

Nebraska Industrial Resource Fact Sheet

Introduction

Nebraska's economy is ranked 37th in the nation in terms of 2008 gross domestic product (GDP), generating \$83.2 million annually. Industrial manufacturing is an important sector of Nebraska's economy, providing the state with 47,541 jobs and supplying \$27,119.9 million worth of goods. Nebraska's leading industries, based on the total value of shipments, include machinery, chemical, and transportation manufacturing, in addition to food processing. Nebraska's local industry used 224.2 trillion British thermal units (Btu) in 2007, earning it a ranking of 36th in the nation (or 32.3 percent of all energy consumed in the state). Moreover, industrial natural gas consumption ranked 33rd in the United States due to its 59.9 trillion Btu total, while the sector released approximately 13.3 million metric tons of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere.

To address the state's energy consumption, the Nebraska Energy Office is revising its energy policy. Nebraska's energy plan recognizes that enacting or encouraging energy-efficiency measures and renewable energy can create jobs, lessen dependence on fossil fuels, help Nebraska meet ambitious climate-stabilization targets, and boost new industries that are capable of revitalizing the state's economy. According to its interim plan, the state will need to update building codes, promote incentives for buying and installing energy-efficient equipment, and develop programs to make energy efficiency more cost effective for Nebraska's commercial, industrial, and resident sectors. In addition to state policy, legislation was created to encourage energy efficiency and renewable energy. For instance, LB 436, signed in May 2009, established statewide net metering rules for all electric utilities in Nebraska. Customers generating electricity by renewable energy can receive credit on their electric bill. Also, Bill 140 was enacted



to allow property owners to create binding solar and wind easements for the purpose of protecting and maintaining proper access to sunlight and wind. Listed below are the additional resources available in the state.

State Programs

State Government: The Nebraska Energy Office offers industrial manufacturers loans for energy-efficiency improvements and renewable-energy equipment. Nebraska's Department of Revenue offers renewable-energy tax credits for any producer of electricity generated by a new zero-emission facility on or after July 14, 2006, and before January 1, 2018.

Utility Resources

Investor-Owned Utilities: Nebraska is unique in that all electric utilities in the state are public power or electric cooperatives. However, there is one investor-owned natural gas utility that provides service in the state—SourceGas. SourceGas provides customers with incentives to install high-efficiency, natural gas heating equipment.

Public Power Utilities: Nebraska's largest electric utility, Nebraska Public Power District, offers energy-efficient-equipment rebates, energy audits, and industry-specific education related to energy. Additionally, Nebraska Municipal Power Pool Energy provides energy audits, load-management programs, energy research and development scholarship funds, and cash incentives for energy-efficient lighting upgrades in industrial facilities. Lincoln Electric System offers nonresidential customers energy-efficient-improvement rebates and grants, and energy-analysis tools. Other utilities, including Auburn Public Works, Chimneyrock Public Power, Hastings Utilities, Omaha Public Power District, and Polk County Rural Public Power District offer energy-efficient-equipment rebates. Howard Greeley Rural Public Power offers a load-management program, while Southwest Public Power District and Norris Public Power offer load-management programs and financial incentives for energy-efficient-equipment upgrades.

Electric Cooperatives: Basin Electric Power Cooperative, which is a regional consumer-owned wholesale power supplier that generates and transmits electricity to 125 member rural electric systems in nine states, offers rebates and low-interest loans for energy-efficiency improvements. Two Nebraska members, Midwest Electric Cooperative and Northwest Rural Public Power District, also provide rebates for industrial energy-efficiency improvements. A complete list of Basin Electric Power Cooperative members is listed under the "For More Information" section of this document.

INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGIES PROGRAM

Other cooperatives, such as Niobrara Electric, Norris Public Power District, and Y-W Electric Cooperative offer energy-efficient-equipment rebates, while Southwest Public Power District offers load-management and energy-audit programs

Regional Resources

Nonprofit Organizations: The Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance is a collaborative network that advances energy efficiency in the Midwest to support sustainable economic development and environmental preservation.

Industrial Assessment Centers: Though Nebraska does not have an Industrial Assessment Center (IAC) within the state, it does share close proximity with two other state centers. Colorado State University and Iowa State University both have federally sponsored IACs that provide small to midsize manufacturers with no-cost energy assessments.

Clean Energy Application Center: The Midwest CHP Application Center works to develop technology-application knowledge and the educational infrastructure necessary to foster Combined Heat and Power (CHP) as a viable technical and financial energy, and environmental option in the Midwest. The center strives to reduce any perceived risks associated with its implementation.

Local Resources

Manufacturing Extension Partnership: The Nebraska Manufacturing Extension Partnership provides business and technical services to manufacturers and processors throughout the State of Nebraska. Services include Environmental Audits, Process Flow analysis, Technology Needs, and Pollution/Waste Prevention.

For More Information

DOE Industrial Technologies Program (<http://www1.eere.energy.gov/industry/index.html>)
ITP Save Energy Now (<http://www1.eere.energy.gov/industry/saveenergynow/>)
ITP State Activities Web site – Nebraska
(http://www1.eere.energy.gov/industry/states/state_activities/map_new.asp?stid=NE)
Nebraska Energy Office (<http://www.neo.ne.gov/>)
Nebraska's Department of Revenue (<http://www.legislature.ne.gov/>)
Auburn Public Works (<http://www.auburnne.net>)
Basin Electric Power Cooperative * (<http://www.basinelectric.com/index.html>)
Chimney Rock Public Power * (<http://www.crppd.com/>)
Hastings Utilities (<http://www.hastingsutilities.com>)
Howard Greeley Rural Public Power (<http://www.howardgreeleyrppd.com>)
Lincoln Electric System (<http://www.les.com>)
Midwest Electric Cooperative * (<http://www.midwestecc.com/index.cfm>)
Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance (<http://www.mwalliance.org/>)
Nebraska Municipal Power Pool Energy (<http://www.nmppenergy.org/>)
Niobrara Electric (<http://www.tristategt.org/nb/>)
Northwest Rural Public Power * (<http://www.nrppd.com/>)
Norris Public Power (<http://www.norrisppd.com/index.asp>)
Panhhandle Rural Electric Membership Association * (<http://www.prema.coop/>)
Wheat Belt Public Power District * (<http://www.wheatbelt.com/index.html>)
SourceGas (<http://www.sourcegas.com/default.aspx>)
Southern Power District (<http://www.southernpd.com/home.html>)

Utilities designated with an asterisk (*) are members of Basin Electric Power Cooperative.

Contacts

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Iowa State University
Director: Dr. Gregory M. Maxwell
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Manufacturing Extension Partnership in Nebraska
Nebraska Manufacturing Extension Partnership
Director: Dave Wright
Phone: (402) 471-3755
Fax: (402) 471-3365
E-mail: dave.wright@ded.ne.gov
Web site: <http://nics.neded.org>
Source: <http://blue.nist.gov/centers/NE>

Clean Energy Application Center for Region
Midwest CHP Application Center
Director: John Cuttica
Phone: (312) 996-4382
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Web site: <http://www.chpcentermw.org/>
Source: http://www.eere.energy.gov/de/chp/chp_applications/chp_application_centers.html

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