¹
	Nuclear	Carbon Free Power Project (CFPP)	Subscription levels: 0, 8, 36 MW
	Hybrid	ATC PPA with 28% Renewable² Solar + Wind	Near term bridge PPA to replace San Juan Unit 4 Uniper contract + more
	Firm Renewables	Solar + Battery	Solar weather dependent
		Geothermal	High cost, opportunistic and geography dependent
		Fuel Cells	< 5 MW size, implemented in other national labs
	Thermal	Reciprocating Internal Combustion Engine (RICE) Simple Cycle Gas Turbine (SCGT)	Explore in IRP for dispatchability and balancing Explore in IRP for dispatchability and balancing
Peaking	Storage	Pumped Hydro	Cost and ownership of water rights; Opportunistic and geography dependent
		Lithium-ion Battery	Duration considerations
		Vanadium Redox Flow Battery	High-cost; lack of actual projects development
	Renewables	Solar (onsite or offsite) Onshore Wind	Weather dependent Weather dependent; transmission constraints

Source: Los Alamos County 2022 Integrated Resource Plan, p. 45, exhibit 32.

Page 23 of 86

Changes since the 2022 IRP

 Ended

 Contracted

 Investigating

- UAMPS 8 MW CFPP project; ended 11/8/2023
- 15+25 MW Uniper PPAs; ended 3/20/24
- UAMPS CYRQ 4 MW Geothermal project; ended 9/2024

Changes since the 2022 IRP



Ended



Contracted



Investigating

- Foxtail Flats 170 MW solar + 80 MW / 320 MWh storage agreements executed March 2024; phase 1 scheduled for 50% capacity delivery on March 1, 2026
- Mercuria 40MW ATC PPA executed March 2024; April 1, 2024, through February 28, 2026, ends when Foxtail Flats delivery begins

IRP vs. Current Contracted Generation

IRP Preferred Generation Portfolio							Contracted Additional Generation					
Year	Storage	Solar	Wind	SMR	Total.		Year	Storage	Solar	Wind	SMR	Total.
	MW	MW	MW	MW	MW			MW	MW	MW	MW	MW
2025	30	70	50	0	150		2025	0	0	0	0	0
							2026	30	45	0	0	75
2027	30	85	105	0	220		2027	60	90	0	0	150
2030	30	85	105	8	228							
2035	35	240	105	8	388		2036	80	170			250
2040	55	380	135	8	578							
2041	55	380	135	8	578							

Note: Contracted storage and solar capacities under the Foxtail Flats agreements are 80 MW and 170 MW, respectively. Notional plan is for 80 MW solar to be resold (30 MW to Sandia/Kirtland, and 50 MW to a third party for 10 years) and 20 MW storage to be allocated to Sandia/Kirtland. The values above for the contracted additional generation are net of these planned transactions.

Changes since the 2022 IRP

 Ended

 Contracted

 Investigating

- Ongoing: UAMPS gas/hydrogen-capable turbine projects, 10 MW share
- Ongoing: San Ildefonso Pueblo: 40MW solar + long-term storage option
- New: UAMPS Rodatherm Geothermal Study Project, DPU has 64 kW share of 3,600 kW, future option for 894 kW share of 50,000 kW
- New: Kit Carson Electric Cooperative Green Hydrogen Initiative, presented to BPU on Oct. 2, 2024, agenda item 19011-24

Changes since the 2022 IRP

 Ended

 Contracted

 Investigating

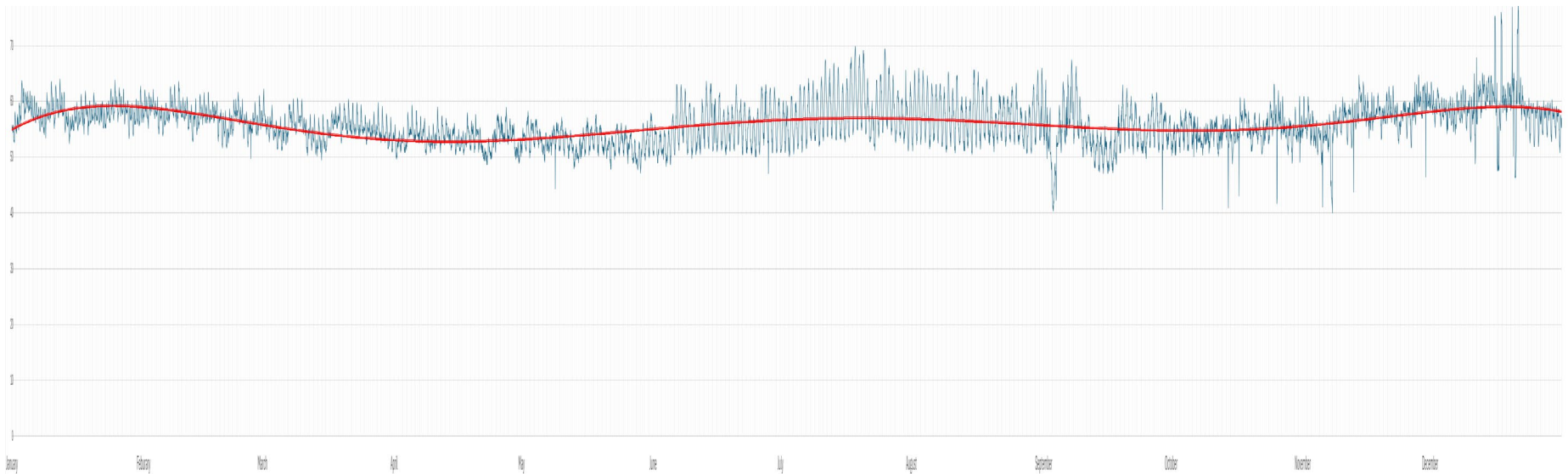
- Very early monitoring of future possible Small Modular Reactors
 - Aurora
 - Deep Fission
 - Aalo
- Very early investigation of long-duration CO₂ storage: Energy Dome
- Guzman natural gas peaker near Farmington

Foxtail Flats Status 9/12/2024

- Currently on schedule
- Pedestrian cultural surveys complete on every acre of land
- Biological surveys complete
- Title surveys ongoing
- Initiating conversations with EPC firms
- Challenges with geotechnical boring access – categorical exclusion has taken over 4 months for BIA to process. We continue to push, but this is an important design and EPC item
- All necessary real estate secured
- Completed topographic mapping
- Drafts of NEPA docs complete, continuing to refine design
- Substation Purchase Orders are in place
- Exploring feasibility of wind generation at the site, no details to share right now; still collecting weather data

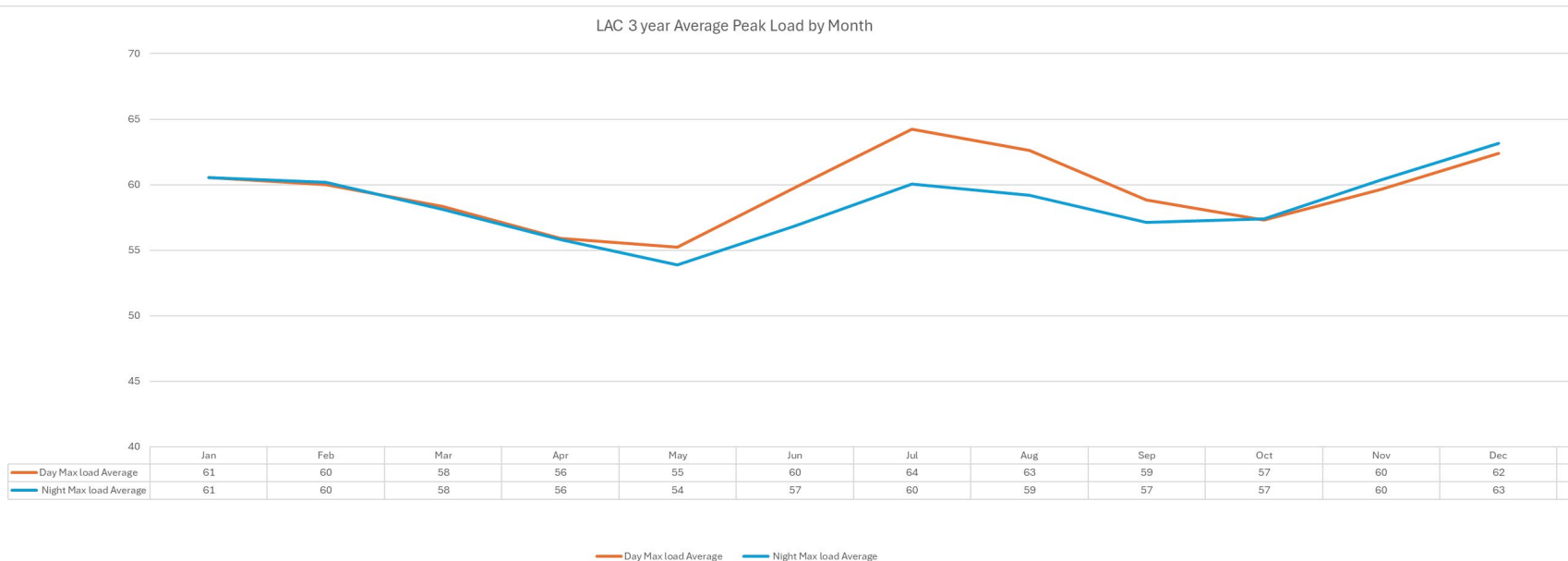
Load & Generation Planning

- Refining Power Pool historical load and planned generation data to identify how much additional generation is needed
- Averaged 3 years of hourly Power Pool load from Jan 2022 through Aug 2024



Monthly Day/Night Average Load

- To simplify the load visually and make determining generation needs simpler, used a pivot table to get the average monthly **day and night peaks** for each month



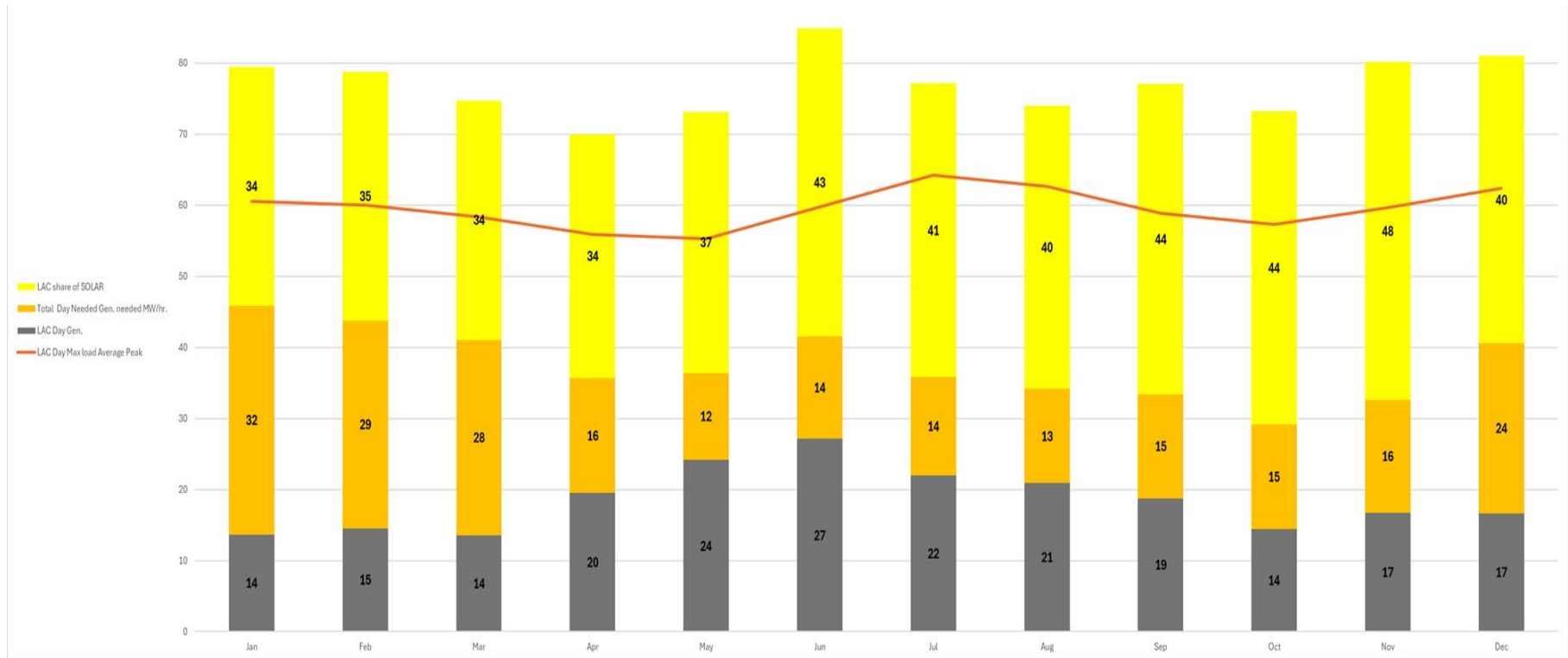
Additional Power Blocks Needed

- From March 2026, current contracted generation won't meet load, need more day and night power
- Months in green use CGTG for reserve margin, months in yellow will rely on market purchases for reserve margin

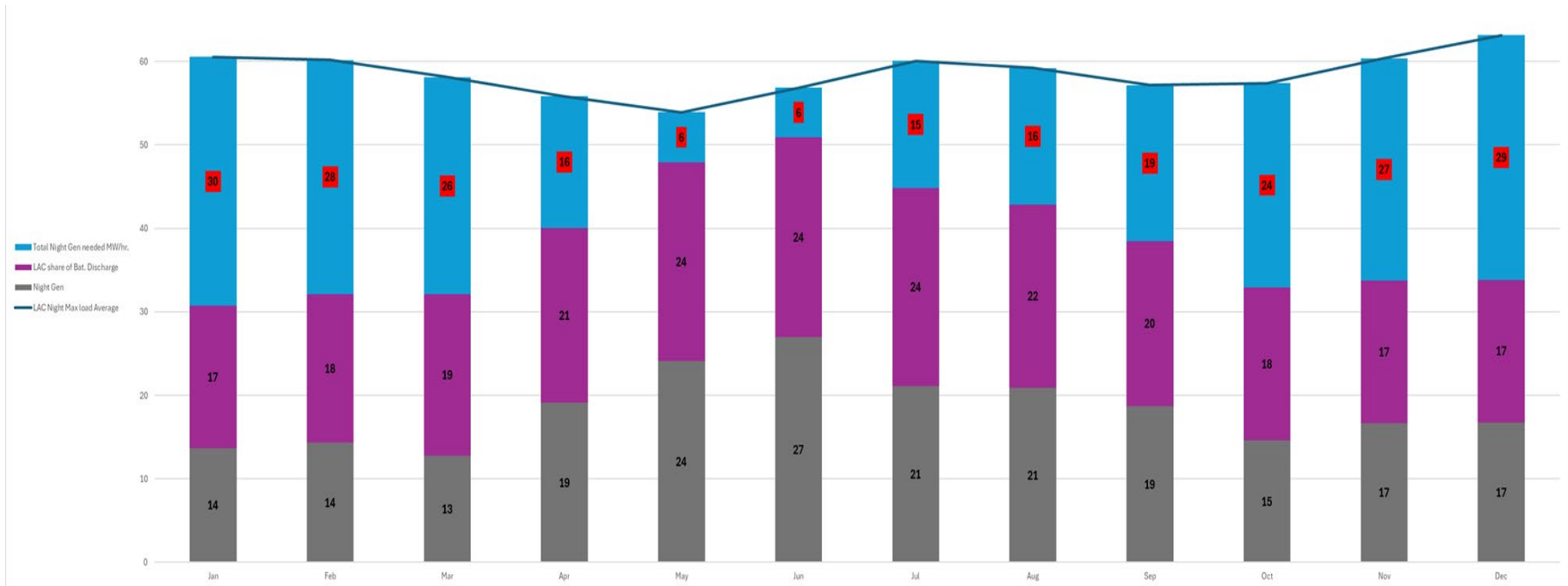
Month	Daytime Power Needed(MW)	Nighttime Power Needed(MW)
Jan	32	30
Feb	29	28
Mar	28	26
Apr	16	16
May	12	6
Jun	14	6
Jul	14	15
Aug	13	16
Sep	15	19
Oct	15	24
Nov	16	27
Dec	24	29

Note: The values above are net of the planned solar and storage share to Sandia/Kirtland and the third party.

LAPP Daytime Load & Gen after March 2024



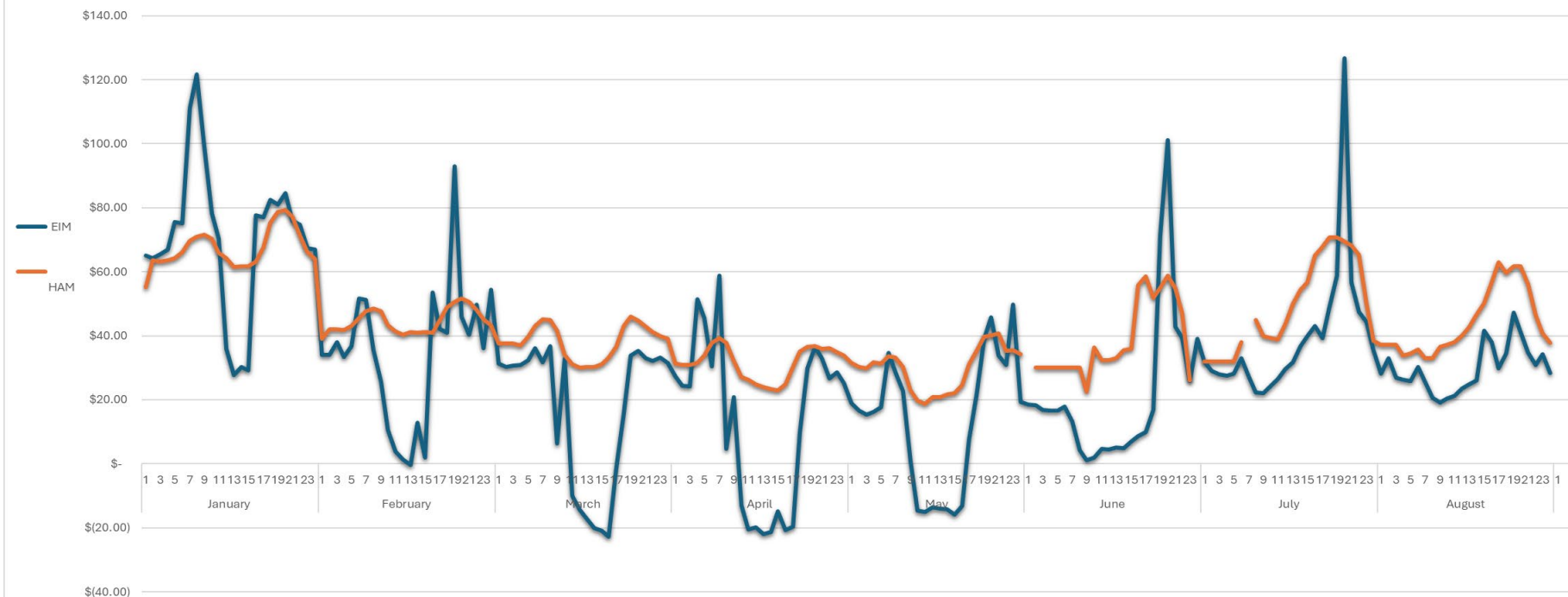
LAPP Nighttime Load & Gen after March 2024



Note: The values above are net of the planned storage share to Sandia/Kirtland. The battery discharge values during the winter months are lower than the summer Months because the battery energy is spread across a longer nighttime duration.

Evolving Market Challenges

- EIM and hour-ahead (HAM) average hourly market pricing shows the effects of increasing solar capacity – lower prices mid-day
- PPAs significantly higher cost than average HAM prices
- Energy storage can store excess PPA solar power or market purchase of low-cost day power for use at night



Seeking Software Solutions

- Exploring software solutions for improving load and generation forecasting with intermittent solar, hydro and wind power
- Want to optimize power purchase and sales in the Energy Imbalance Market and expected regional Day-Ahead Market

New IRP is Recommended

- New IRP after July 2025 Electric Coordination Agreement is effective – needed due to the changes since 2022
 - Will consider:
 - Updated loads and new planned and candidate resources
 - DPU Electrification Study and County Electric Vehicle plan
 - DOE/LANL electrification and energy storage plans
 - Evolving market short and long-term power pricing

The End



County of Los Alamos

Staff Report

October 02, 2024

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Agenda No.:	5.b.
Index (Council Goals):	DPU FY25 - 5.0 Achieve Environmental Sustainability
Presenters:	Robert Gibson, Chair of the Board of Public Utilities
Legislative File:	19219-24

Title

Energy Use & Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions Report

Body

A Presentation on Energy Use and GHG Emissions in Los Alamos County from 2000 - 2023 by Mr. Robert Gibson, BPU Chair.

Attachments

- A - Energy Use & GHG Emissions Presentation
- B - Energy Use & GHG Emissions Report

ENERGY USE & GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS IN LOS ALAMOS COUNTY 2000 - 2023

R. B. Gibson

2 October 2024



Overview

➤ Purpose

- Originally: Identify greatest leverage
- Establish baseline
- Future: Track progress in reducing carbon emissions?

➤ Data Sources

- DPU Consumption Reports (NG & Elec.)
- NM Tax & Rev. Dept. (taxable gasoline)
 - LAC (DPW) and LAPS
 - Estimates (diesel and non-taxable gasoline - small)
- LAC ESD (solid waste)

➤ GHG estimate is from primary fuels (and MSW) only

Fig. 2.1A. Monthly Natural Gas Use Correlated to Heating Degree Days

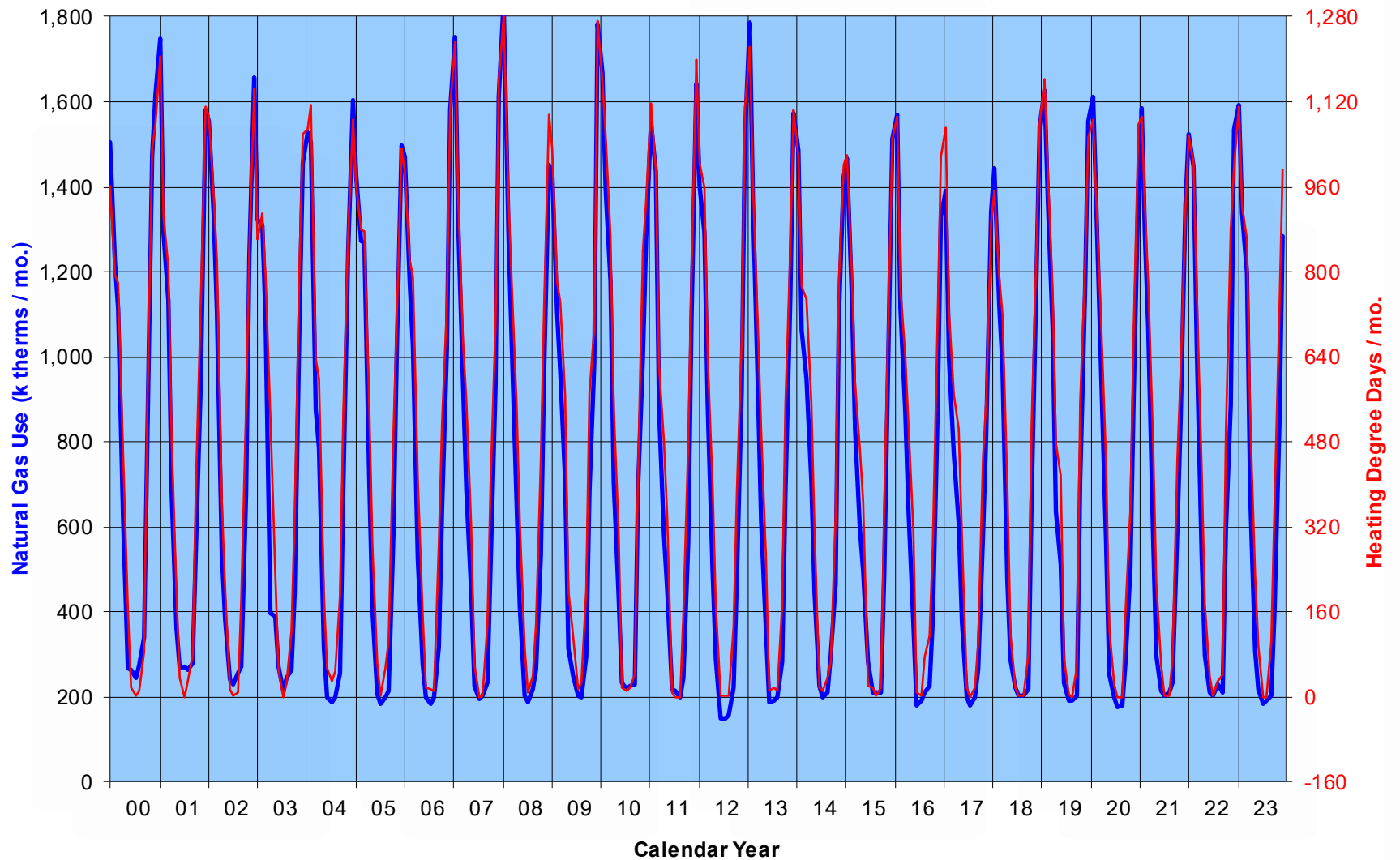


Fig. 2.1B. Annual Natural Gas Use Compared to Heating Degree Days

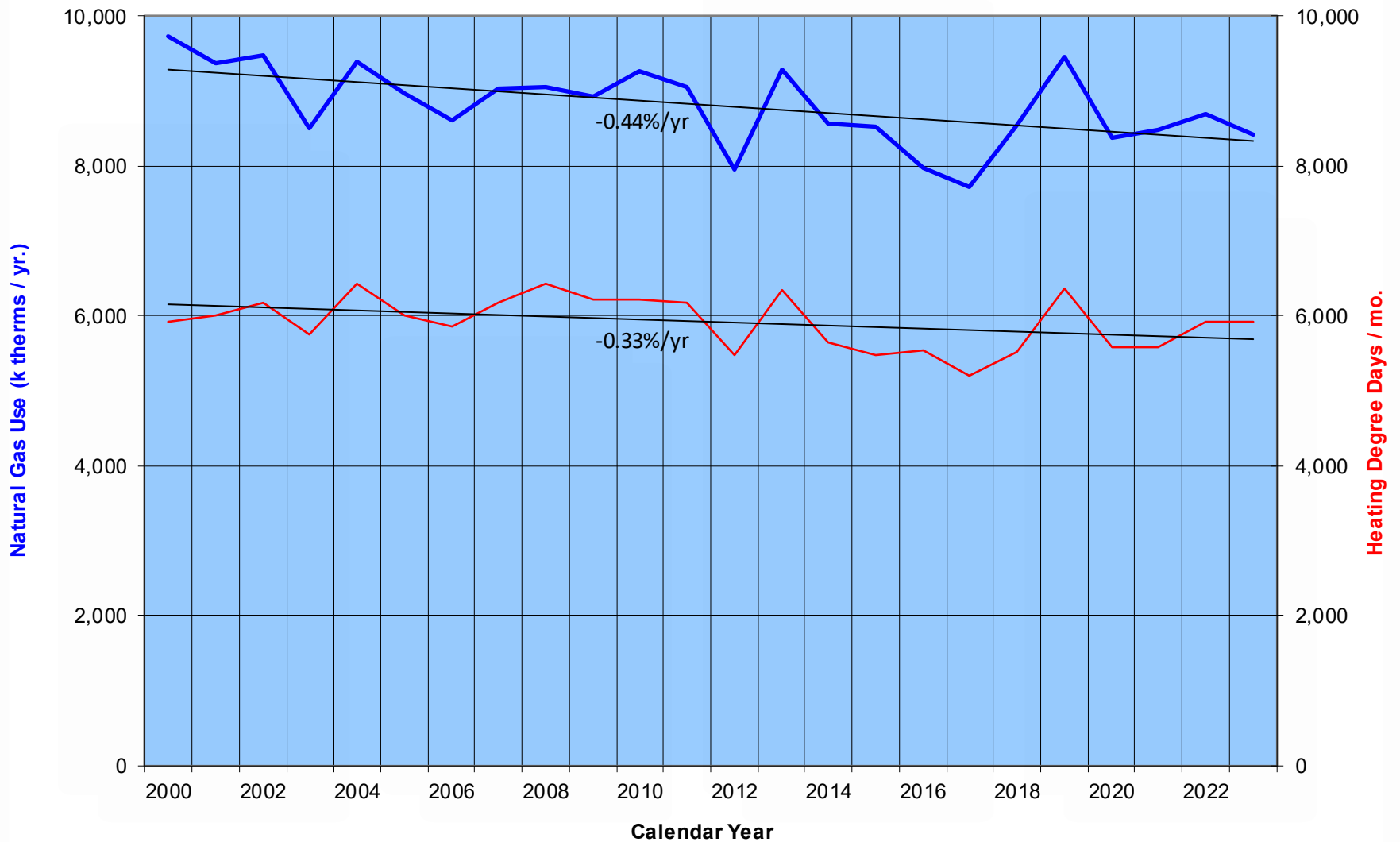


Fig. 2.2A. Monthly Electricity Use

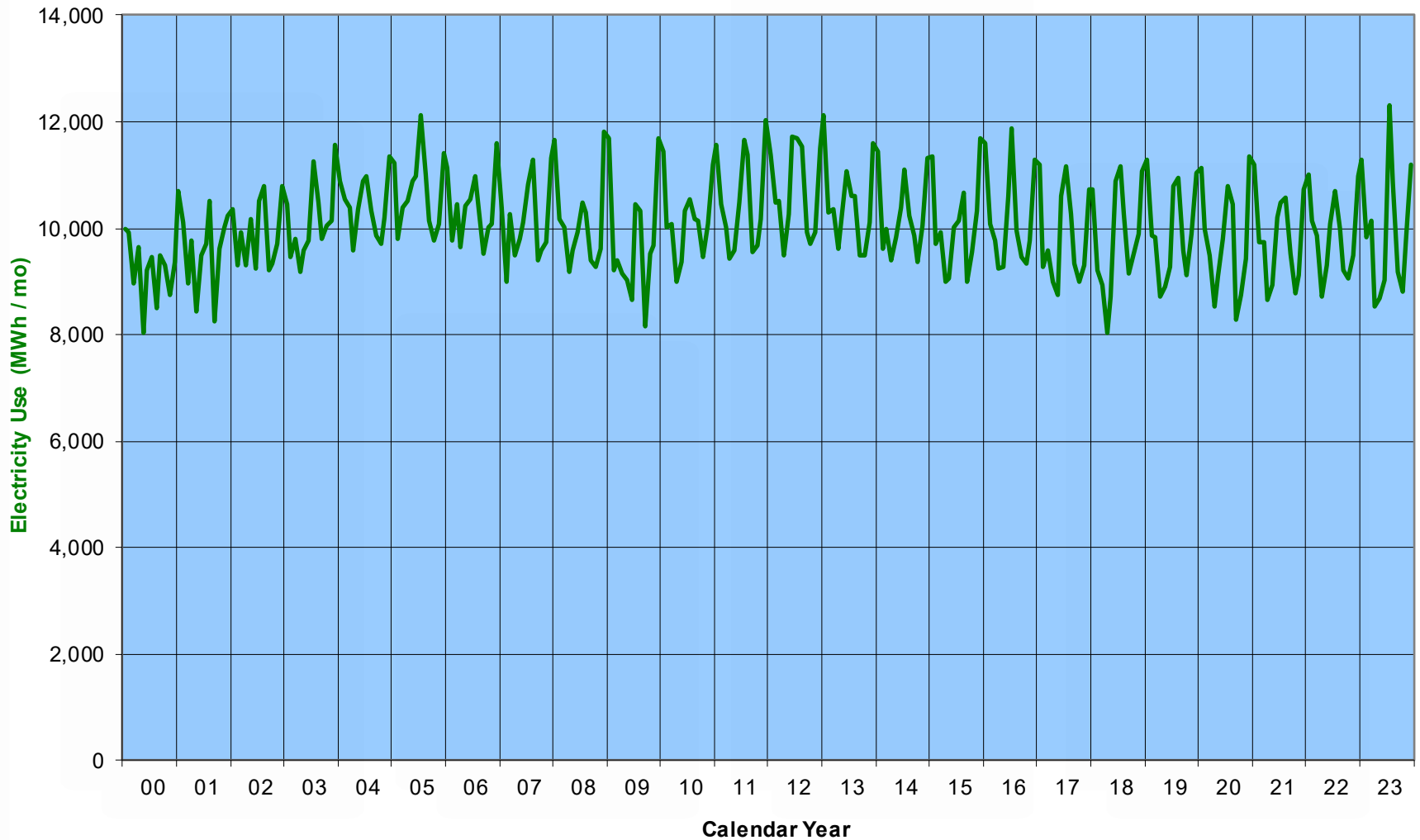


Fig. 2.2B. Annual Electricity Use & Sources

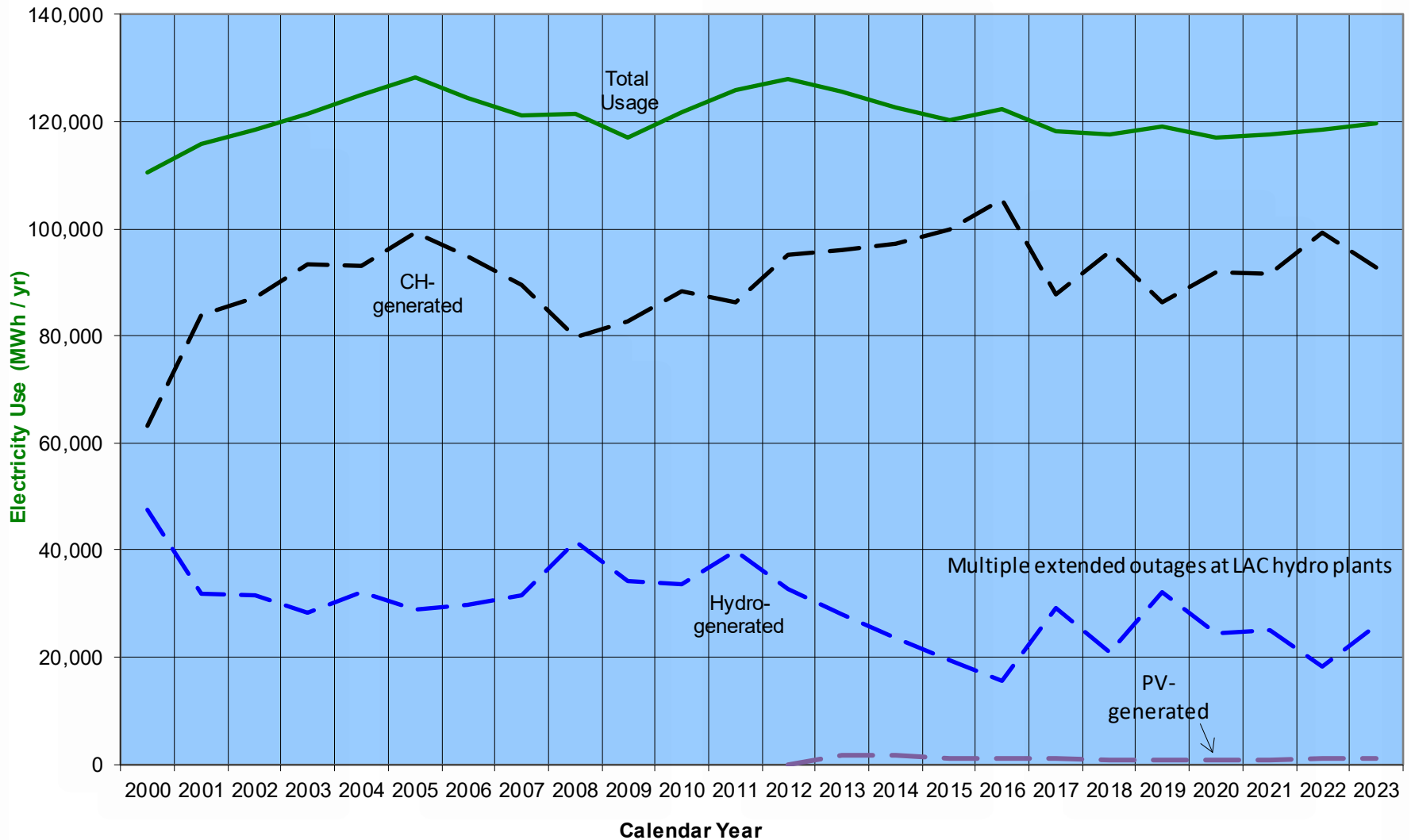


Fig. 2.3A. Total Petroleum Fuels Dispensed

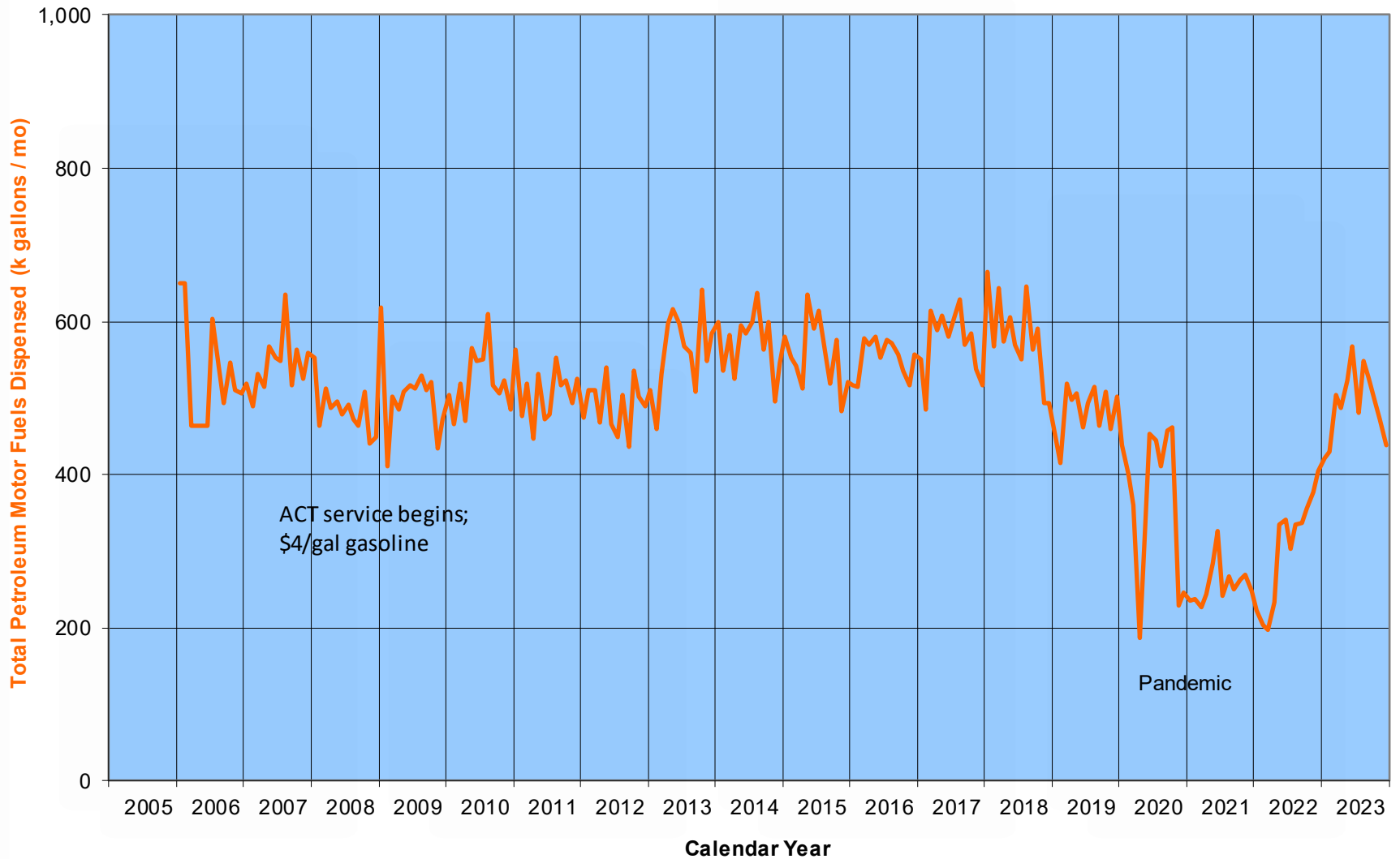


Fig. 2.3B. Annual Petroleum Fuel Use

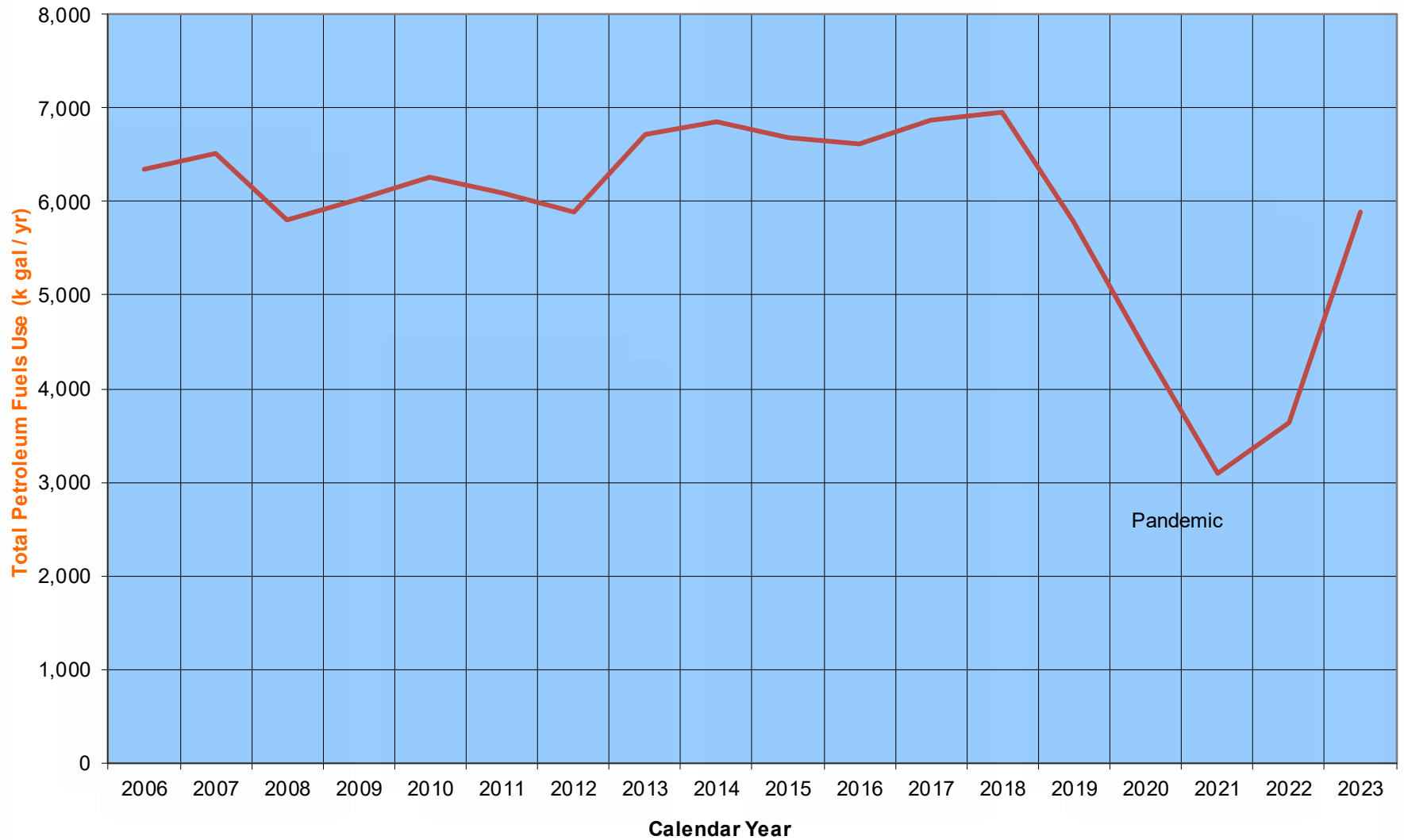


Fig. 2.4A. Monthly Energy Use

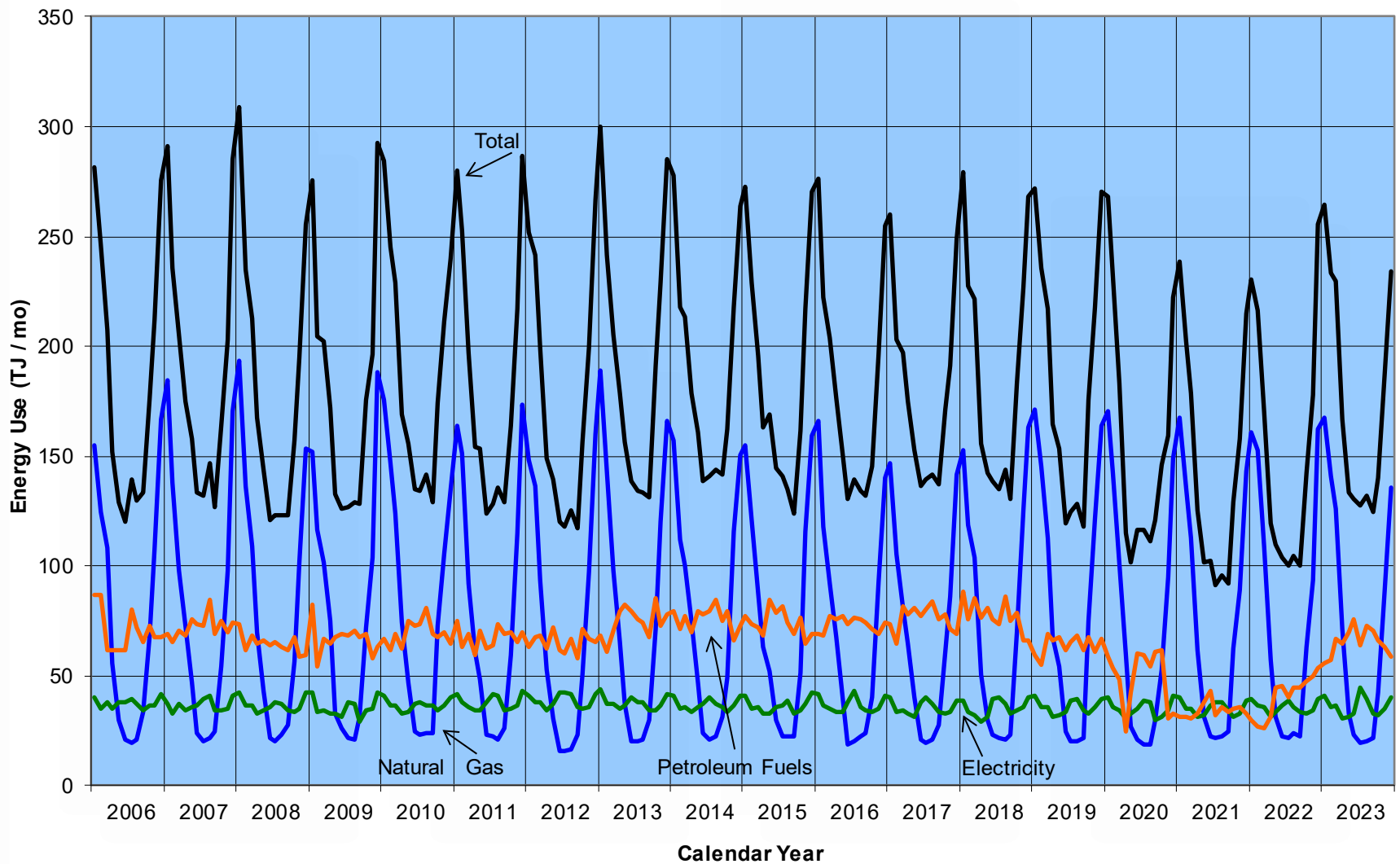
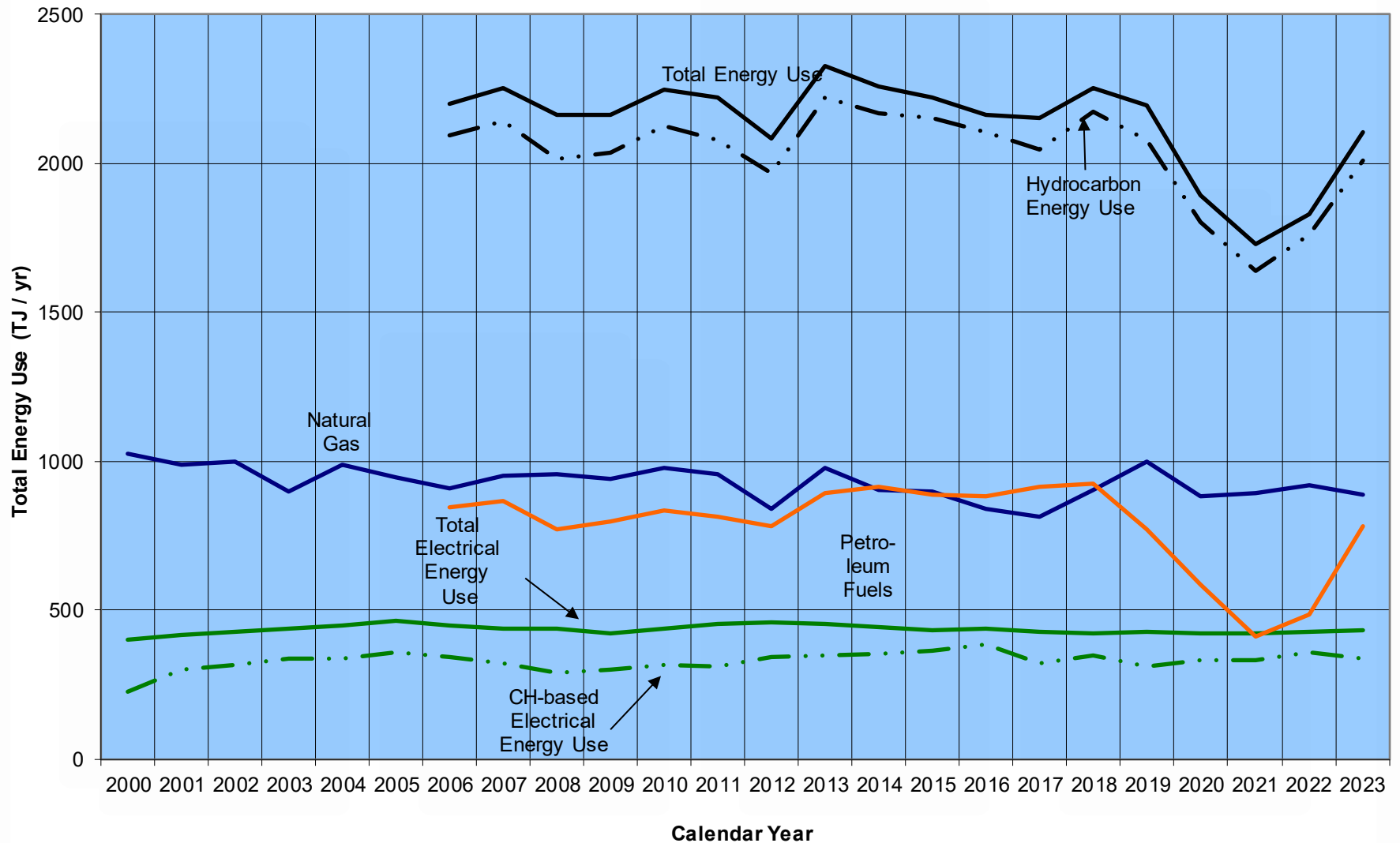


Fig. 2.4B. Annual Energy Use



**Fig. 2.4C. Average Annual Energy Use
2011 - 2023**

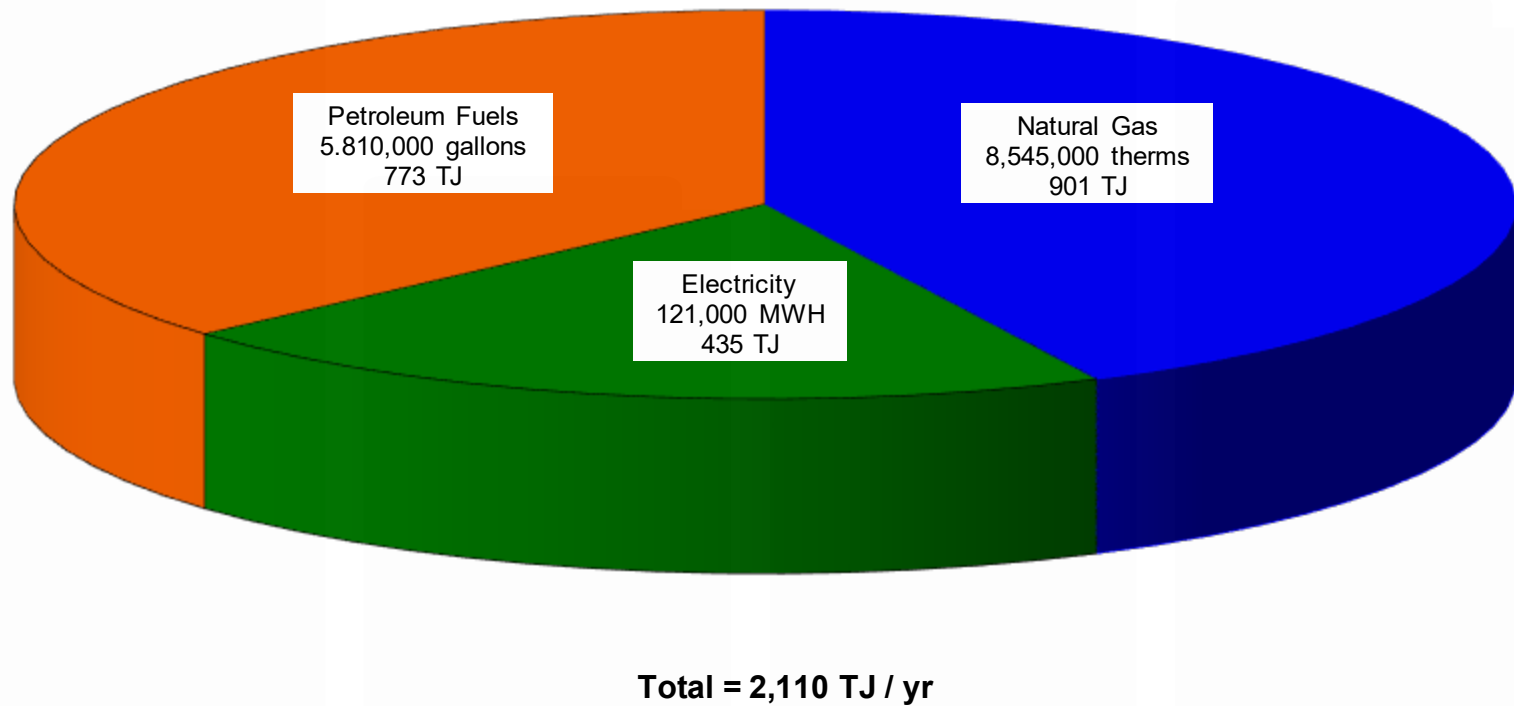
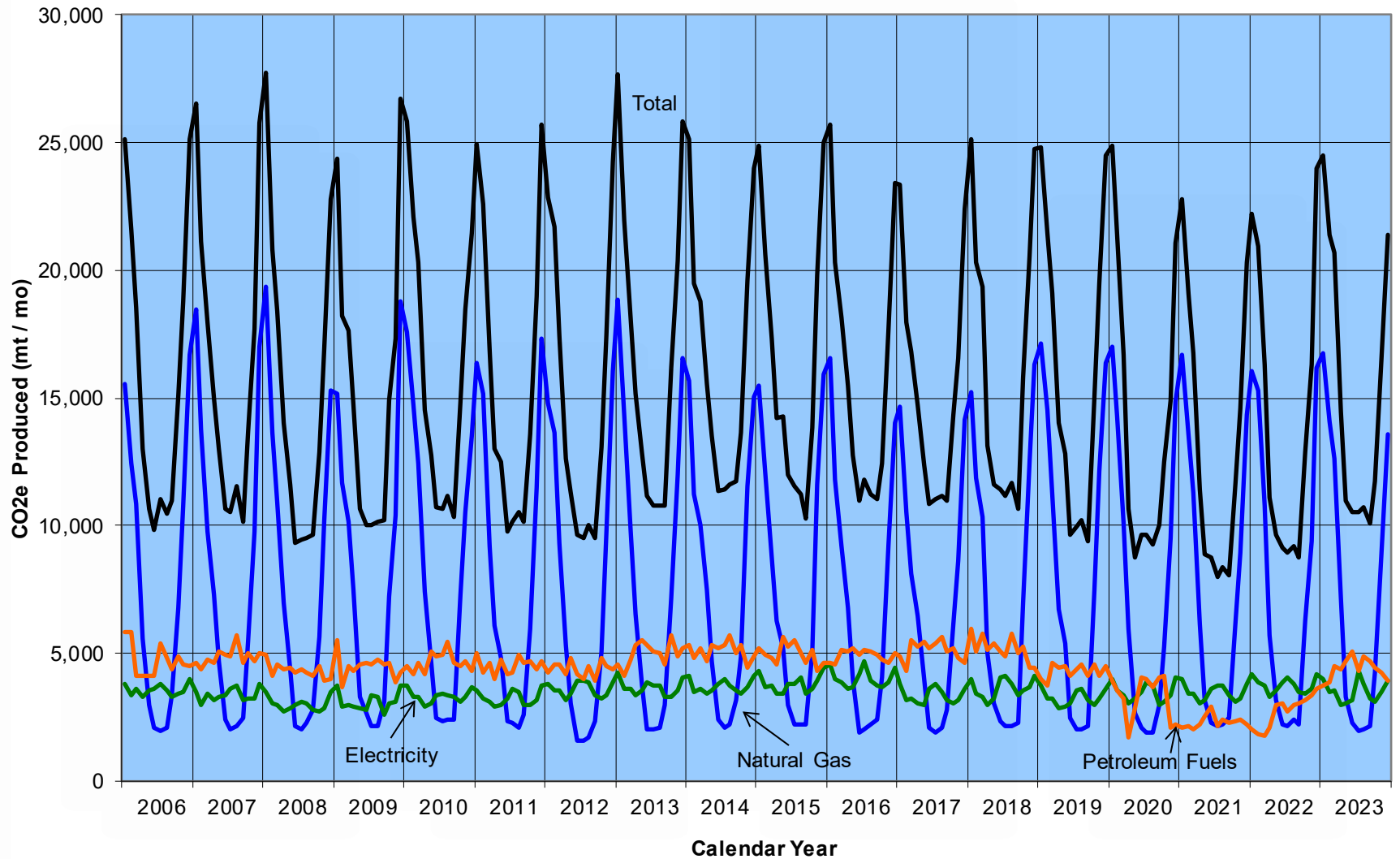
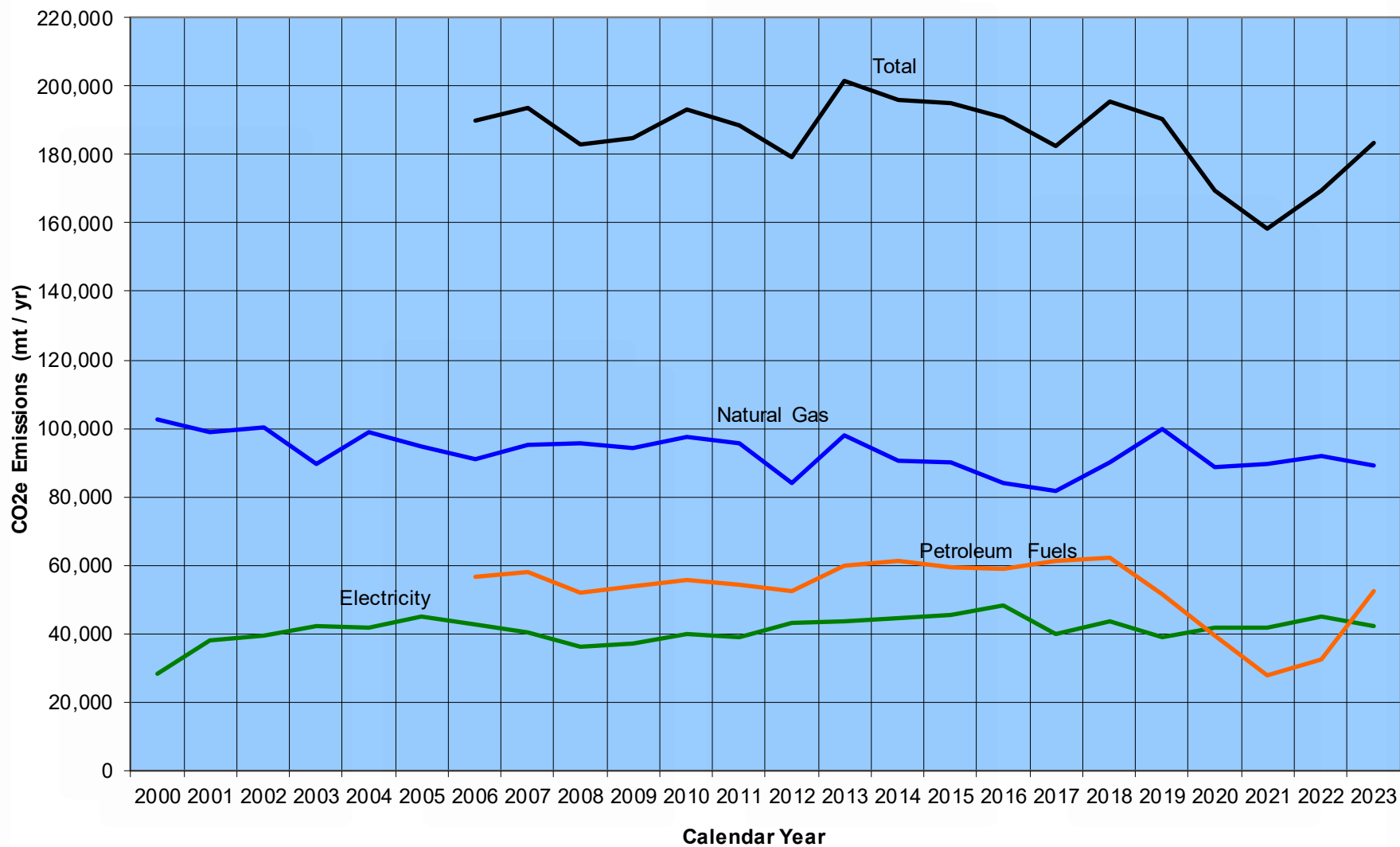


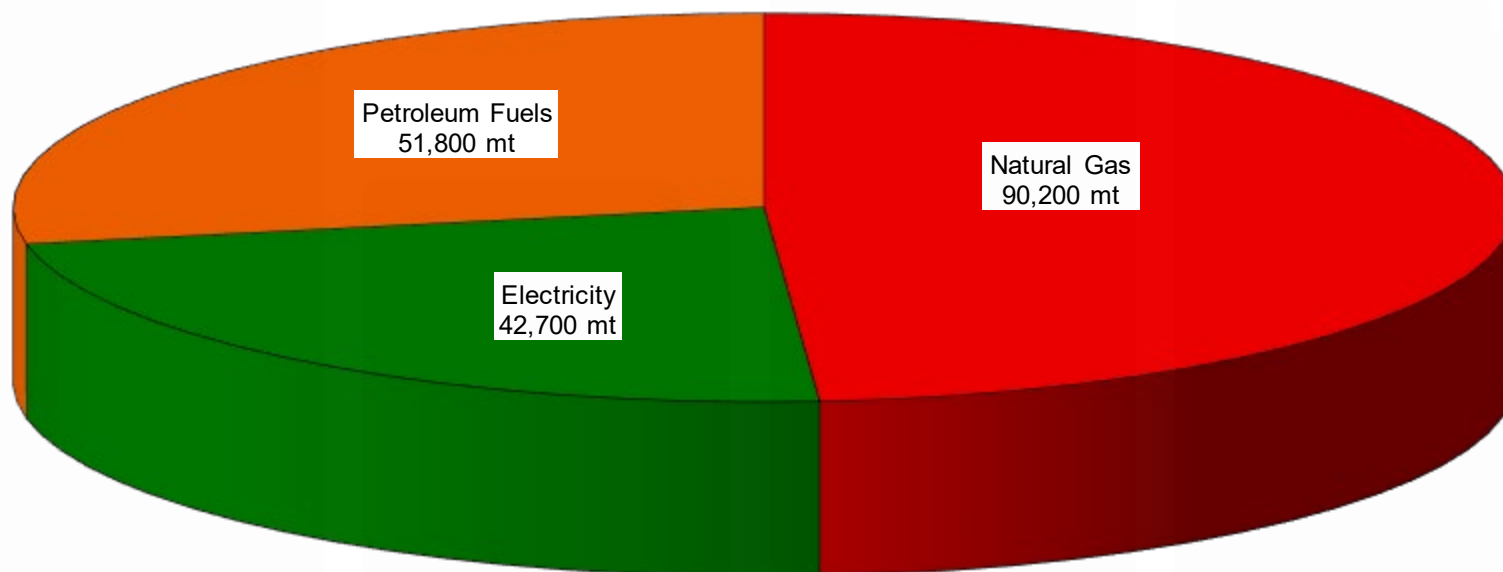
Fig. 3.4A. MONTHLY GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS



**Fig. 3.4B. ANNUAL GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS
FROM HYDROCARBON FUELS**



**Fig. 3.4C. Average Annual Greenhouse Gas Emissions
from Combustion of Hydrocarbon Fuels
2011 - 2023**



Total = 184,700 mt / yr

Fig. 4.1. Municipal Solid Waste

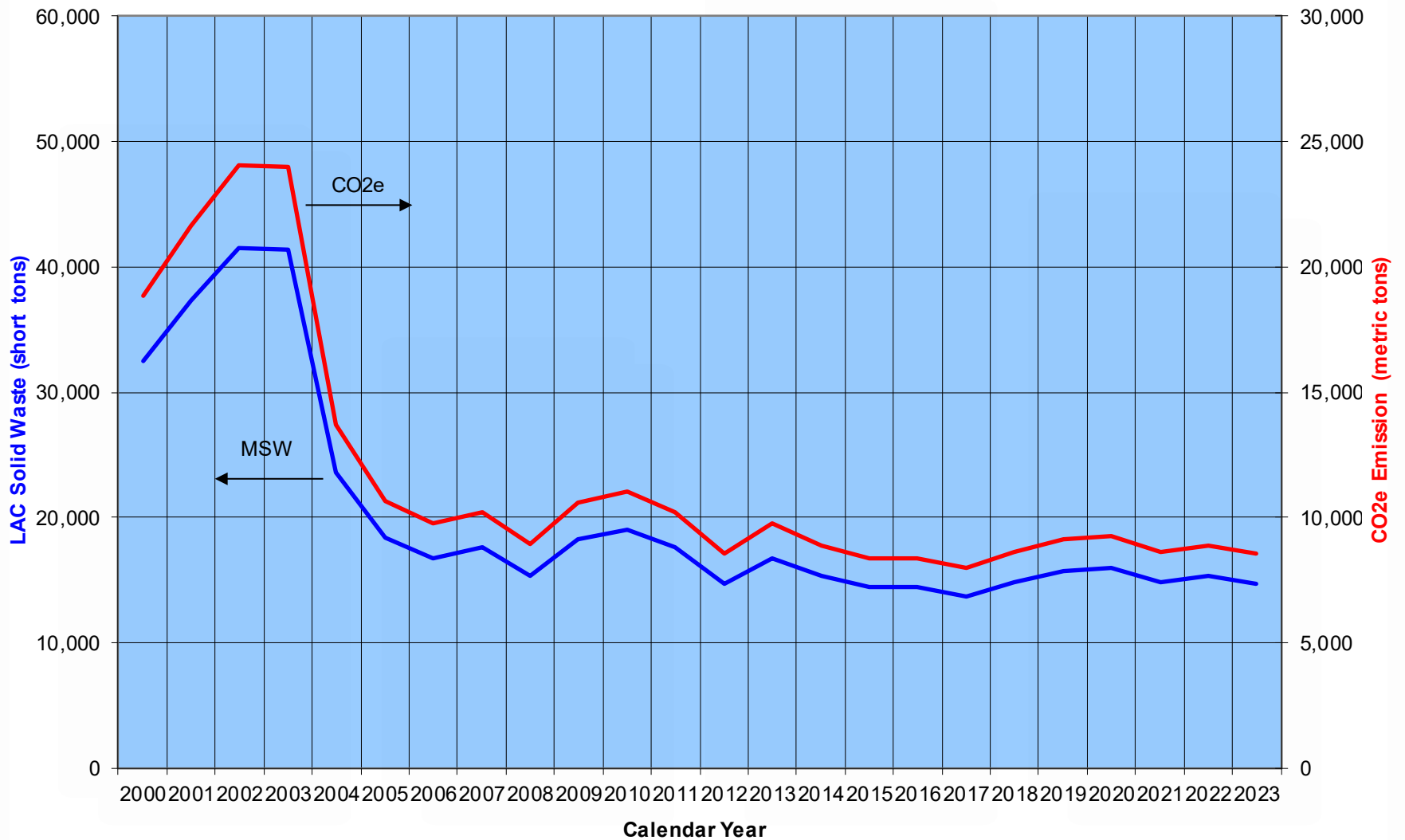
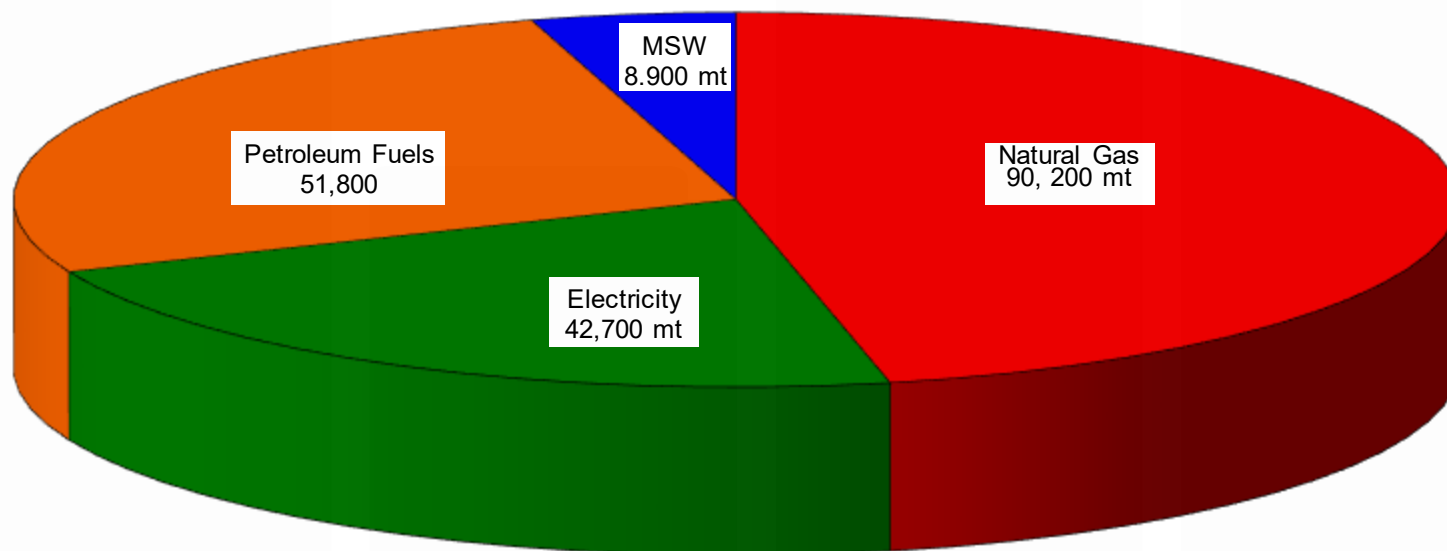


Fig. 4.2.
Average Total Annual Greenhouse Gas Emissions
from Hydrocarbon Fuels and Municipal Solid Waste
2011-2023



Total = 193,500 mt / yr

Principal Observations

- Natural Gas
 - Use declining slowly, mostly due to warming climate
 - Use roughly tracks heating demand (degree days)
 - $\geq 25\%$ of usage is secondary, not space heating
 - $\geq 75\%$ of usage is residential (~60% in summer)
 - CH_4 emission factor is a major uncertainty
- Electricity
 - Annual use basically flat since 2005
 - Demand peaks summer and winter
 - ~50% of usage is residential
- Petroleum
 - Usage dropped ~50% during pandemic
 - Confidence less than others, but should be consistent
- Solid Waste
 - Declining very slowly

**ENERGY USE
AND
GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS
IN
LOS ALAMOS COUNTY:
2000 - 2023**

R. B. Gibson

Version 11.2 of: 16 September 2024

ENERGY USE AND GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS IN LOS ALAMOS COUNTY: 2000 - 2023

Executive Summary

Greenhouse gasses emitted into the atmosphere are inducing major changes in our climate. For its part, Los Alamos began pursuing “independence from hydrocarbon energy sources” nearly two decades ago. The specific supporting goals so far established are “to be a carbon neutral electric utility provider by 2040” and “support elimination of natural gas usage by 2070.” To provide a quantitative basis for other specific goals and a baseline against which to measure progress, primary energy use and greenhouse gas emission data are summarized in this report for 2000-2023.

The citizens of Los Alamos County, exclusive of the Los Alamos National Laboratory, consume about 2100 terajoules (TJ) of energy annually. 43% of that is in the form of natural gas, used primarily for space and water heating. 20% is electrical energy. The balance, 37%, is the energy content of petroleum-based fuels for motor vehicles.

Altogether, there has been little change in primary energy use in LA since 2000.

Natural gas use has been declining by an average of about one-half percent per year throughout the period as our climate has warmed. Electricity use rose about 3% per year until it peaked in 2005. Average annual usage has varied, but there is no sustained up or down trend since. Reliable petroleum-based fuel (gasoline and diesel oil) data is only available since 2006. Use of petroleum fuels fell more than 10% in 2008, but rebounded half of that. 2008 saw high fuel prices and rapid growth of the new Atomic City Transit local bus service. Petroleum use started a slow rise in 2013. 2018 saw the highest petroleum use in the period. 2020-22 saw a 50% drop during the COVID-19 pandemic.

About 5% of LA’s total energy comes from renewable non-hydrocarbon sources as roughly 25% of its electricity is produced from hydroelectric plants. Most of the remaining electricity comes from hydrocarbon (coal and natural gas) steam plants. Natural gas, coal, and petroleum fuels are all hydrocarbons.

Carbon dioxide and CO₂-equivalent emissions associated with combustion of hydrocarbon fuels total about 185,000 metric tons annually. 49% is from natural gas. 23% is associated with electrical power generation. 28% is emitted by motor vehicles burning petroleum fuels. An additional 9,000 metric tons per year of CO₂-equivalent greenhouse gasses evolve from municipal solid waste disposed of by LA citizens.

This report could be improved upon. Suggestions are included.

ENERGY USE AND GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS IN LOS ALAMOS COUNTY: 2000 - 2023

1 Introduction

Los Alamos (LA) county government formally committed in 2007 to “pursue independence from hydrocarbon energy sources.”¹ That adopted strategic objective disappeared four years later. But LA citizens continue to have a strong sense of environmental stewardship, of which reducing greenhouse gas emissions is one major component. Establishment of concrete goals in that pursuit requires a baseline of historic data on LA’s energy use and consequent greenhouse gas emissions. Carbon dioxide (CO₂), a “greenhouse” gas is released in combustion of hydrocarbon (CH) fuels. Other greenhouse gasses (GHG) escape from the CH fuel supply chain and evolve from decomposing municipal solid waste (MSW). This document summarizes available data for the County, excluding the Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL), for both energy use and resultant GHG emissions for the period 2000-2023. It does not include emissions associated with consumable products.

This document follows much of the same methodology contained in the 2006 report, “Powering Los Alamos through the 21st Century: Could the Energy City be Energy Independent?” by the ad hoc group Energy Independent Los Alamos.² More motivation and detail can be found in that report. The present document supersedes, updates, and corrects errors in similarly-titled earlier reports in 2010, 2012, 2013, 2015, 2016, 2019, and 2021.³

2 Energy Use

Energy is imported into and used in Los Alamos in three primary forms: natural gas (largely methane, CH₄) principally for space and water heating, electrical power, and petroleum-based gasoline and diesel oil.

2.1 Natural Gas

Natural gas is supplied to the community through the LA County (LAC) Department of Public Utilities (DPU). Complete and detailed use data are available for many decades.⁴

Monthly and annual natural gas use is shown in Figures 2.1A & B. Units are k therms (1000’s of therms). One therm equals 100,000 BTU’s. These figures depict data tabulated and explained in Appendix A2.1 which are, in turn, derived from LAC DPU reports.

Figure 2.1A shows the expected seasonal variation in natural gas usage. Natural gas use should correlate with heating demand, which can be represented by heating degree days. The midsummer minimum gas usage is approximately 200 k therms per month. This is presumably the amount used in warm weather for water heating, cooking, clothes drying, and pilot lights. Above that baseline, each heating degree day in a winter month results in approximately 1250 therms of gas use and less in the other seasons. The scale for heating degree days (right side of figure) is offset to reflect a 200,000 therms per month baseline and the scale factor of 1250 therms per degree day.

Correlation is excellent in winter, when gas use is highest, and qualitatively quite good through the entire year. The overall annual demand for natural gas averages 1110 therms per heating degree day.

Figure 2.1B shows annual natural gas use and heating degree days. Heating requirements (as represented by heating degree days) over the period have declined an average of about 0.33% per year. Annual natural gas use has declined an average of about 0.44%.

2.2 Electricity

Electrical power is also supplied to the community through LAC DPU.

Monthly and annual electricity usage is shown in Figures 2.2A & B. Units are megawatt-hours (MWh). Figure 2.2A shows that electricity use is slightly higher during summer and winter than spring and fall. Summer demand peaks are driven by water pumping and, increasingly, air conditioning. Winter demand peaks arise from additional lighting, cooking, water heating, electronic entertainment, etc.

From Figure 2.2B, it can be seen that usage rose steadily by an average of about 3% per year until 2005. There is no clear trend since then; annual use appears to be nominally steady. Figure 2.2B also shows the portion of LA's total electric power derived from CH-fueled (coal and gas) power plants, hydroelectric dams, and LAC DPU's solar array at the old landfill. Hydroelectric production dropped sharply in 2014 when the El Vado generator was removed from service for major maintenance and further in 2015 when the Abiquiu generator was shut down for dam maintenance by the Corps of Engineers. Both hydro plants were back on line in early 2017, but continue to have intermittently-limited output due to both plant-related and dam-related issues.

Figure 2.2 is derived from data supplied by LAC DPU. Appendix A2.2 shows the data in tabular form and discusses issues associated with its extraction from DPU reports.⁵

2.3 Petroleum Fuels

The amount of petroleum-based motor vehicle fuels dispensed in the county, starting in 2006, is depicted in Figure 2.3A. Data for prior years are not considered reliable.

Motor vehicle fuel use shows little systematic seasonal or monthly variation. Most monthly spikes and dips, such as in early 2009, are presumably reporting artifacts. There was a significant decline in usage, more than 10%, from late 2007 through the end of 2008. The two factors that may have accounted for this drop were the high price of gasoline and the initiation (in October, 2007) and rapid growth of Atomic City Transit service. The partial recovery in 2009 suggests both were factors. A slow decline in apparent petroleum use reversed sharply in 2013, after the new Smith's station opened. The cause of the apparent drop in 2019 is unknown; a reporting change would be most likely. The COVID pandemic greatly reduced motor vehicle travel in 2020-22. Fuel use dropped by approximately 50% during many months. The relatively high usage rate in May-October of 2020 is a mystery. It may not be real.

This data includes fuel sold or otherwise dispensed within LA County. It is a reasonable guess that it approximates what is actually used within the county. It is known that maybe one-fourth of gasoline is sold to customers with addresses out of the county, presumably mostly commuters and tourists. Local residents presumably also buy fuel “off the Hill” and use it here. The two offset one another to some unknowable degree. It is assumed for this work that local use equals the amount locally dispensed.

More than 80% of petroleum used locally is in the form of gasoline sold through privately-owned service stations whose owners are under no obligation to make their sales information public. They do report it to the NM Dept. of Taxation and Revenue (NM TRD), which aggregates sale amounts by locality since some portion of the state tax on gasoline is returned to local governments. NM TRD has kindly provided monthly total amounts of taxable gasoline dispensed in LA County.⁶ Diesel sales add an estimated 10% to that amount and gasoline untaxed at the pump adds another estimated 5%. Los Alamos County government and Los Alamos Public Schools largely fuel their own vehicles and have also supplied their data for this report.

Appendix A2.3 shows the petroleum fuel data in tabular form and discusses the many issues associated with it. Uncertainties are greater than with LAC DPU data for natural gas and electricity, but appear to be both approximately correct (based on discussions with local vendors) and reasonably consistent since 2006. NM TRD data for years prior to 2006 is too inconsistent to be relied upon.

2.4 Total Primary Energy Use

Natural gas and electricity are measured commercially in units of therms, and watt-hours, respectively. Both are units of energy. Petroleum fuels are measured in gallons, a unit of liquid volume, not energy. However, petroleum fuels have fairly consistent energy content per gallon so volume can be converted to energy content. (Details are in Appendix A2.4.) This is a theoretical energy content of the fuel. Its conversion to useful work in a motor vehicle is very inefficient, less than 10%.

A comprehensive picture of energy use requires conversion of the various commercial units of measure to one common unit. The standard (MKS) scientific unit of energy is the Joule. For present purposes, the terajoule, TJ (1 TJ = 10^{12} Joules) is a more conveniently sized unit.

Conversion factors are:⁷

1 therm	= 1.055×10^4 TJ
1 MWh	= 3.600×10^3 TJ
1 gallon	= 1.33×10^{-4} TJ (average energy content)

Appendix B provides a more complete table of conversion factors.

Monthly and annual summaries for each form of energy and the combined total, all in terajoules, are shown in Figures 2.4A & B. Figure 2.4B also shows how much of that total annual use is derived from hydrocarbon fuels. It is about 95%. Details are in Appendices A2.2 and A2.4. Average annual energy use totals for 2011-2023 are depicted in Figure 2.4C.

Fig. 2.1A. Monthly Natural Gas Use Correlated to Heating Degree Days

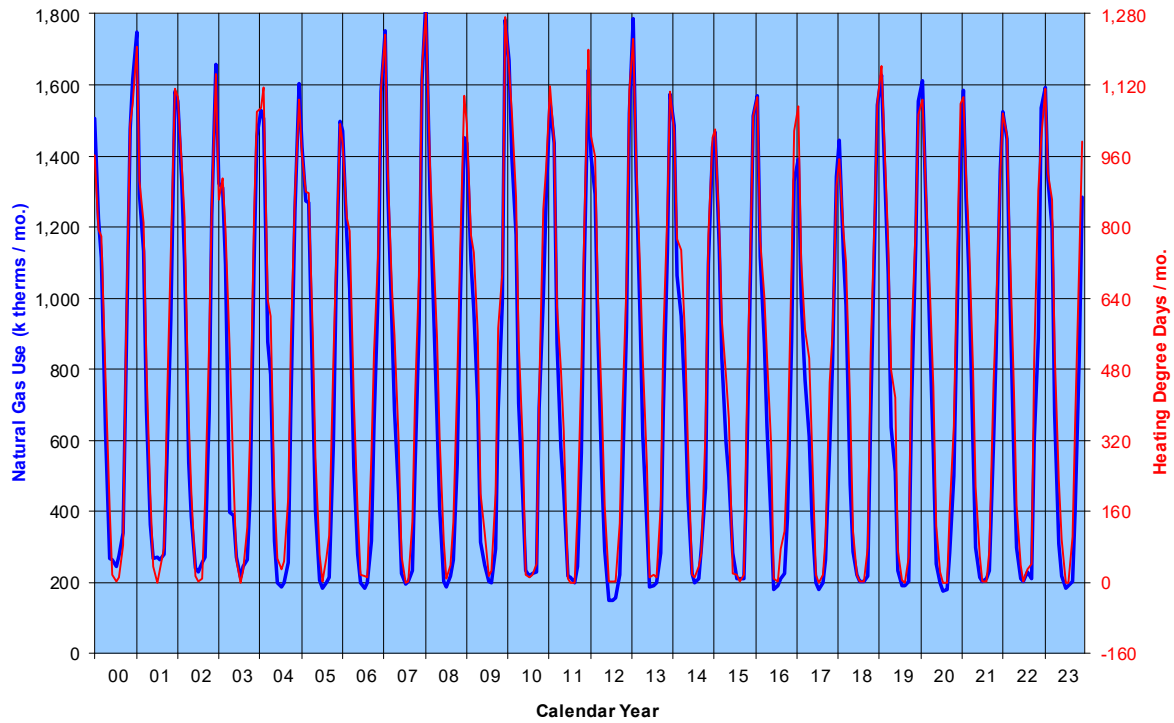


Fig. 2.1B. Annual Natural Gas Use Compared to Heating Degree Days

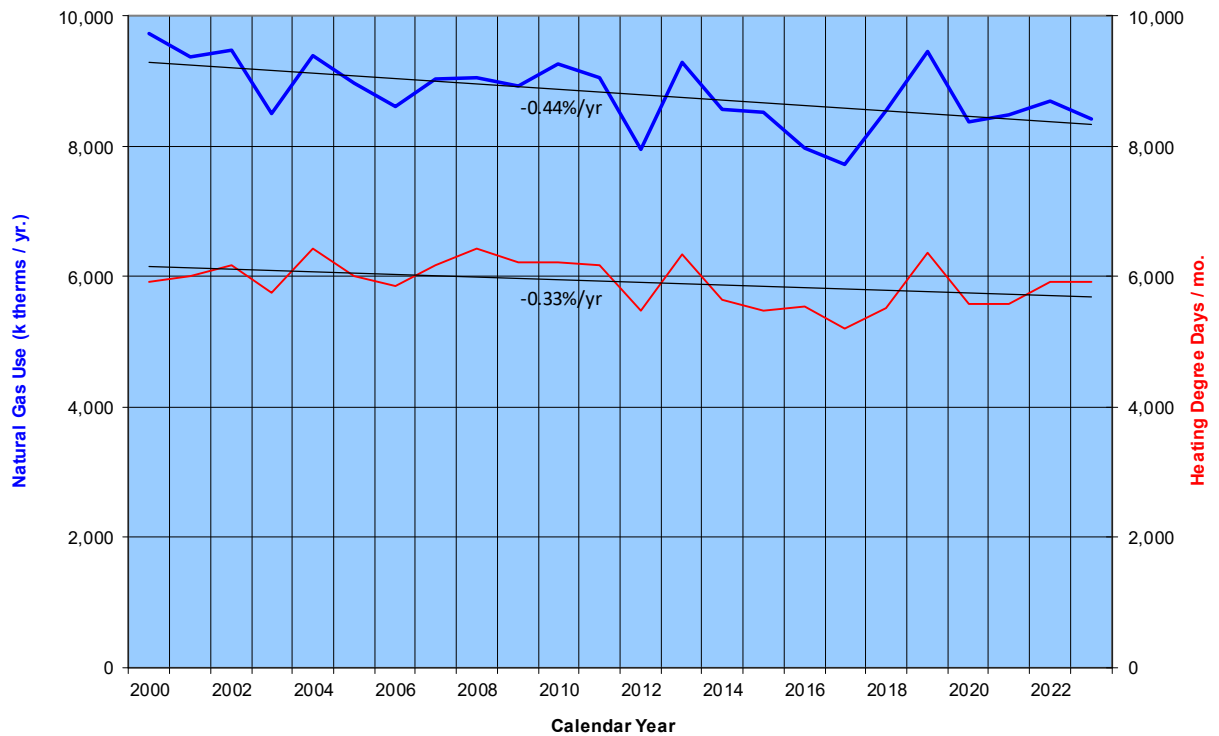


Fig. 2.2A. Monthly Electricity Use

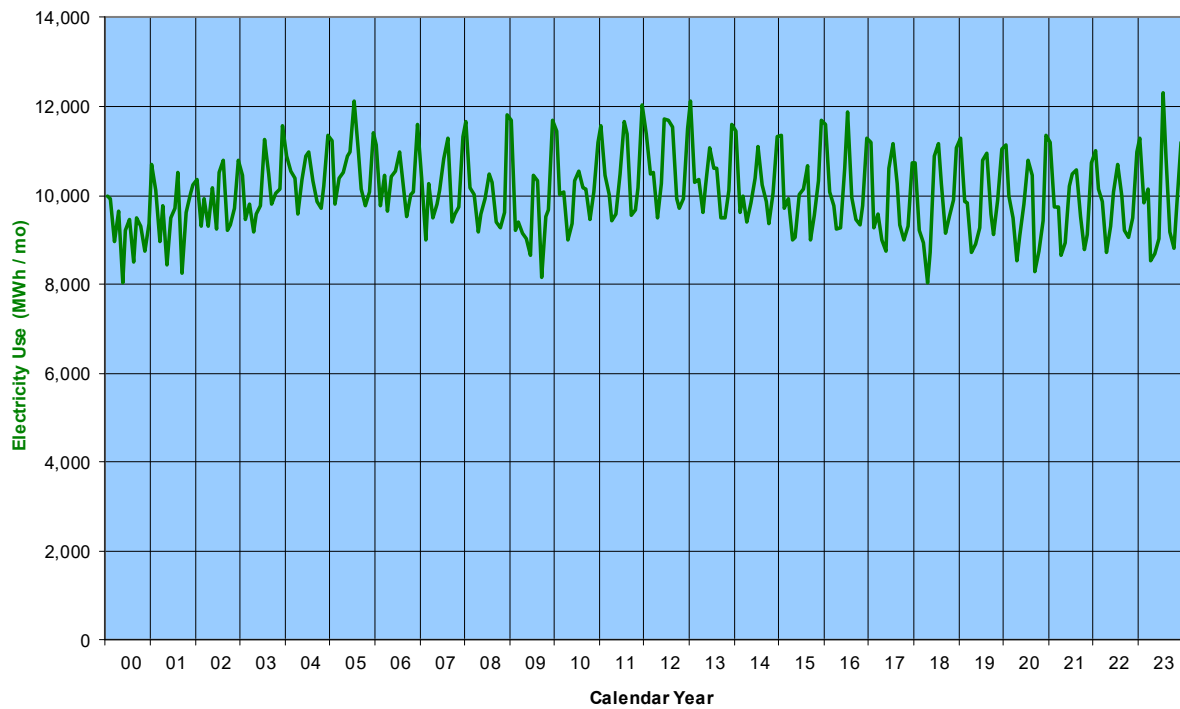


Fig. 2.2B. Annual Electricity Use & Sources

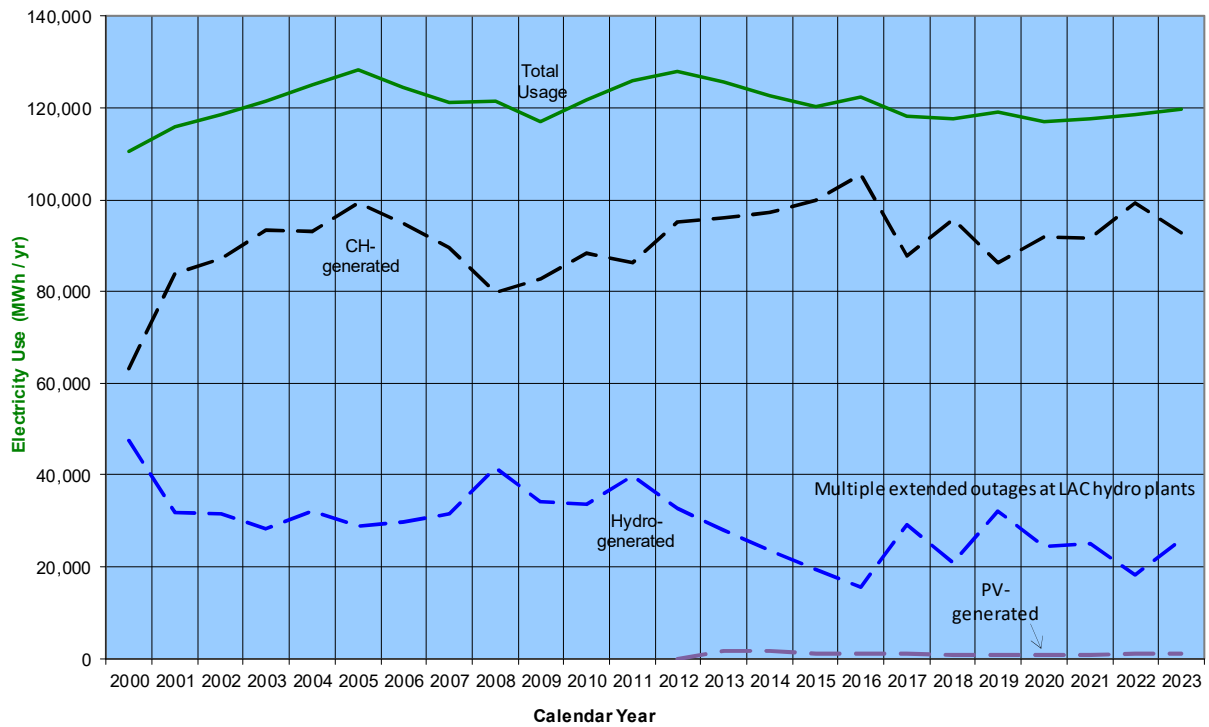


Fig. 2.3A. Total Petroleum Fuels Dispensed

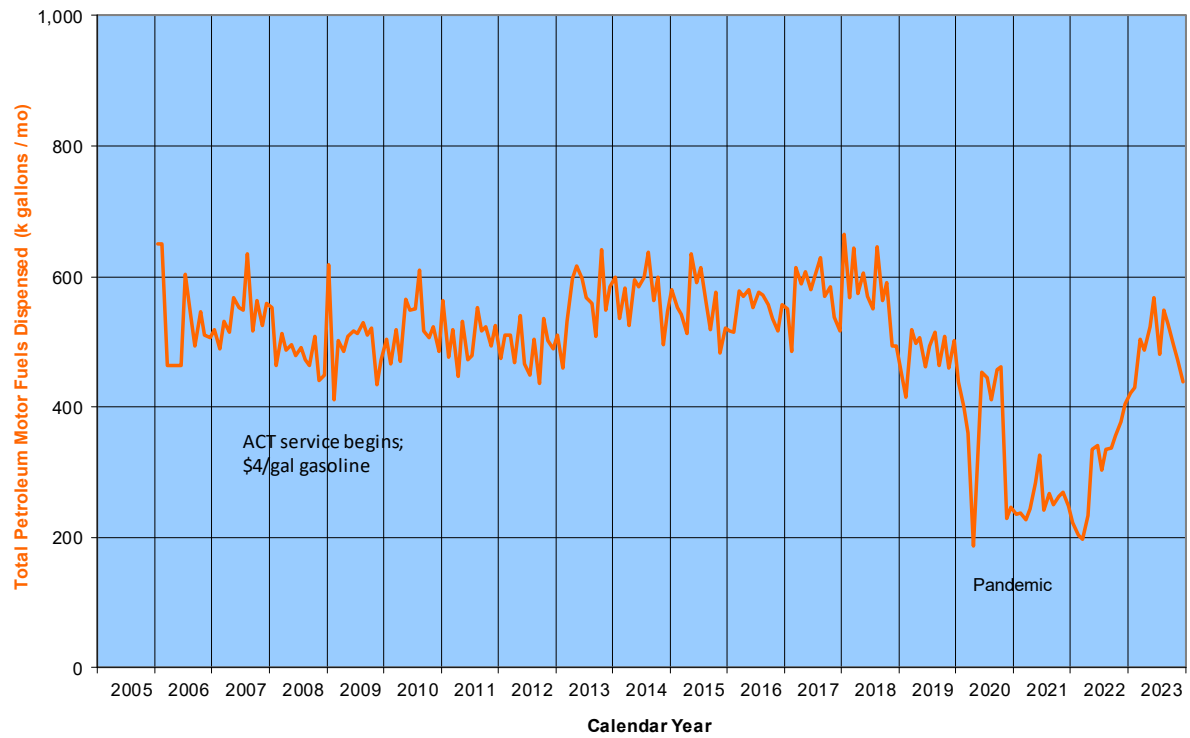


Fig. 2.3B. Annual Petroleum Fuel Use

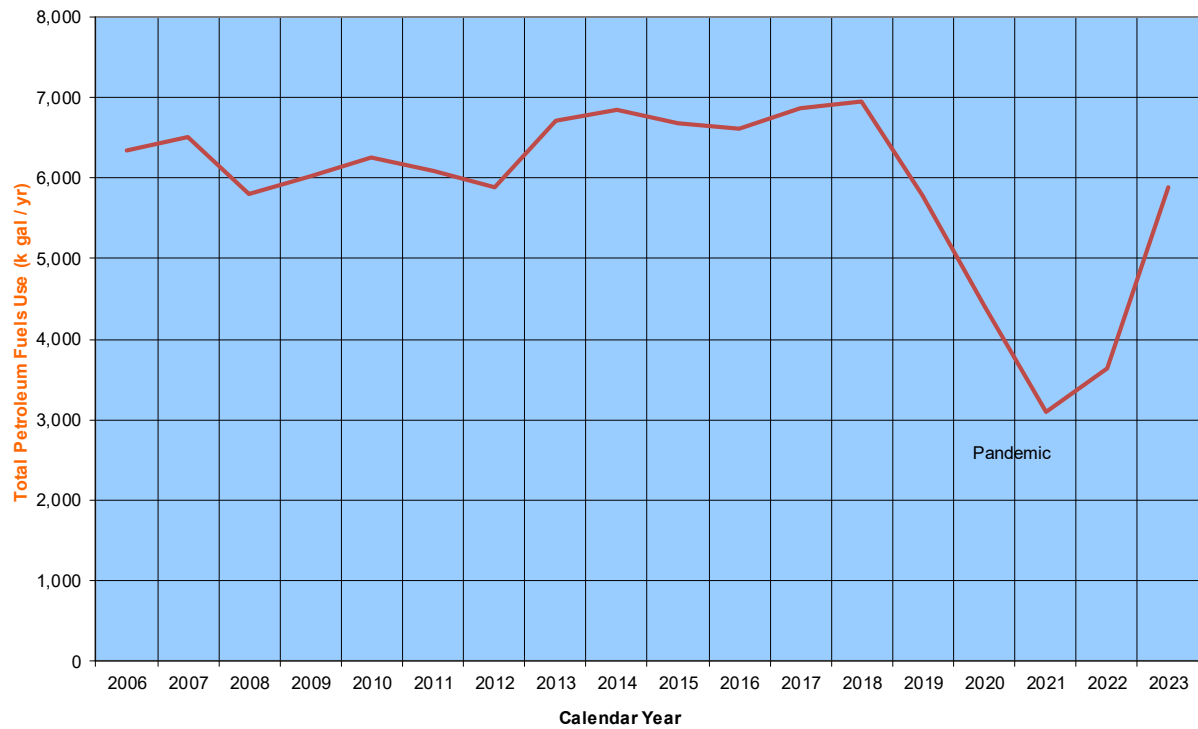


Fig. 2.4A. Monthly Energy Use

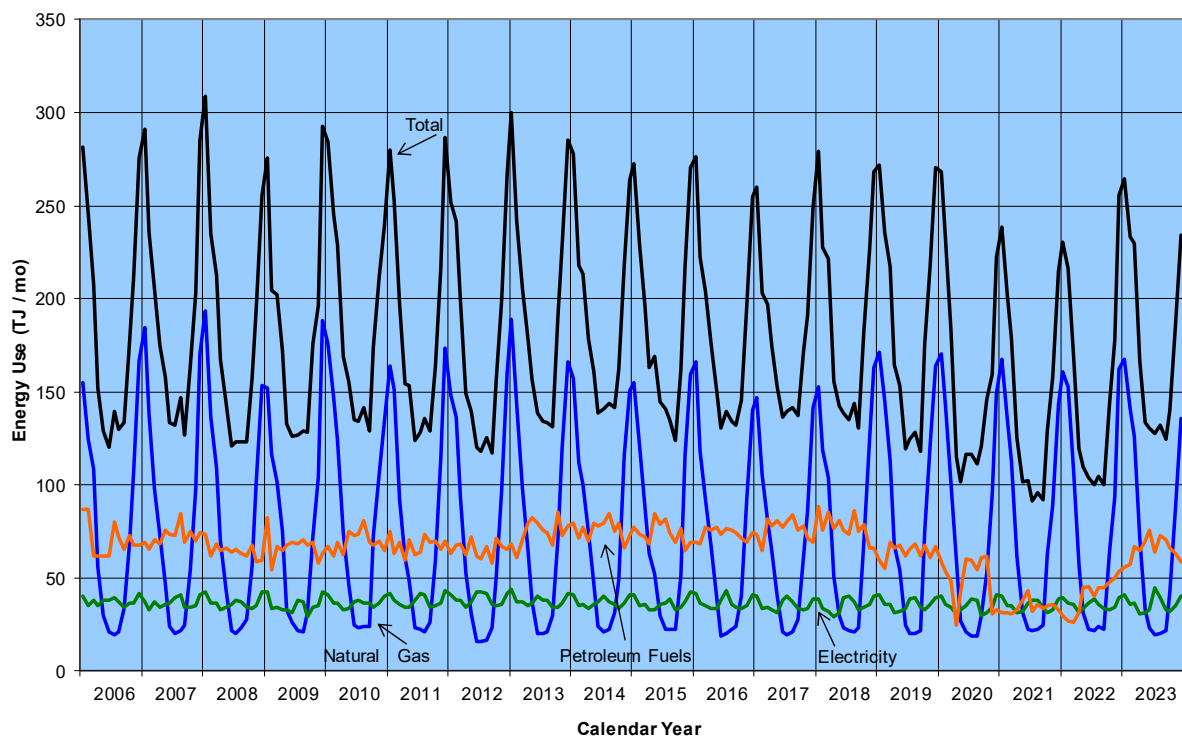
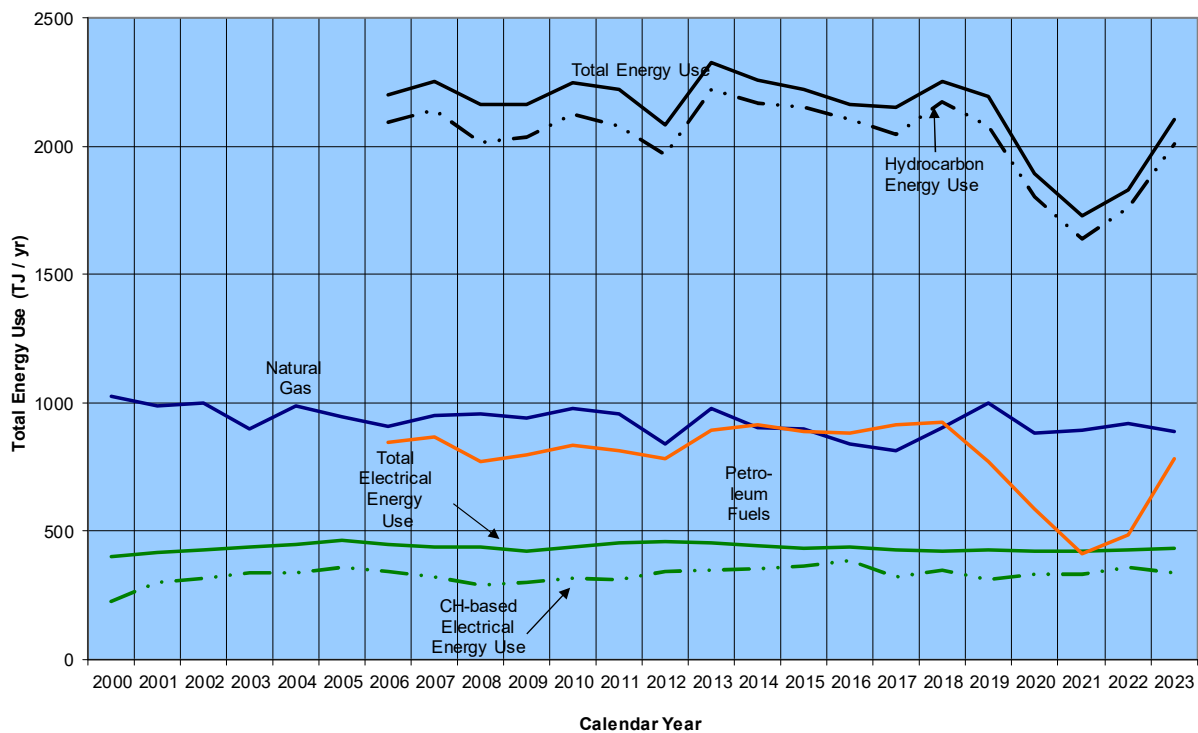
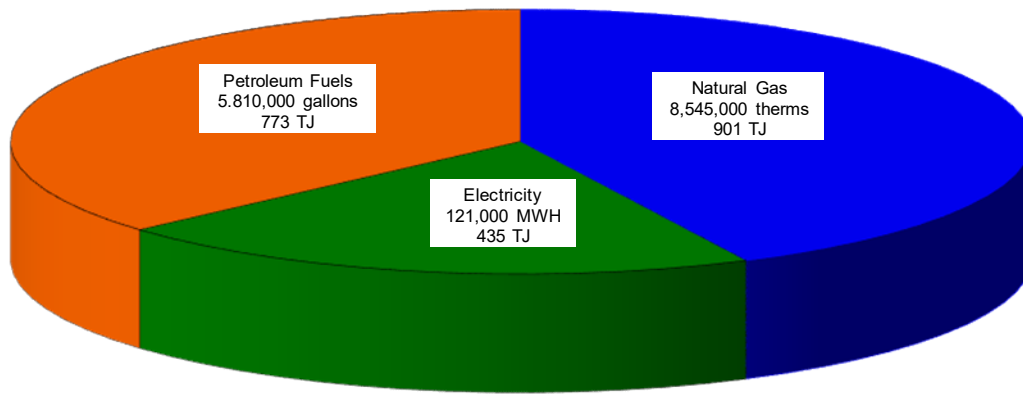


Fig. 2.4B. Annual Energy Use



**Fig. 2.4C. Average Annual Energy Use
2011 - 2023**



Total = 2,110 TJ / yr

3 Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Hydrocarbon Fuels

Combustion of hydrocarbon fuels produces water (H₂O) principally as a vapor, CO₂ which is also a vapor, and small quantities of other gasses and particulate by-products. The water produced by combustion is small compared to the moisture already present in the atmosphere and has little environmental impact. CO₂ is a “greenhouse” gas, generally believed to affect the global climate. Different fuels produce different amounts of CO₂.⁸ Again, a common measure is needed. This document uses mass (in kilograms) of carbon dioxide. A metric ton (mt) is 1,000 kilograms.

Combustion of natural gas produces about 50 mt of CO₂ for each terajoule of thermal energy produced. Natural gas is primarily methane, CH₄, which has about 28 times more global warming potential than CO₂ (over 100 years).⁹ Natural gas leaks into the atmosphere from well fields, transmission lines, and incomplete combustion. Well field emissions are by far the largest of these. LA gets most of its gas from the Permian Basin, the second-leakiest well field in the country. A conservative estimate of the total leak rate is 3.6%, as discussed in Appendix A3.1. Thus, the global warming contribution from these fugitive emissions of natural gas is comparable to that from burning it. While not rigorously correct, this report will call that combined effect of both gasses CO₂-equivalent or CO₂e, 100 mt per terajoule of thermal energy. Well field and most transmission leaks are physically remote, but are part of the process by which gas is supplied to LA county. LA end users are thus responsible for them.

LA County and LANL pool their electrical power resources into a Los Alamos Power Pool (LAPP) through an Energy Coordination Agreement (ECA). The majority of LAPP’s electricity originates in steam power plants which burn coal or (increasingly) natural gas, both hydrocarbons. The burning of coal produces about 125 mt of CO₂ for each terajoule of electrical energy produced. While the CO₂ is actually emitted into the atmosphere at power plants remote from LA, again local usage is certainly responsible for it.

A substantial fraction, roughly 21% in recent years, of LA’s electrical power is hydroelectric in origin. (Since 2000, the actual annual amount has varied from 13% to 43%; see Table A2.2.2. Percentages were in the lower part of this range during the last decade when the El Vado and/or Abiquiu hydroelectric plants were frequently off-line for various reasons.) Electricity generated from hydroelectric or other renewable resources such as wind, solar, etc. produces no CO₂ during generation itself.

Both gasoline and diesel fuel produce approximately 67 tons of CO₂ for each terajoule of energy content in the fuel.

Total monthly CO₂e production from all three forms of primary energy is depicted in Figure 3.4A, starting with 2006. Figure 3.4B shows the annual totals starting with 2000. Average annual CO₂e production for 2011-2023 is depicted in Figure 3.4C.

Another significant emitter of greenhouse gasses is municipal solid waste, considered separately in Sec. 4.

Fig. 3.4A. MONTHLY GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

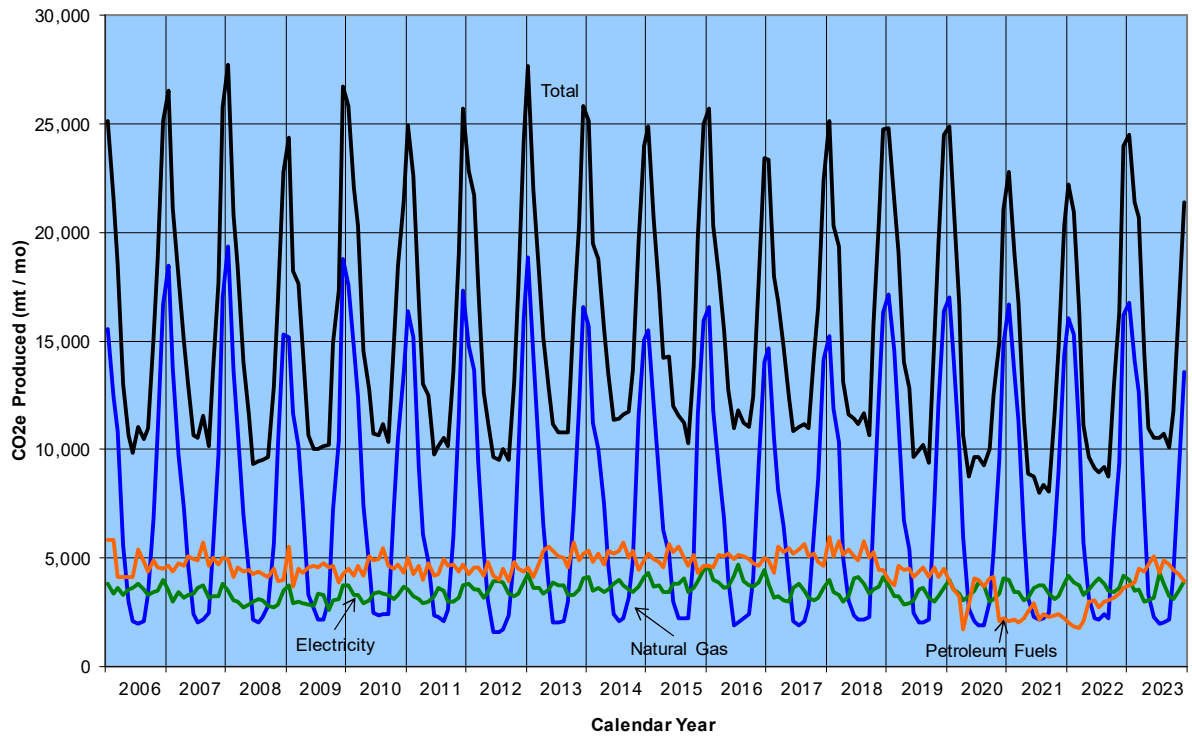
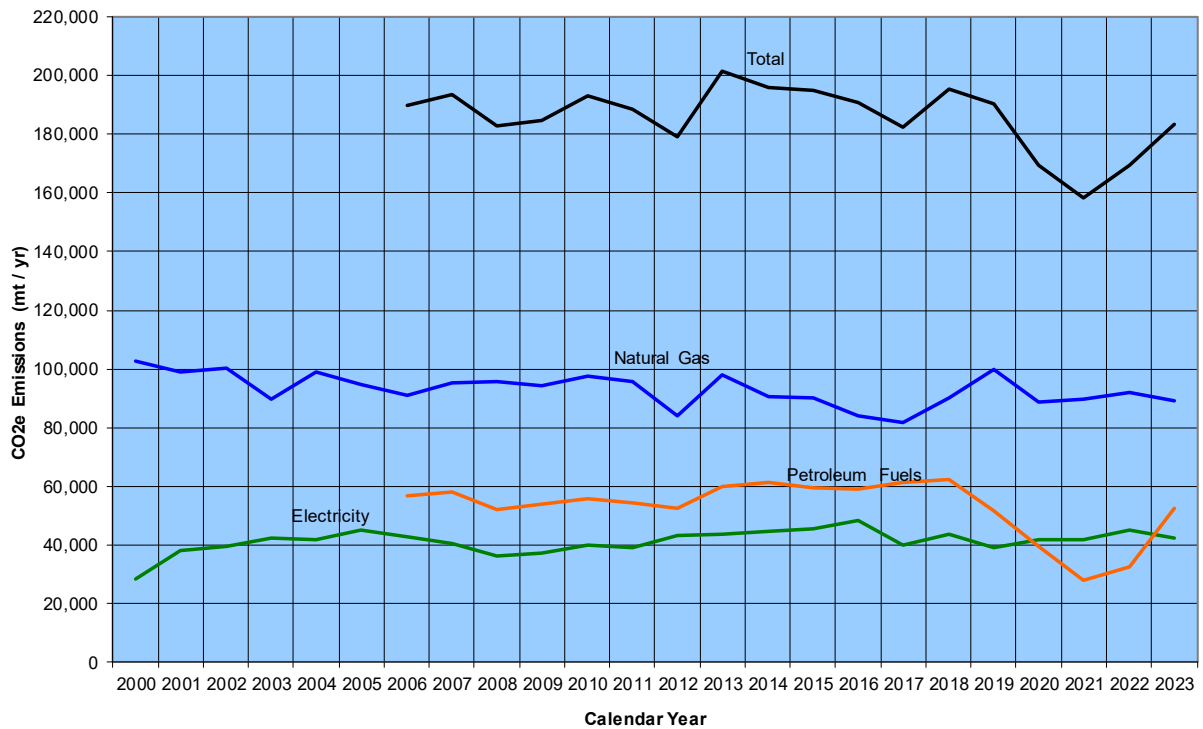
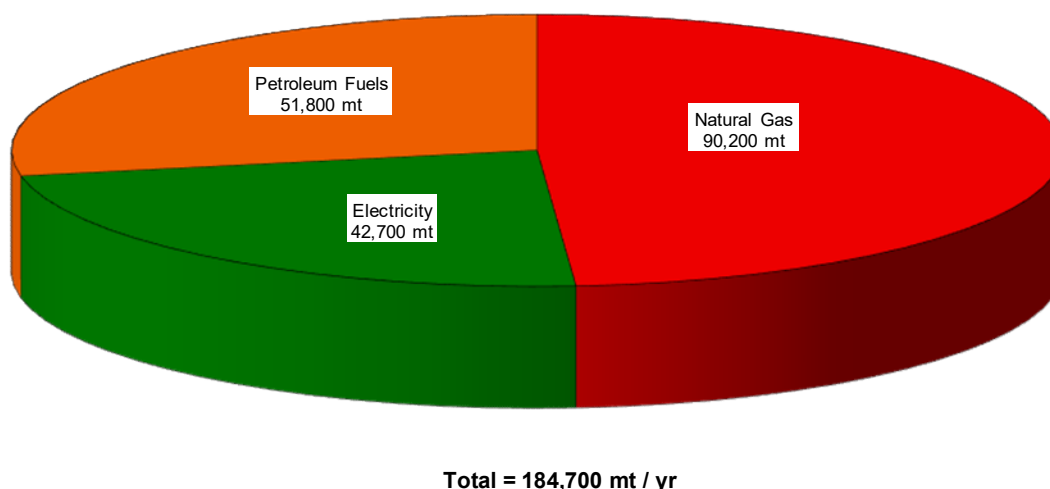


Fig. 3.4B. ANNUAL GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS FROM HYDROCARBON FUELS



**Fig. 3.4C. Average Annual Greenhouse Gas Emissions
from Combustion of Hydrocarbon Fuels
2011 - 2023**



4 Municipal Solid Waste

A fourth significant source of greenhouse gas emissions is decomposition of the materials we use and dispose of every day. There is no practical way to measure the CH content of products we acquire nor the amount of CO₂ or other greenhouse gasses associated with their manufacture or shipment. But solid waste can be measured, since virtually all of it is disposed of through LAC's Environmental Services Division (LAC ESD). Much is diverted to reuse. The balance either ends in the County landfill (prior to 2009) or is hauled to other landfills.

Solid waste handled by LAC ESD includes significant quantities from LANL and, years ago, Espanola. In the early years after the Cerro Grande Fire of 2000, it included a great deal of debris and waste associated with demolition and reconstruction. Recycling of concrete and asphalt began in 2004 and was fully implemented in 2005. Hence, data from years before 2006 is difficult to use for true baseline purposes. LAC ESD data on the total amount of waste attributed to the LA community is shown in Figure 4.1. (Note: this data is in short tons, 2000 lbs, not metric tons as used elsewhere in this report).

In a landfill, MSW slowly decomposes, evolving primarily methane (CH₄) and CO₂. As noted earlier, CH₄ is also a greenhouse gas, 28 times more effective (over 100 years) per unit of mass at trapping heat in the atmosphere than CO₂. As it decomposes over many years, each short ton of MSW deposited in a landfill will evolve a total of about 0.58 metric tons of CO₂e in greenhouse gasses.¹⁰ That amount is also shown in Figure 4.1.

Average annual CO₂e production in LA County for 2011-2023, with MSW included, is depicted in Fig 4.2.

Fig. 4.1. Municipal Solid Waste

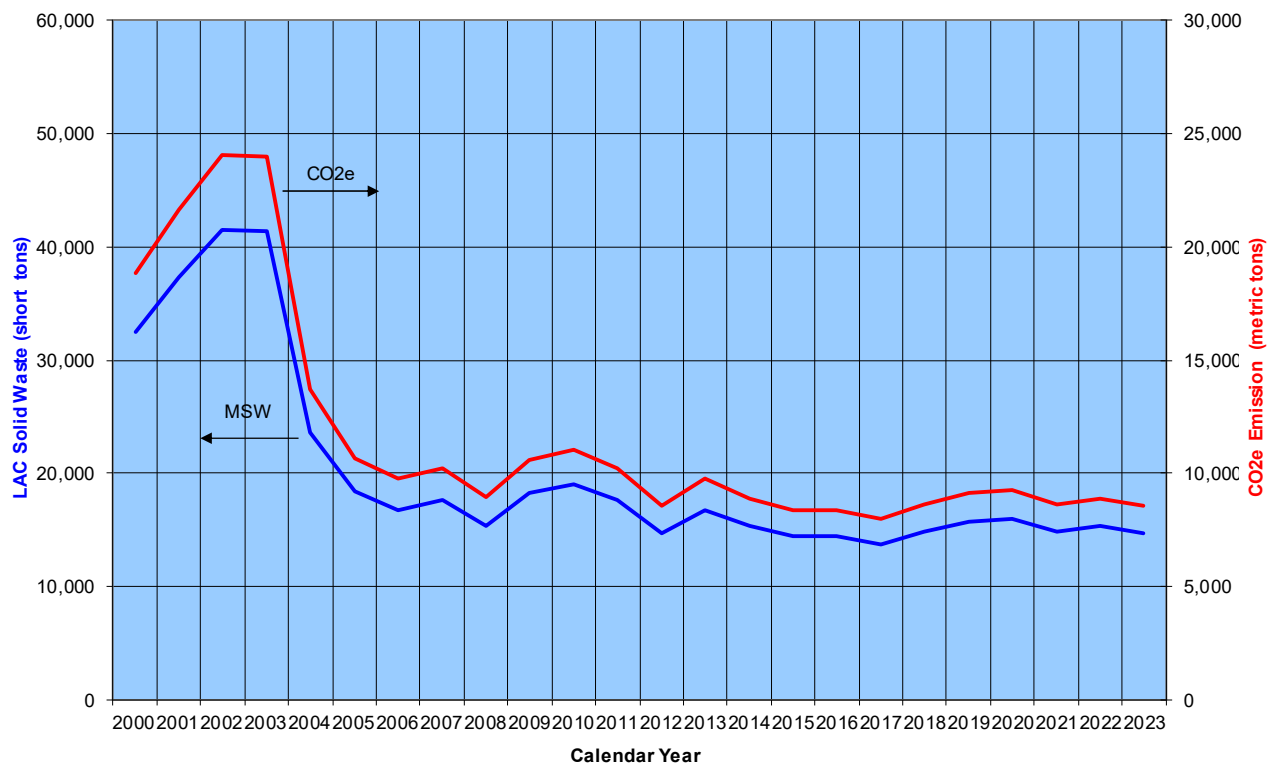
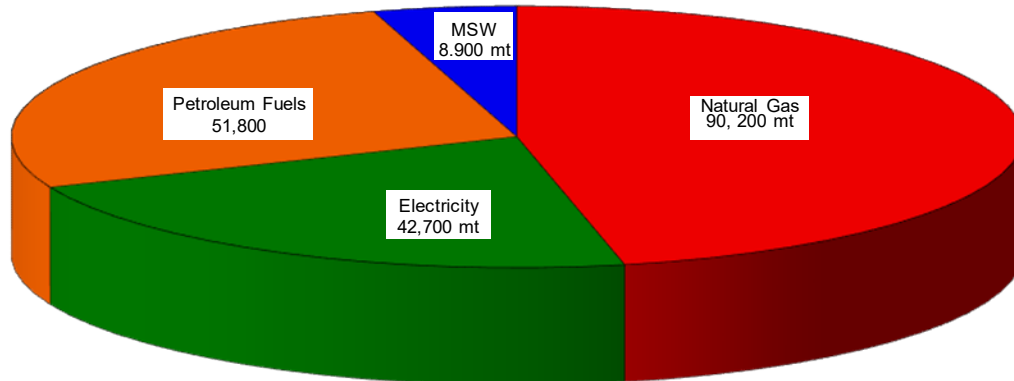


Fig. 4.2.
Average Total Annual Greenhouse Gas Emissions
from Hydrocarbon Fuels and Municipal Solid Waste
2011-2023



Total = 193,500 mt / yr

5 Observations

The slight decline in natural gas use appears due largely to lower demand thanks to the warming climate.

The amount of gas used for water heating, cooking, clothes drying, and pilot lights presumably increases during colder weather, but there is no way to determine how much from overall use data. Even at summer baseline levels, uses other than space heating account for 2.4M therms annually or at least 25% of natural gas use. The actual percentage is higher. These uses for purposes other than space heating may be fertile ground for CH use reduction by converting to solar water heating, electric (preferably induction) ranges, and electric ignition of gas appliances.

Stabilization of electricity use since 2005 after years of steady increase (extending back well before 2000) is surprising and encouraging. Long-term, electricity use is expected to increase as buildings are electrified and electric vehicles become more common.

The significant decline in petroleum-based fuel use in 2008 and 2020 shows that “behavior change” is possible. The effects of technological change (electric-drive and more efficient internal combustion vehicles) have not yet been realized to any significant degree.

Although LA's overall use of hydrocarbon energy has not decreased significantly, the fact that it has not increased for two decades is encouraging since there has been no concerted local effort until very recently to actually "pursue independence from hydrocarbon energy sources." Those efforts will take time to have noticeable impact.

Municipal solid waste comprises roughly five percent of LA's GHG emissions. Additional recycling and/or application of modern technology (power generation from the evolved CH₄ or simply flaring it) at the landfills to which it is now hauled could reduce this component of LA's "carbon footprint" significantly.

The COVID pandemic began in March, 2020, and slowly abated through the latter half of 2021. It had no noticeable effect on natural gas or electricity use. It had a large effect on petroleum fuel use and related emissions, which did not return to pre-pandemic levels until very early 2023. This had a significant effect on total energy use and GHG emissions. Averages that include this period are affected slightly.

6 Potential Improvements

This methodology and database were originally developed primarily to provide a factual basis for policy decisions and community action and as a baseline against which to measure progress on actual reductions. They appear adequate to serve both of those purposes going forward. Refinements are certainly possible, resources permitting. Possible improvements are outlined below,

6.1 Natural Gas

Usage data comes directly from DPU Consumption Reports. These reports include some LANL or LANL contractor-owned or leased properties physically located within the community. Since the intent is to exclude LANL, separating these properties would allow their usage to be removed from community usage.

The CO₂e emission factor for natural gas is dominated by fugitive well head emissions, which are quite uncertain. With the increased recognition of their magnitude nationally in recent years, better measurements should become available and should be incorporated.

Quantitative correlation of natural gas use with heating degree days would likely be improved if the reference temperature of 65° F used by LANL (and very commonly elsewhere) were adjusted downwards. In LA's sunny climate, little artificial heat is required until temperatures drop well below 65°. This refinement may not be possible or worth the effort.

6.2 Electricity

Usage data also comes from DPU Consumption Reports. As with natural gas, LANL-related properties could be separated to get a more accurate picture of non-LANL community consumption.

It may be possible to track ultimate sources of purchased power and their emission factors. Overall emission factors will then vary and could be incorporated into emission calculations vs. the single unchanging factor now used.

Electricity generated by distributed sources (“rooftop photovoltaic”) and provided to DPU actually offsets consumption in DPU Consumption Reports. DPU is currently separating that generation and consumption. Then they can be incorporated in this report correctly.

This report uses annual averages for hydroelectric production. Monthly data is available in DPU reports. It would be straightforward to incorporate.

6.3 Petroleum Fuels

Accuracy of the methodology used is uncertain. Taxable gasoline sales are presumably quite accurate. Estimates of non-taxable gasoline and diesel fuel are very rough. They don’t have a large effect if they are small, as estimated. Better estimates can likely be made from vehicle registration and other data.

The major uncertainty lies in how much fuel LA residents buy off the Hill vs. how much non-residents buy in LA. A survey question could shed light on the former.

6.4 General

Emission factors used in the report were gathered from various sources at various times. Some are 12-15 years old. They should all be reviewed, updated, and preferably based on a single, authoritative, current source.

DPU has data for electricity and natural gas (and water) usage by different categories: residential, commercial (which includes some LANL and some residential), county government, and schools. Tracking by these categories would be straightforward and yield some deeper insight into usage patterns, potential leverage, and changes over time.

Los Alamos is in the unusual position of being able to track its actual energy consumption. Most communities must rely on models based on population, number of housing units, number of motor vehicles registered, etc. LA could contribute to the science of energy use and greenhouse gas emission management by comparing various models to its actual data and thereby helping to validate or improve the available models. (Thesis project, anyone?)

Some of the cited reference links are “dead.” Links should be reviewed for current status and accuracy.

6.5 Ownership

This report has been developed and maintained over the years by the author as a personal project. If it is to be used on an on-going basis, its maintenance could be transferred to County staff while the owner is available to assist the transition.

7 Acknowledgements

The author is only the compiler of data available from public sources. Many people have made data available and helped in its interpretation. John Arrowsmith, Janet Bettinger, Karen Kendall, Cathy Crane (now D'Anna), Angela Keiter, Steve Cummins, Jordan Garcia, Joann Gentry, and others of LAC DPU helped interpret DPU's myriad reports and identify and reconcile numerous anomalies in the original data. Libby Gonzales and Theresa Smith of the Revenue Processing Division of NM TRD supplied gasoline sales reports which Jim Polk and Ross Van Lyssel helped interpret. Marina Wells, Reyann Nastacio, and Faith Gallegos of LAC Dept. of Public Works supplied data on fuel dispensed by the county government while Keith Rosenbaum and Audrey Washburn of LA Public Schools have reported LAPS fuel use since 2010. LANL's Environmental Data and Analysis Group (now EPC-CP) supplied monthly weather summaries beyond those presently posted on the LANL Weather Machine. Regina Wheeler, Tom Nagawiecki, Juanita Salazar, Angelica Gurule, and Joshua Levings of LAC ESD "sorted the trash" to estimate how much of the refuse received by LAC actually originates with LA residents (vs. LANL and other communities), evaluated various models for GHG emission from MSW, critically reviewed earlier drafts of this document, and made many valuable suggestions, as did members of the LAC Environmental Sustainability Board. Thank you all.

In spite of all the help, errors undoubtedly remain. Except for some cases where original data may not be accurate, any errors of transcription, calculation, or interpretation remain solely the responsibility of the author.

APPENDIX A

This Appendix provides data tables from which the graphical figures in the main body of the report are derived. It also discusses sources, issues, conversion factors, etc. associated with the data.

A2.1. Natural Gas

Natural gas imported into the county, starting in January, 2000, is summarized by month and county fiscal year (FY, July – June) in Table A2.1.1A.⁴ During most of that period, LAC DPU reported gas imports one month after they actually occurred, except for FY 2002-04 when they were reported during the actual month in which they occurred. DPU returned to reported during the current month in July, 2023. Months in which gas was sold to LANL for use at the TA-3 power plant are denoted in Table A2.1.1A by italicized totals. Shifting the data to the actual month of import, subtracting sales to LANL, and reorganizing by calendar year provides the monthly summary of actual gas used in Table A2.1.1B.

Table A2.1.2 (on p. 23) lists heating degree days in each month as reported by LANL.^{11,12}

A2.2. Electricity

Monthly electric power imports since 2000 are summarized in Table A2.2.1A, arranged by fiscal year.⁵ Table A2.2.1B lists energy output from the landfill solar photovoltaic array through April, 2021. Data after that date was lost due to equipment failure. Data from CY 2020 is used and shown in the chart in italics. Table A2.2.1C shows total electric power used, arranged by calendar year. LAC DPU reports electricity imports in the month in which they actually occur.

LA County and LANL pool their electrical power resources into a Los Alamos Power Pool (LAPP) through the ECA. Until the San Juan Generating Station was shut down at the end of September, 2022, the majority of LAPP's electricity originated in coal-fired steam power plants. (Coal is a hydrocarbon.) A substantial fraction is hydroelectric in origin. Table A2.2.2 lists the total amount of electricity consumed annually by LA county and LANL and that which is produced by various hydroelectric resources within LAPP.¹³ From this data, annual average percentages attributable to hydroelectric and CH-based production can be derived. In recent years, LAPP has purchased significant amounts of electricity (up to 39% of its total needs in CY 2016 and then a majority after San Juan closed) on the energy market. Original sources of this electricity are not presently tracked, although they may be in the future. Most grid power produced in NM is coal- or gas-based.¹⁴ For present purposes, it is assumed all CH power used by LAPP is produced in coal-fired plants. This may change in the future, as natural gas is likely to fire more steam power plants. Solar and perhaps wind sources will also become significant.

A2.3 Petroleum Fuels

Petroleum-based motor vehicle fuels are supplied mostly through private distributors, who are under no obligation to disclose their sales. They must, however, report to the NM Taxation and Revenue Department (NM TRD) which tracks taxable gasoline sales by location because a certain amount of gasoline tax is returned to local governments. NM TRD has supplied aggregate monthly

taxable gasoline sales data for LA county, starting with January, 2005.⁶ Sales reported by NM TRD are listed in Table A2.3A.

NM TRD data is challenging in several respects. Prior to mid-2006 it was quite “noisy.” The number of distributors reporting varied considerably from month to month. The large dip and rise in two successive months in early 2005 and again twice in early 2006 suggest a large part of the sales in the first month of each of those cycles was either reported or recorded in the following month. The greater concern is the clear shift in baseline, from around 650,000 gallons per month in 2005 to around 450,000 in 2006 and later years. This is almost certainly a reporting artifact and not associated with a sudden, dramatic drop in gasoline usage. The stability of the data after mid-2006 suggests it is likely the most reliable. A more realistic accounting of monthly use in the first half of 2006 is obtained by averaging the taxable sales figures for January and February and also March through June of that year. This “smoothed” data is used for plotting Figure 2.3A.

Fuel dispensed in LA may not equal fuel actually consumed in the county. Many LA residents buy fuel “off the Hill,” where it is often less expensive. Some commuters buy fuel in LA. It is assumed the two effects offset each other. That could be a significant error, underestimating petroleum use, as more fuel is likely to be imported into the county than exported via this mechanism.

Private distributors dispense small amounts of gasoline not subject to taxation. It is estimated at 5% of taxable gasoline sales. Diesel fuel is subject to taxation, but NM TRD does not track it by county. These sales are estimated at 10% of taxable gasoline sales.

LA County government and LA Public Schools also receive and dispense non-taxable fuels. Before 2010, data for the two entities was combined and reported as fiscal year (July – June) totals.¹⁵ Monthly averages based on these annual totals are listed in Table A2.3C. In early 2010, the old County fueling facility at Trinity Site was replaced by the new one at Pajarito Cliffs. Some fuel use was not tracked during the transition. Since then, County and Schools fuel data¹⁶ has been available monthly and is tabulated in Table A2.3C. It is unlikely that County and Schools use increased dramatically starting in 2010. It is likely that the more recent data is more accurate and the older data did not capture all use. The error is small compared to overall petroleum fuel use. (Note: LAPS usage for 2021-21 has not yet been provided. It will be included when available. Its use is no more than 1% of total petroleum usage so the missing data is of little consequence.)

Total estimated petroleum-based fuel use is shown in Table A2.3D, with averaging in the first six months of 2006 as previously discussed. This is the sum of taxable gasoline sales, estimated diesel fuel and non-taxable gasoline, and LA County and LA Public Schools use. This total, starting in 2006, is shown graphically Figure 2.3. Effects of the COVID pandemic are obvious. Petroleum use did not return to near pre-pandemic levels until February, 2023, three full years after the pandemic began.

A2.4 Total Energy Use

The commercial energy units for natural gas and electricity can be easily converted to terajoule units. For natural gas, 1 therm = 1.055×10^{-4} TJ. For electricity, 1 MWh = 3.600×10^{-3} TJ.

Table A2.1.1. NATURAL GAS USE
(k therms = 1000's of therms)

Table A2.1.1. NATURAL GAS USE (k therms = 1000's of therms)																											
A. Natural Gas Imported (in preceding month, including TA-3 sales)																											
	FY00	FY01	FY02	FY03	FY04	FY05	FY06	FY07	FY08	FY09	FY10	FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24	00-Pres Average	
Jul	264	270	230	230	214	197	208	198	224	203	250	234	219	149	230	225	281	179	199	221	235	199	212	211	185	218	
Aug	244	263	257	246	189	182	182	182	193	188	202	219	214	151	526	198	211	189	181	203	192	177	204	204	192	217	
Sep	273	277	272	263	200	200	197	202	216	200	225	200	225	200	158	293	212	210	209	199	201	192	180	211	228	218	
Oct	341	1,934	679	446	257	214	316	231	262	293	228	246	226	211	226	298	211	226	263	217	202	284	233	211	400	355	
Nov	800	938	1,233	1,089	686	586	1,015	516	532	684	691	684	691	565	477	677	463	483	381	580	663	710	501	590	595	840	679
Dec	1,474	1,581	1,658	1,493	1,247	1,004	1,021	928	965	986	986	999	1,087	917	1,137	1,096	1,099	877	818	1,186	1,151	899	846	887	1,286	1,110	
Jan	1,701	1,615	1,552	1,321	1,526	1,605	1,499	1,580	1,612	1,452	1,782	1,279	1,643	1,519	1,572	1,424	1,511	1,329	1,341	1,544	1,553	1,408	1,356	1,536	1,441	1,508	
Feb	1,503	1,749	1,333	1,310	1,504	1,425	1,470	1,751	1,836	1,437	1,668	1,550	1,403	1,788	1,487	1,465	1,570	1,390	1,445	1,625	1,612	1,584	1,523	1,591	1,083	1,524	
Mar	1,225	1,292	1,106	1,188	876	1,272	1,177	1,305	1,293	1,105	1,393	1,435	1,293	1,356	1,063	1,142	1,117	996	1,124	1,375	1,351	1,284	1,447	1,336	992	1,222	
Apr	1,112	1,133	539	398	785	1,270	1,058	928	1,031	962	1,177	872	886	924	949	832	871	769	981	1,066	957	1,071	1,025	1,196	636	937	
May	624	684	383	445	318	716	544	708	659	708	704	579	501	615	708	596	642	609	476	638	565	584	539	676	350	583	
Jun	266	363	240	271	197	405	280	446	411	311	440	455	289	355	441	494	375	379	285	510	254	299	297	308	150	341	
FY Total	10,232	10,418	9,263	8,957	9,468	8,423	9,647	9,647	9,137	8,341	9,777	8,766	8,546	8,630	9,395	8,446	8,580	7,535	7,891	9,450	8,973	8,470	8,484	8,979	7,756	8,898	
B. Natural Gas Imported (to County, excluding LANL, during calendar month)																											
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2011-23 Average	
Jan	1,503	1,749	1,552	1,321	1,526	1,425	1,470	1,751	1,836	1,437	1,668	1,550	1,403	1,788	1,487	1,465	1,570	1,390	1,445	1,625	1,612	1,584	1,523	1,591	1,441	1,541	
Feb	1,225	1,292	1,333	1,310	1,504	1,272	1,177	1,305	1,293	1,105	1,393	1,435	1,293	1,356	1,063	1,142	1,117	996	1,124	1,375	1,351	1,284	1,447	1,336	1,083	1,255	
Mar	1,112	1,133	1,106	1,092	876	1,270	1,025	928	1,031	962	1,177	872	886	924	949	832	871	769	981	1,066	957	1,071	1,025	1,196	992	954	
Apr	624	684	539	398	785	1,270	1,058	688	659	708	704	579	501	615	708	596	642	609	476	638	565	584	539	676	636	594	
May	266	363	383	390	318	405	280	446	411	311	440	455	289	355	441	494	375	379	285	510	254	299	297	308	350	365	
Jun	264	268	240	271	197	208	198	224	203	250	234	219	149	188	225	281	179	199	221	235	199	212	211	216	210	210	
Jul	244	270	230	214	189	182	182	193	188	202	219	214	151	193	198	211	189	181	203	192	177	204	204	185	192	192	
Aug	273	263	257	246	200	200	197	202	216	200	225	200	158	198	211	210	209	199	201	192	180	211	228	192	199	199	
Sep	341	277	272	263	257	214	316	231	262	293	228	246	220	281	298	211	226	263	217	202	284	233	211	202	238	238	
Oct	800	548	679	446	686	586	644	516	532	684	691	684	691	565	477	677	463	483	381	580	663	710	501	590	545	545	
Nov	1,474	938	1,233	1,089	1,247	1,004	1,021	928	965	986	999	1,087	917	1,137	1,096	1,099	877	818	1,186	1,151	899	846	887	840	988	988	
Dec	1,615	1,581	1,658	1,456	1,605	1,499	1,580	1,612	1,452	1,782	1,279	1,643	1,519	1,572	1,424	1,511	1,329	1,341	1,544	1,553	1,408	1,356	1,536	1,286	1,463	1,463	
CY Tot.	9,742	9,367	9,484	8,496	9,389	8,981	8,618	9,024	9,049	8,918	9,257	9,064	7,964	9,283	8,564	8,534	7,966	7,723	8,546	9,450	8,386	8,476	8,703	8,426	4,503	8,545	

Table A2.2.1. ELECTRICITY USE
(Megawatt-hours, MWh)

A. Electric Power Imported (by FY)		FY00	FY01	FY02	FY03	FY04	FY05	FY06	FY07	FY08	FY09	FY10	FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24	2000-23 Average
Jul		9,444	9,699	10,515	11,254	10,962	12,133	10,983	10,833	10,468	10,451	10,555	11,655	11,684	10,440	10,996	10,050	11,822	11,103	11,103	10,724	10,741	10,412	10,638	12,238	12,238	10,811
Aug		8,497	10,517	10,794	10,495	10,326	11,004	10,378	11,292	10,308	10,312	10,184	11,387	11,549	10,473	10,116	10,577	9,910	10,208	10,208	10,879	10,388	10,491	9,897	10,765	10,765	10,443
Sep		9,499	8,263	9,195	9,792	9,863	10,126	9,521	9,409	9,395	8,151	10,145	9,560	9,914	9,412	9,748	8,924	9,320	9,262	9,067	9,471	8,201	9,411	9,103	9,067	9,067	9,337
Oct		9,315	9,602	9,341	10,051	9,696	9,757	10,022	9,597	9,273	9,509	9,450	9,679	9,694	9,332	9,237	9,476	9,200	8,894	9,464	8,967	8,660	8,633	8,909	8,683	9,382	9,382
Nov		8,751	10,008	9,693	10,128	10,202	10,063	10,086	9,722	9,622	9,683	10,070	10,176	9,913	9,993	9,928	10,271	9,647	9,229	9,833	9,805	9,373	9,048	9,399	9,717	9,717	9,767
Dec		9,379	10,244	10,777	11,553	11,358	11,400	11,596	11,306	11,808	11,691	11,199	12,039	11,517	11,537	11,235	11,643	11,191	10,688	11,053	10,975	11,314	10,673	10,934	11,149	11,149	11,179
Jan	10,000	10,702	10,368	10,449	10,899	11,213	11,123	10,400	11,658	11,688	11,439	11,568	11,389	12,026	11,315	11,269	11,529	11,121	10,657	11,387	11,058	11,148	10,948	11,231	11,520	11,520	11,108
Feb		9,923	10,111	9,307	9,458	10,540	9,789	9,778	9,005	10,171	9,201	10,014	10,451	10,476	10,167	9,484	9,606	10,045	9,153	9,164	9,807	9,890	10,063	9,758	9,864	9,864	9,793
Mar	8,966	8,970	9,913	9,790	10,387	10,387	10,450	10,256	10,013	9,395	10,063	10,006	10,516	10,196	9,807	9,803	9,629	9,409	8,826	9,751	9,430	9,675	9,794	10,067	9,636	9,636	9,813
Apr	9,630	9,776	9,307	9,171	9,567	10,497	9,656	9,479	9,180	9,154	8,994	9,440	9,476	9,492	9,234	8,869	9,119	8,849	7,943	8,632	8,453	8,567	8,653	8,447	8,739	8,739	9,149
May	8,030	8,442	10,183	9,583	10,344	10,898	10,426	9,810	9,597	9,017	9,366	9,585	10,265	10,024	9,688	8,956	9,159	8,599	8,615	8,833	9,011	8,859	9,218	8,593	8,739	8,739	9,379
Jun	9,209	9,501	9,248	9,771	10,898	10,963	10,545	10,103	9,931	8,660	10,322	10,476	11,714	10,911	10,245	9,907	10,486	10,457	10,803	9,194	9,727	10,120	10,020	8,964	8,964	8,964	10,091
FY Total		112,387	116,658	118,538	125,909	126,154	126,459	121,639	122,709	117,969	119,994	123,128	128,334	127,086	120,962	119,669	120,909	118,678	115,393	118,332	118,419	116,725	117,364	115,941	101,379	101,379	120,408
B. Photovoltaic Power Produced Locally (by FY)		FY13	FY14	FY15	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24	2013-23 Average													
Jul		178	91	78	60	65	65	65	63	57	63	63	63	78													
Aug		139	126	93	37	67	67	67	73	61	73	73	73	81													
Sep		90	105	71	134	82	75	109	86	109	109	109	109	97													
Oct		168	139	61	148	93	41	134	70	134	134	134	134	112													
Nov		107	131	62	115	61	49	82	49	82	82	82	82	82													
Dec		64	94	39	99	51	6	56	38	56	56	56	56	56													
Jan		112	118	87	55	58	64	-115	68	68	68	68	68	56													
Feb		123	115	87	41	122	61	43	86	44	86	86	86	81													
Mar		172	167	121	143	158	94	67	58	63	58	58	58	106													
Apr		120	149	125	112	143	103	78	75	82	75	75	75	103													
May		164	145	108	114	150	96	75	78	78	78	78	78	106													
Jun		147	156	96	105	137	83	73	71	71	71	71	71	98													
FY Total		1598	1309	973	1362	921	525	953	953	734	953	953	953	1,028													
C. Electric Power Used (by CY)		2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2011-23 Average
Jan	10,000	10,702	10,368	10,449	10,899	11,213	11,123	10,400	11,658	11,688	11,439	11,568	11,389	12,138	11,433	11,355	11,583	11,179	10,721	11,272	11,126	11,185	11,016	11,299	11,588	11,328	11,328
Feb	9,923	10,111	9,307	9,458	10,540	9,789	9,778	9,005	10,171	9,201	10,014	10,451	10,476	10,291	9,600	9,693	10,086	9,275	9,225	9,850	9,975	9,724	10,149	9,844	9,949	9,895	
Mar	8,966	8,970	9,913	9,790	10,387	10,387	10,450	10,256	10,013	9,395	10,063	10,006	10,516	10,167	9,974	9,924	9,772	9,568	8,920	9,818	9,489	9,738	9,853	10,126	9,694	9,852	
Apr	9,630	9,776	9,307	9,171	9,567	10,497	9,656	9,479	9,180	9,154	8,994	9,440	9,476	9,611	9,383	8,993	9,231	8,992	8,046	8,711	8,528	8,649	8,729	8,522	8,814	8,947	
May	8,030	8,442	10,183	9,583	10,344	10,898	10,426	9,810	9,597	9,017	9,366	9,585	10,265	10,188	9,833	9,064	9,273	8,749	8,712	8,908	9,089	9,267	9,296	8,671	9,275	9,275	
Jun	9,209	9,501	9,248	9,771	10,898	10,963	10,545	10,103	9,931	8,660	10,322	10,476	11,714	11,058	10,402	10,003	10,592	10,594	10,886	9,267	9,797	10,190	10,091	9,035	10,316	10,316	
Jul	9,444	9,699	10,515	11,254	10,962	12,133	10,983	10,833	10,468	10,451	10,555	11,655	11,684	10,617	11,086	10,128	11,882	11,168	11,168	10,787	10,798	10,474	10,701	12,301	11,112	11,112	
Aug	8,497	10,517	10,794	10,495	10,326	11,004	10,378	11,292	10,308	10,312	10,184	11,387	11,549	10,613	10,242	10,670	9,947	10,275	10,275	10,952	10,449	10,564	9,970	10,838	10,595	10,595	
Sep	9,499	8,263	9,195	9,792	9,863	10,126	9,521	9,409	9,395	8,151	10,145	9,560	9,914	9,503	9,653	8,996	9,455	9,344	9,141	9,580	9,287	9,512	9,176	9,176	9,349	9,349	
Oct	9,315	9,602	9,341	10,051	9,696	9,757	10,022	9,597	9,273	9,509	9,450	9,679	9,694	9,501	9,377	9,537	9,348	8,987	9,505	9,131	8,730	8,767	9,043	8,818	9,240	9,240	
Nov	8,751	10,008	9,693	10,128	10,202	10,063	10,086	9,722	9,622	9,683	10,070	10,176	9,913	10,100	10,059	10,333	9,762	9,290	9,882	9,887	9,421	9,130	9,481	9,799	9,787	9,787	
Dec	9,379	10,244	10,777	11,553	11,358	11,400	11,596	11,306	11,808	11,691	11,199	12,039	11,517	11,601	11,328	11,682	11,290	10,740	11,060	11,030	11,352	10,729	10,989	11,205	11,274	11,274	
CY Tot.		110,643	115,834	118,642	121,495	125,041	128,230	124,563	121,213	121,424	116,911	121,800	126,023	128,106	125,587	122,570	120,379	122,220	118,160	117,542	119,194	117,040	117,607	118,530	119,634	40,046	120,969

Table A2.1.2. HEATING DEGREE DAYS PER MONTH (from LANL Weather Machine)																											
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2011-23 Average	
Jan	963	1,205	1,091	861	1,068	961	990	1,233	1,281	1,032	1,158	1,117	1,004	1,225	1,016	1,018	1,093	1,072	951	1,162	1,085	1,092	1,056	1,111	1,067	1,077	
Feb	794	905	942	910	1,115	879	822	930	940	783	1,056	993	960	960	772	796	769	724	790	992	932	921	1,006	921	827	887	
Mar	780	809	821	795	636	876	790	663	780	741	868	619	639	695	748	591	641	569	722	765	701	779	761	861	767	699	
Apr	462	486	369	525	599	549	411	555	550	564	543	480	397	501	554	466	512	504	402	476	440	480	427	523	467	474	
May	166	196	206	232	195	281	157	320	328	201	314	340	173	260	310	366	312	301	116	416	127	214	174	230	252	257	
Jun	17	36	14	52	55	62	18	61	94	112	18	8	1	10	18	19	9	18	16	71	24	59	39	95	13	30	
Jul	1	0	1	0	30	1	15	0	9	14	12	0	2	17	12	16	1	0	1	5	0	3	2	0	0	5	
Aug	11	29	8	25	49	53	11	2	40	25	16	0	2	12	34	1	75	18	2	0	0	2	29	0	0	13	
Sep	85	79	182	125	190	105	289	135	135	200	41	158	133	173	66	18	115	99	78	57	161	71	42	102	98	98	
Oct	544	399	545	340	533	499	516	408	448	571	421	478	383	549	340	358	285	449	511	554	352	446	499	357	428	428	
Nov	1,031	741	845	819	873	710	739	699	736	698	841	793	671	840	781	774	713	559	842	805	684	604	883	724	744	744	
Dec	1,076	1,112	1,144	1,059	1,085	1,032	1,110	1,161	1,097	1,273	934	1,198	1,109	1,106	1,002	1,049	1,016	892	1,081	1,053	1,076	915	999	992	1,038	1,038	
Total	5,930	5,997	6,168	5,743	6,428	6,008	5,868	6,167	6,438	6,214	6,222	6,184	5,474	6,348	5,653	5,472	5,541	5,205	5,512	6,356	5,582	5,586	5,917	5,916	3,393	5,750	

		Table A2.2.2. RENEWABLE ENERGY SUPPLY IN ECA																								2011-23	
		(MWh)																								Average	
Calendar Year	Source	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023		
	Total Hydro	220,310	140,599	140,212	125,876	128,410	130,688	137,073	130,798	181,824	160,147	151,861	181,816	148,010	126,348	100,032	88,825	74,976	147,308	105,015	153,317	110,587	103,048	78,605	107,571	117,343	117,343
	El Vado	34,600	22,686	20,780	17,877	21,894	21,676	25,858	27,413	43,333	37,197	36,022	32,524	27,200	14,429	43	0	0	18,194	1,598	33,062	13,947	8,285	3,092	1,525	11,838	11,838
	Abiquiu	49,115	22,465	36,721	17,218	20,766	32,272	27,003	25,102	51,487	47,290	40,761	38,075	43,250	26,034	24,904	13,740	0	50,851	28,382	45,170	21,555	19,695	22,090	46,475	29,248	29,248
	WAPA (LAC)	6,811	4,802	5,353	6,062	5,032	4,727	4,826	4,928	5,388	5,127	5,090	7,411	5,288	5,097	5,097	5,097	4,982	5,255	5,092	5,097	5,097	5,095	3,535	3,889	5,079	5,079
	WAPA (DOE)	92,303	84,208	71,166	84,719	80,718	72,013	79,386	73,355	81,616	70,533	69,988	103,806	72,272	80,788	69,988	69,988	69,994	73,008	69,943	69,988	69,988	69,973	49,888	55,682	71,177	71,177
	WAPA (Peaking)	37,481	6,438	6,192	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total CH (largely coal)	292,595	369,222	386,895	416,137	371,841	451,346	435,604	370,963	348,640	386,860	398,728	393,046	429,862	433,220	411,144	457,778	511,303	440,218	479,378	411,678	417,280	376,025	424,129	382,863	428,302	428,302
	Total Supply	512,905	509,821	527,107	542,013	500,251	582,034	572,677	501,761	530,464	547,007	550,589	574,862	577,872	559,568	511,176	546,603	586,279	587,526	584,393	564,994	527,868	479,073	502,734	490,434	545,645	545,645
	% Hydro	43.0%	27.6%	26.6%	23.2%	25.7%	22.5%	23.9%	26.1%	34.3%	29.3%	27.6%	31.6%	25.6%	22.6%	19.6%	16.3%	12.8%	25.1%	18.0%	27.1%	20.9%	21.5%	15.6%	21.9%	21.4%	21.4%
	% CH	57.0%	72.4%	73.4%	76.8%	74.3%	77.5%	76.1%	73.9%	65.7%	70.7%	72.4%	68.4%	74.4%	77.4%	80.4%	83.7%	87.2%	74.9%	82.0%	72.9%	79.1%	78.5%	84.4%	78.1%	78.6%	78.6%

Table A2.3. PETROLEUM FUELS USE (1000's of gallons)																					2011-23 Average
A. Taxable Gasoline (from NM Tax & Rev. Dept. data)																					
2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024		
Jan	821	48	435	458	516	414	454	394	413	492	475	425	440	563	411	417	229	200	395	531	408
Feb	162	1,048	409	383	336	381	390	410	382	437	449	415	404	467	378	371	220	178	406	505	377
Mar	1,117	223	445	424	415	427	420	412	430	476	440	471	497	528	489	334	205	171	477	518	411
Apr	649	193	431	402	401	386	369	377	490	428	417	469	492	465	467	170	220	209	464	479	387
May	545	581	477	409	421	469	431	440	506	486	522	475	498	502	485	309	260	311	498	440	430
Jun	689	542	463	395	429	454	379	378	491	482	487	457	470	467	436	422	305	318	542	458	433
Jul	653	508	456	406	427	456	398	367	466	495	505	472	508	456	465	426	217	278	454		423
Aug	672	452	532	390	443	505	452	396	456	526	464	472	516	530	471	392	240	304	520	442	442
Sep	595	412	428	382	426	426	419	349	411	461	418	446	463	464	435	439	226	310	501	411	411
Oct	696	458	468	420	435	416	423	434	515	480	463	449	470	475	480	435	239	330	471	436	436
Nov	566	427	436	363	360	433	398	407	460	414	396	424	437	405	424	211	248	353	449	387	387
Dec	762	423	465	369	393	399	420	396	479	445	422	455	425	404	466	229	225	383	415	397	397
Ann. Total	7,928	5,315	5,444	4,802	5,001	5,168	4,954	4,760	5,499	5,622	5,457	5,430	5,620	5,717	5,406	4,155	2,833	3,345	5,592	2,491	4,953
C. County & Schools Fuel																					
Jan	20	19	24	24	24	27	42	21	36	33	28	44	28	38	21	6	23	25	23	25	29
Feb	20	19	24	24	24	27	29	37	21	35	35	37	21	29	37	29	17	25	23	27	29
Mar	20	19	24	24	24	27	35	37	36	35	36	43	37	29	27	23	27	27	23	33	33
Apr	20	19	24	24	24	27	21	34	33	33	30	21	38	30	17	25	24	23		28	28
May	20	19	24	24	24	27	36	34	35	35	35	35	29	21	10	24	25	25		29	29
Jun	20	19	24	24	24	27	35	31	31	31	27	40	33	26	31	21	24	25		30	30
Jul	20	19	24	24	20	26	21	28	30	30	34	34	17	26	28	18	24	25	27	26	26
Aug	20	19	24	24	20	28	34	49	34	32	26	27	35	36	43	18	27	30	29	32	32
Sep	20	19	24	24	20	27	35	35	36	33	37	44	36	28	29	19	25	27	27	32	32
Oct	20	19	24	24	20	27	36	37	49	47	44	19	44	45	29	27	25	25	25	35	35
Nov	20	19	24	24	20	25	35	35	19	19	27	28	36	29	36	18	22	23	24	27	27
Dec	20	19	24	24	20	26	43	33	34	33	35	34	29	29	37	17	23	21	23	30	30
Ann. Total	235	261	290	290	265	319	401	410	394	395	406	380	400	388	384	251	261	300	303		360
D. Total Petroleum Fuel (incl. taxed and untaxed gasoline, diesel fuel, LAC, & LAPS fuels)																					
Jan	650	519	551	617	617	503	564	474	511	599	580	517	550	665	449	438	235	223	421	531	479
Feb	650	490	465	410	485	477	509	460	537	551	514	485	566	415	400	237	203	429	505	445	445
Mar	463	531	512	501	518	518	511	530	583	542	578	614	644	518	361	227	198	504	518	487	487
Apr	463	515	487	485	471	446	468	597	525	512	569	588	573	497	187	245	234	486	479	456	456
May	463	568	495	508	566	532	540	617	594	635	581	608	606	506	319	284	336	523	458	514	514
Jun	463	552	478	517	549	471	465	596	585	591	553	581	570	462	454	326	341	567		505	505
Jul	603	548	491	512	551	479	450	567	599	614	577	601	550	493	444	241	303	480		492	492
Aug	539	636	472	530	610	553	504	558	637	559	571	629	646	515	410	267	334	549		518	518
Sep	493	516	463	510	517	517	436	509	563	519	557	569	563	465	457	251	338	528		482	482
Oct	545	562	507	521	506	523	536	642	599	576	535	585	591	509	462	264	355	496		513	513
Nov	510	525	441	434	523	493	503	548	495	483	516	538	494	460	229	270	377	473		452	452
Dec	505	559	448	472	485	525	489	585	545	520	558	517	494	502	246	248	404	438		467	467
Ann. Total	6,347	6,522	5,812	6,017	6,263	6,099	5,885	6,719	6,860	6,682	6,625	6,864	6,962	5,790	4,406	3,094	3,645	5,895		5,810	5,810
Diesel Fuel																					
Untaxed Gasoline (excl. LAC & LAPS)																					
Total																					
10% of taxed gasoline sales																					
5% of taxed gasoline sales																					
15% of taxed gasoline sales																					

The average energy content of a gallon of gasoline is 124,000 BTU's or 1.31×10^{-4} TJ. The average energy content of a gallon of diesel fuel is 139,000 BTU's or 1.47×10^{-4} TJ.⁷ The latter is about 15% of LA's total petroleum-based fuel, so a weighted average for petroleum fuels of 1.33×10^{-4} TJ gal⁻¹ is used.

Energy use for each component in units of terajoules are shown in Table A2.4. Totals for all three primary forms of energy are given in Table A2.5.

Table A2.5. TOTAL ENERGY USE IN LOS ALAMOS COUNTY (excluding LANL) (TJ)																			2011-23 Average
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	
Jan	282	291	309	276	284	280	252	300	278	273	276	260	279	272	268	239	230	264	267
Feb	246	235	235	204	245	252	242	241	218	229	222	203	227	236	232	202	216	234	227
Mar	207	205	213	202	229	197	199	205	213	196	204	197	221	217	183	178	170	230	201
Apr	152	175	167	172	169	154	149	179	178	163	177	175	155	165	115	125	119	167	156
May	129	158	144	133	155	153	139	156	161	169	150	152	142	153	102	102	109	133	140
Jun	120	133	121	126	135	124	120	139	139	144	131	136	138	120	117	102	104	131	126
Jul	139	132	123	127	134	128	118	134	140	140	139	139	135	125	117	91	100	128	126
Aug	130	147	123	129	142	136	125	133	144	135	134	142	144	128	111	96	104	132	128
Sep	133	127	123	128	129	129	117	131	142	124	132	137	131	118	121	92	100	125	123
Oct	177	164	157	176	174	164	157	191	162	162	145	171	183	175	146	129	143	140	159
Nov	212	203	195	197	211	217	199	229	218	217	196	191	226	218	159	158	178	187	200
Dec	276	285	255	293	240	287	267	285	264	271	255	249	268	270	222	215	255	234	257
Ann. Total	2,202	2,256	2,165	2,162	2,248	2,221	2,084	2,325	2,257	2,222	2,162	2,153	2,251	2,196	1,892	1,729	1,830	2,104	2,110

A3 Carbon Dioxide Emissions Associated with Hydrocarbon Combustion

A3.1 Natural Gas

Carbon dioxide production associated with burning of natural gas produces nominally 117 lbs of CO₂ per MBTU (million BTU's) of energy produced.⁸ This is equivalent to 50 mt TJ⁻¹.

Natural gas is comprised largely of methane, CH₄, also a significant greenhouse gas. It has far more global warming effect (per unit mass) than CO₂, but breaks down more rapidly in the atmosphere. Over 100 years, CH₄ has approximately 28 times the global warming potential of CO₂. (Over the first 20 years, the global warming potential is approximately 84 times that of CO₂.) Nationwide, more than 2% of natural gas produced leaks into the atmosphere from production, storage, transmission, and distribution systems.

Leak measurements are controversial and uncertainties substantial. Most of LA's natural gas comes from the Permian Basin, one of the leakiest well fields in the country. Aerial and satellite surveys showed leak rates of 3-9% over the period 2010-2019¹⁷ and 9.4 ± 3.4 % in 2019.¹⁸ For this work, a conservative and convenient total leakage rate (well field, transmission, and end use) estimate of 3.6% is used. With this value, the CO₂ equivalent global warming contribution from CH₄ leakage is also 50 mt TJ⁻¹ and the total for natural gas 100 mt TJ⁻¹. Actual values are likely higher.

CO₂-equivalent emissions from the community's use of natural gas are summarized in Table 3.4A.

A3.2 Electricity

In New Mexico, approximately 986 lbs. of CO₂ is emitted from coal-fired power plants for each megawatt-hour of electricity produced.¹⁶ This is equivalent to 125 mt TJ⁻¹. This value has varied slightly over the years, but is used for all years in this document. In recent years, natural gas has replaced coal for an increasing fraction of CH-based generation. As discussed in A3.1 above, even with a conservative estimate of CH₄ leakage, the CO₂-equivalent emissions from natural gas are comparable to those from coal. Along with the uncertainties in the coal-gas mix in purchased electrical power, there is no solid basis to use any total CO₂e emission factor any different from that of coal-based generation.

For electricity, CO₂ emissions shown in Table A3.4B are derived by multiplying monthly electrical energy from Table A2.4B by each year's annual fraction of production from CH sources from Table A2.2.2 and then by the above emission factor. Because of the seasonal nature of electricity generation at hydroelectric plants, particularly El Vado and Abiquiu, the monthly fraction of electric power attributable to CH sources varies systematically. This variation is not recognized in these tables.

A3.3 Petroleum Fuels

Energy content of diesel fuel is about 12% more by volume than that of gasoline; carbon dioxide production is about 14% more. Since diesel is a small part of LA's total petroleum-based fuel consumption, the CO₂ emission factor is approximated as the same as gasoline, 67 mt TJ⁻¹. Emissions associated with all petroleum-based fuels are totaled in Table A3.4C.

A3.4 Total CH Fuel-based Carbon Dioxide-Equivalent Emissions

Total CO₂e production from all three forms of primary energy is totaled in Table A3.5, starting with 2006.

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2011-23 Average
Jan	25,116	26,557	27,734	24,378	25,809	24,942	22,839	27,643	25,160	24,906	25,716	23,332	25,122	24,844	24,869	22,759	22,239	24,499	24,528
Feb	21,564	21,131	20,788	18,236	22,106	22,601	21,685	21,987	19,467	20,613	20,319	17,952	20,308	21,436	21,358	19,098	20,928	21,381	20,703
Mar	18,518	17,933	18,405	17,609	20,306	16,894	17,422	18,091	18,810	17,343	18,173	16,814	19,376	19,087	16,682	16,763	16,312	20,663	17,879
Apr	12,980	14,997	14,011	14,704	14,553	12,981	12,624	15,157	15,542	14,237	15,466	14,698	13,103	14,010	10,663	11,395	11,083	14,456	13,493
May	10,650	13,032	11,584	10,674	12,733	12,482	11,306	12,784	13,507	14,289	12,777	12,363	11,629	12,812	8,748	8,844	9,652	10,961	11,704
Jun	9,824	10,644	9,344	9,999	10,724	9,736	9,639	11,144	11,344	11,996	10,971	10,846	11,423	9,633	9,622	8,740	9,102	10,505	10,362
Jul	11,056	10,526	9,455	10,011	10,661	10,111	9,510	10,779	11,442	11,522	11,800	11,031	11,168	9,954	9,664	7,993	8,911	10,552	10,341
Aug	10,437	11,556	9,539	10,115	11,129	10,541	10,027	10,759	11,609	11,212	11,198	11,168	11,669	10,204	9,268	8,344	9,166	10,722	10,453
Sep	10,981	10,166	9,665	10,231	10,311	10,146	9,526	10,805	11,736	10,240	11,059	10,991	10,678	9,412	10,018	8,057	8,736	10,059	10,113
Oct	15,082	13,646	12,879	14,880	14,873	13,596	13,060	16,170	13,618	13,821	12,458	14,358	15,766	15,021	12,504	11,674	12,877	11,736	13,589
Nov	18,767	17,708	16,957	17,350	18,489	18,989	17,478	20,401	19,621	19,786	17,687	16,552	20,564	19,481	14,878	14,558	16,316	16,515	17,910
Dec	25,137	25,752	22,801	26,726	21,470	25,721	24,233	25,841	23,986	24,978	23,422	22,377	24,780	24,477	21,091	20,305	23,973	21,404	23,584
Ann. Total	190,111	193,648	183,164	184,912	193,164	188,742	179,348	201,562	195,842	194,944	191,046	182,481	195,585	190,370	169,365	158,529	169,295	183,454	184,659

A4 Municipal Solid Waste

Over their lifetimes in a landfill, normal mixtures of MSW are estimated to emit about CH₄ equivalent to ~580 kg CO₂e ton⁻¹. Table A4 lists the amount of MSW attributed to the LA community and the CO₂e emissions from that MSW using that lifetime emission factor. The science of GHG emission from MSW is still evolving, so this emission factor should be regarded as very much a rough estimate subject to change.

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2010-19 Average
Total	55,001	49,884	57,686	54,393	35,709	27,804	22,236	26,155	27,066	23,312	23,771	22,070	18,380	18,226	16,895	15,995	16,072	15,165	16,464	17,483	17,498	17,417
LAC MSW	32,483	37,260	41,506	41,360	23,568	18,351	16,789	17,651	15,361	18,275	19,017	17,606	14,704	16,790	15,344	14,440	14,448	13,739	14,809	15,746	16,005	15,292
CO ₂ e	42,228	48,438	53,958	53,768	30,638	23,856	21,826	22,946	19,969	23,758	24,722	22,888	19,115	21,827	19,947	18,772	18,782	17,861	19,252	20,470	20,806	19,879
CO ₂ e = 1.30 mt/ton of Muni Solid Waste																						

Appendix B

from ↓ to →	btu	therm	W-hr	kWh	MWh	GWh	gal	bbl	J	kJ	MJ	GJ	TJ	PJ
btu	1	10 ⁻⁵	0.293	2.93 x 10 ⁻⁴	2.93 x 10 ⁻⁷	2.93 x 10 ⁻¹⁰	8.06 x 10 ⁻⁶	1.7 x 10 ⁻⁷	1,055	1.055	0.001055	1.055 x 10 ⁻⁶	1.055 x 10 ⁻⁹	1.055 x 10 ⁻¹²
therm	10 ⁵	1	2.93 x 10 ⁴	29.3	0.0293	2.93 x 10 ⁻⁵	0.806	0.017	1.055 x 10 ⁸	1.055 x 10 ⁵	105.5	0.1055	1.055 x 10 ⁻⁴	1.055 x 10 ⁻⁷
W-hr	3.41	3.41 x 10 ⁵	1	0.001	10 ⁻⁶	10 ⁻⁹	2.75 x 10 ⁻⁵	5.88 x 10 ⁻⁷	3,600	3.6	0.0036	3.6 x 10 ⁻⁶	3.6 x 10 ⁻⁹	3.6 x 10 ⁻¹²
kWh	3.410	0.0341	1,000	1	0.001	10 ⁻⁶	0.0275	5.88 x 10 ⁻⁴	3.6 x 10 ⁶	3,600	3.6	0.0036	3.6 x 10 ⁻⁶	3.6 x 10 ⁻⁹
MWh	3.41 x 10 ⁶	34.1	10 ⁶	1,000	1	0.001	27.5	0.588	3.6 x 10 ⁹	3.6 x 10 ⁶	3,600	3.6	0.0036	3.6 x 10 ⁻⁶
GWh	3.41 x 10 ⁹	3.41 x 10 ⁴	10 ⁹	10 ⁶	1,000	1	2.75 x 10 ⁴	588	3.6 x 10 ¹²	3.6 x 10 ⁹	3.6 x 10 ⁶	3,600	3.6	.0036
gallon (gal)	1.24 x 10 ⁵	1.24	3.63 x 10 ⁴	36.3	0.0363	3.63 x 10 ⁻⁵	1	0.0214	1.31 x 10 ⁸	1.31 x 10 ⁵	131	0.131	1.31 x 10 ⁻⁴	1.31 x 10 ⁻⁷
barrel (bbl)	5.8 x 10 ⁶	58	1.70 x 10 ⁶	1,700	1.70	0.0017	46.7	1	6.12 x 10 ⁹	6.12 x 10 ⁶	6,120	6.12	0.00612	6.12 x 10 ⁻⁶
J	9.48 x 10 ⁻⁴	9.48 x 10 ⁻⁹	2.78 x 10 ⁻⁴	2.78 x 10 ⁻⁷	2.78 x 10 ⁻¹⁰	2.78 x 10 ⁻¹³	7.63 x 10 ⁻⁹	1.63 x 10 ⁻¹⁰	1	0.001	10 ⁻⁶	10 ⁻⁹	10 ⁻¹²	10 ⁻¹⁵
kJ	0.948	9.48 x 10 ⁻⁶	0.278	2.78 x 10 ⁻⁴	2.78 x 10 ⁻⁷	2.78 x 10 ⁻¹⁰	7.63 x 10 ⁻⁶	1.63 x 10 ⁻⁷	1,000	1	0.001	10 ⁻⁶	10 ⁻⁹	10 ⁻¹²
MJ	900.48	.00948	278	0.278	2.78 x 10 ⁻⁴	2.78 x 10 ⁻⁷	0.00763	1.63 x 10 ⁻⁴	10 ⁶	1,000	1	0.001	10 ⁻⁶	10 ⁻⁹
GJ	9.48 x 10 ⁵	9.48	2.78 x 10 ⁵	278	0.278	2.78 x 10 ⁻⁴	7.63	0.163	10 ⁹	10 ⁶	1,000	1	0.001	10 ⁻⁶
TJ	9.48 x 10 ⁸	9,480	2.78 x 10 ⁸	2.78 x 10 ⁵	278	0.278	7,630	163	10 ¹²	10 ⁹	10 ⁶	1,000	1	0.001
PJ	9.48 x 10 ¹¹	9.48 x 10 ⁶	2.78 x 10 ¹¹	2.78 x 10 ⁸	2.78 x 10 ⁵	278	7.63 x 10 ⁶	1.63 x 10 ⁵	10 ¹⁵	10 ¹²	10 ⁹	10 ⁶	1,000	1

Table B-1 Conversion factors for various standard measures of energy.

To convert from a value expressed in units shown along the left side to a value in units shown along the top, multiply by the factor at the intersection of the row and column.

References

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- ⁴ LAC DPU Utilities Consumption Reports for FY00-FY24, “Gas Rec’d, therms.”
- ⁵ LAC DPU Utilities Consumption Reports for FY00-FY24, “Power Rec’d, kwh.”
- ⁶ NM Tax & Revenue Dept., Private communication through CY 2017 and via IPRA request thereafter.
- ⁷ http://www.eia.gov/energyexplained/index.cfm?page=about_energy_units
- ⁸ <http://www.eia.gov/oiaf/1605/coefficients.html>
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- ¹¹ LANL Weather Machine, http://www.weather.lanl.gov/climo_monthly_summary.asp. (2003-Apr, 2017)
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- ¹³ LAC DPU Component Cost Summary Reports for CY00-23
- ¹⁴ <http://www.eia.doe.gov/oiaf/1605/ee-factors.html>
- ¹⁵ LA County Dept. of Public Works, Private communication
- ¹⁶ LA Public Schools, Private communication
- ¹⁷ Lu, X, et al, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA, **120** (17) 2217900120 (2023).
- ¹⁸ Chen, Y., et al, Environ. Sci. Technol., **56**, 4317-4323 (2022).