

J Transportation Committee
Meeting date: February 13, 2012
Environment Committee
Meeting date: February 14, 2012

For the Metropolitan Council Meeting on February 22, 2012

ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date:	February 6, 2012
Subject:	Sustainability Policy for Internal Operations and Maintenance
District(s), Member(s):	All
Policy/Legal Reference:	Council Policy 1-2; Governor Executive Order 11-13
Staff	Jason Willett, MCES Finance Director, 651-602-1196;
Prepared/Presented:	Pat Jones, Assistant Director, Engineering, 612-349-7606
Division/Department:	MCES c/o William G. Moore 651-602-1162; Metro Transit c/o Brian Lamb 612-349-7510

Proposed Action

The Metropolitan Council (Council) approves the attached Sustainability Policy for Internal Operations and Maintenance.

Background

April 2011, Governor Dayton signed Executive Order 11-13, requiring state agencies to annually develop a sustainability *plan* to modify their practices regarding resource consumption, vehicle use, purchase of goods and services, and facility construction, operation and maintenance. While not a state agency, the Council was strongly encouraged to also develop a sustainability plan. The Council has several sustainability related goals already documented in all divisions. The draft plan reflects a consolidation of those goals as well as a few additional initiatives recommended in the Executive Order 11-13 that are reasonable for the Council to implement.

In developing the draft plan, Council staff reviewed the Council's existing sustainability policy and procedures. In order for the policy and plan to be consistent, Council staff recommend the Council's sustainability policy for operations and maintenance be revised. While only the policy requires formal Council approval, the initial plan is attached for your information. If the policy is approved, the plan will be submitted to the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA).

Rationale

The Metropolitan Council is one of the largest consumers of energy (electricity, natural gas, and motor vehicle fuels) in the State of Minnesota. It is also a large consumer of other goods and services. Through changes in daily operations, ongoing programs, and future facility design, the Council has the potential to significantly reduce its dependence on fossil fuel energy sources (contributing to Minnesota's energy security), reduce its greenhouse gas emissions, use water resources wisely, and reduce, reuse and recycle materials. Implementation of the plan will support the State of Minnesota sustainability efforts.

Funding

The sustainability improvements and strategies identified in the plan are only required by this policy to be pursued where they are economically feasible, which is defined as: 1) funding exists to cover the costs of the improvements/strategies or the financing for them is secured, and 2) the net present value of the expected cash flows of the improvement/strategy over its life cycle is greater than zero.

Known Support / Opposition

The Governor's Executive Order and subsequently the Commissioner of the MPCA encouraged us to submit a plan. The proposed policy and the associated procedures support the plan.

POLICY – SUSTAINABILITY FOR OPERATIONS AND MANAGEMENT

Section/Number :	1-2	Total Pages:	2
Dept. Responsible:	Environmental Services and Metro Transit	Effective Date:	
Special Note:	Replaces Environmental Sustainability Policy 1-2	Revision No.	Draft 1/26/2012

I. Policy:

The Region’s economy and quality of life are supported by the Council’s regional services, i.e. transportation, wastewater treatment and housing. The efficiency and effectiveness of these regional services must be sustainable for the future success of the Region. Therefore, the policy of the Metropolitan Council is to conduct its own operations in a sustainable manner, when economically feasible, specifically to:

- 1) increase energy efficiency and use of renewable energy sources;
- 2) reduce greenhouse gas emissions from Council operations;
- 3) conserve and protect water resources; and
- 4) reduce solid waste generation, reuse and recycle materials.

In order for the Metropolitan Council to achieve these goals, the Council shall consider sustainability in all its operations and management, pursue those that are economically feasible and shall monitor success in sustainability improvement by periodically evaluating performance on metrics in a published plan.

II. Purpose of policy:

Making a difference in the sustainability of Council’s own operations - and leading by example in the Region - to support the Council’s statutory mission to help ensure the orderly and economical development of the region, specifically contributing to Minnesota’s economy, economic security and quality of life now and in the future.

III. Background and reasons for policy:

The Metropolitan Council is one of the largest consumers of energy (electricity, natural gas, and motor vehicle fuels) in the State of Minnesota. It is also a large consumer of other goods and services. Through changes in daily operations, ongoing programs, and future facility design, the Council has the potential to significantly reduce its dependence on fossil fuel energy sources (contributing to Minnesota’s energy security), reduce its greenhouse gas emissions, use water resources wisely, and reduce, reuse and recycle materials, all as is prudent for our future economy and quality of life.

IV. Implementation/Accountability:

A foundation for this policy is Governor Dayton’s Executive Order 11-13, Strengthening State Agency Environmental, Energy and Transportation Sustainability.

The responsibility for carrying out this policy is Council-wide, with each division accountable for managing and tracking its own operations.

V. Definition of Terms

Direct emissions: relates to the greenhouse gas emissions the Council directly controls, such as emission from owned and operated facilities.

Economic feasibility: 1) Funding exists to cover the costs of the improvements or the financing for them is secured, and 2) the net present value of the expected cash flows of the improvement over its life cycle is greater than zero.

Indirect emissions: relates to emissions the Council does not control, such as the emissions resulting from a product or service the Council purchases.

Sustainability or sustainable: meeting present needs without compromising future resources, options or opportunities.

Pollution prevention: eliminating or reducing, at the source, the use, generation or release of toxic pollutants, hazardous substances and hazardous wastes.

Energy and Greenhouse Gases

Task	Metrics	Completion Date
Metropolitan Council Environmental Services: Reduce purchased energy for continuing operations by 25% by 2015, and 50% by 2020.	MBtUs of energy used (2006 as base year)	12/31/15 and 12/31/20
Metro Transit: Reduce purchased energy for facility operations by 40% by 2015 and 50% by 2020.	MBtUs of energy used (2008 as base year)	12/31/2015 and 12/31/20
Metro Transit: Attain a maximum average annual EUI of 100 for the 9 major support facilities.	EUI - kBtUs per sqft of energy used (2008 as base year for weather)	12/31/13
Reduce or offset electricity purchased for new or substantially renovated buildings by 70% after 2015 in Council owned and operated buildings when considered a Sustainable Building 2030 project and economically feasible.	KWh of energy used (2003 as base year)	12/31/15
When Sustainable Buildings 2030 does not apply: For each new Council owned and operated buildings and facilities, design to achieve an Energy Star ranking above 75% (i.e., energy performance better than 75% of peer buildings or facilities, when such data is available). For each major rehab of existing Council owned and operated buildings or facilities, it will be a design goal for the improvement(s) to meet the more stringent of: i) a 75% ranking (compared to the newer data available at the time of improvement design), or ii) increase the most recent Energy Star ranking of the building or facility (e.g. if it was at 85%, then the design engineering goal might be 90%).	Percent of buildings and facilities projects meeting or exceeding energy threshold	12/31/2012

**Energy and Greenhouse Gases
cont.**

Task	Metrics	Completion Date
MCES to implement at least one energy conservation measure (at Metro94), in leased buildings where Council pays the energy costs, lease allows and we expect the lease to continue beyond the expected payback date (in present value).	Number of efficiency and conservation initiatives implemented	12/31/12
Conduct energy audits in at least 10% of Council owned facilities each year. Audit to be performed internally or externally by consultant. An energy audit is an inspection, survey and analysis of energy flows for energy conservation in a building, process or system to reduce the amount of energy input into the system without negatively affecting the output(s).	Number of audits and number of buildings	12/31/12
MCES staff and Metro Transit Facility Maintenance group to be trained through "Minnesota Sustainable Building 2030" or equivalent program.	Number of building staff trained	12/31/15
Complete building automation system (BAS) upgrades at Metro Transit's large support facilities	Upgrade completion dates	12/31/12
Perform study(s) to identify phantom loads and propose mitigation actions, in all major Council building and operations	Completed study(s) with recommendations	12/31/15
Complete energy tracking & database for each division.	Completed databases	12/31/15

Energy and Greenhouse Gases
cont.

Task	Metrics	Completion Date
Continue to lead on climate change by annually compiling all GHG emissions according to the Climate Registry (or equivalent) protocols.	Annual reporting of emissions	12/31/12
Metropolitan Council implement at least two new significant renewable energy generation opportunities.	Number of renewable energy generation opportunities implemented & MMBTUs expected to be generated annually	12/31/15
Metro Transit: Invest an average of \$250,000 per year for a goal of 500kW of installed renewable energy generation.	kW installed	12/31/20
Purchase Energy Star office equipment if such equipment meets the needs of end users, such as computers and multifunctional devices (a single device that serves several functions, including printing).	Percent of purchased office equipment that is considered Energy Star	12/31/12

Water

Identify all water sources and amount of water used from each source.	Gallons of municipal water used per year by source	12/31/12
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Water Cont.

Task	Metrics	Completion Date
Perform a study to identify and recommend opportunities for water conservation through reduction or reuse in Council owned and operated facilities.	Completed study with recommendations	12/31/14
Purchase Water Sense labeled fixtures and appliances (or equivalent fixtures and appliances with equivalent water use rates) for all new construction or major renovation.	Percent of purchased Water Sense labeled fixtures and appliances purchased	12/31/12
Modify construction specifications to include water conserving fixtures and appliances.	Percentage of specification	12/31/12
Perform case study evaluation(s) to further assess the wastewater effluent reuse potential and barriers at select industries (e.g., those types of industries that are reusing water elsewhere; those that are in close proximity to MCEs' WWTPs; etc.).	Completed study with next step recommendations	12/31/14
Create an inventory of stormwater BMPs currently in use and identify the maintenance needs for each site.	Matrix with stormwater BMPs in use by the Council and required maintenance	12/31/12
Consider in procurement criteria for uniform supply to Council the minimization of the use of phosphorus based detergent and use of clothes washing machines that meet Water Sense standards.	Identification of procurement criteria utilized, and results of any such uniform procurements	12/31/12

Solid and Hazardous Waste

Task	Metrics	Completion Date
Identify and quantify solid waste streams at each facility and provide recommendations to reduce the amount of waste based on the hierarchy of practices outlined in MN Statute 115A.471. An example is for MCES and Transit to track the volume of spent lead acid batteries (SLABs) purchased and recycled.	Studies completion, by division	12/31/12
Reduce procurement of chlorinated solvents and cleaning products. Identify acceptable alternatives.	Establishment of procurement rules on this subject	12/31/12
Metro WWTP EQA Laboratory to identify lab products for toxic reduction by 10% over 5 years.	Gallons or pounds of avoided toxics	12/31/16
Implement dual-side printing as default condition to reduce office paper wastes on 90% of copiers.	Annual determination of percent of copiers with dual-side printing as default	12/31/12
Implement Council-wide policy to authorize paperless transactions. Identify and recommend actions to move toward paperless functions and transactions.	1) Approved policy 2) Percent of business practices identified with recommendations developed	12/31/12

Task	Metrics	Completion Date
Solid and Hazardous Waste cont.		
93% of all copier paper purchased to be: 1) at least 30% post consumer recycled content and 2) meets sustainable timber harvest and efficient and wise utilization of our wood as defined by the state of Minnesota, Department of Natural Resources.	Total percent of copier paper purchased by Council that meets both criteria	12/31/12
Perform a study to identify opportunities for beneficial reuse of sewage sludge ash.	Completed study with recommendations	12/31/13
Continue with existing recycling program with the Capitol Complex facilities, and continue to seek opportunities to expand recycling.	Pounds of recycled content collected.	12/31/13
Modify new construction and major remodel specifications to increase the recycling of building materials, where applicable.	% of projects over \$100,000.	12/31/12
Hire caterers, for large internal and external events, that use reusable, recyclable or compostable containers, dishes and utensils.	Percent of caterers hired that use recyclable containers, dishes and utensils	12/31/12

Fleet

Task	Metrics	Completion Date
MCES: Reduce gasoline use by 10% (2005 as baseline year)	Gallons of gasoline purchased	12/31/18
Increase video conferencing technology.	Number of sites and number of sites with video conferencing technology	12/31/12
Develop a plan to assure that tires stay properly inflated.	Plan approved as part of work instructions	12/31/12
Clarify, further develop and promote the Council's policy on telecommuting.	Improve participation by 10% (i.e. increasing the number of days all participants telecommute.)	12/31/12
Revenue Bus Fleet: Improve annual average miles per gallon (MPG) while reducing annual average green house gas (GHG) emissions.	Fleet Average Fuel Efficiency (MPG) & Average GHG (Tons/ 1 million miles)	12/31/12
Non-Revenue Passenger Vehicle Fleet: Improve annual average miles per gallon (MPG) while reducing annual average green house gas (GHG) emissions.	Fleet Average Fuel Efficiency (MPG) & Average GHG (Tons/ 10,000 miles)	12/31/12
Reduce particulate emissions fleet average through bus replacement program	Fleet Average particulate emissions (Tons/1 million miles)	12/31/20