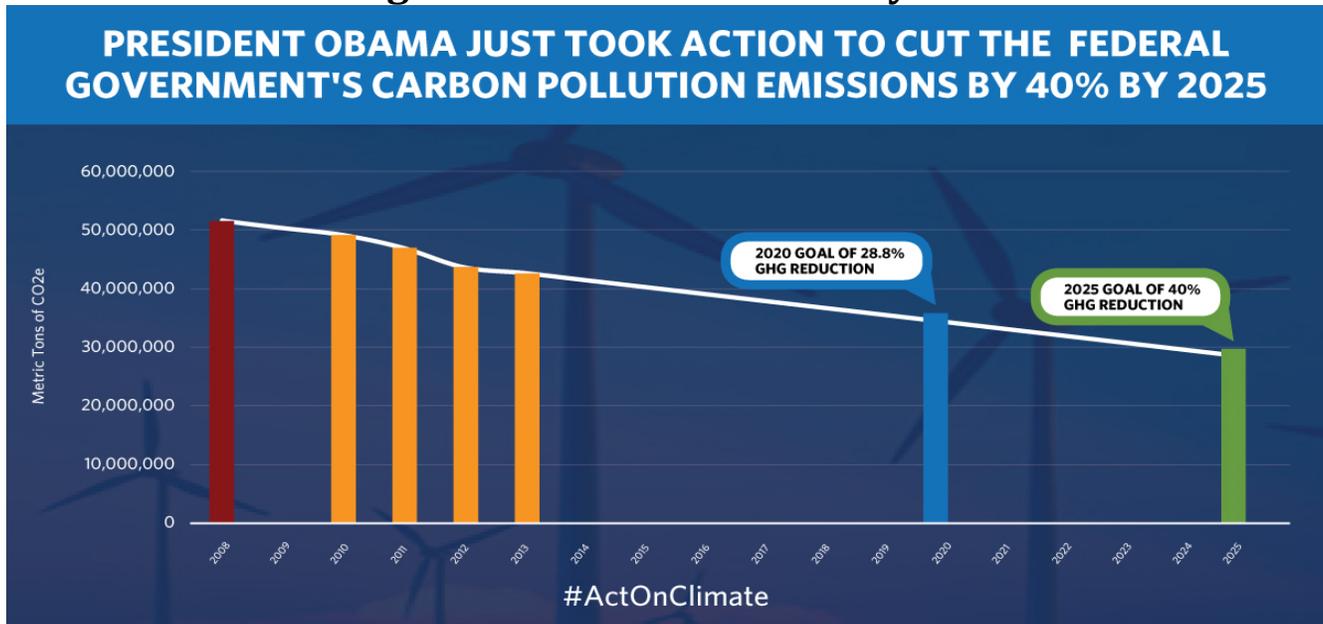


“Executive departments and agencies have been among our Nation’s leaders as the United States works to build a clean energy economy that will sustain our prosperity and the health of our people and our environment for generations to come.” -President Obama, [Executive Order 13693](#)

EO 13693 – Planning for Federal Sustainability in the Next Decade



The President is committed to addressing the climate change threat – both by taking action here at home and showing leadership on the world stage. As part of his commitment to lead by example to curb the emissions that are driving climate change, President Obama issued [Executive Order \(E.O.\): 13693](#) to cut the Federal Government’s greenhouse gas emissions 40 percent over the next decade from 2008 levels -- saving taxpayers up to \$18 billion in avoided energy costs -- and increase the share of electricity the Federal Government consumes from renewable sources to 30 percent.

With a footprint that includes 360,000 buildings, 650,000 fleet vehicles, and \$445 billion spent annually on goods and services, the Federal Government’s actions to reduce pollution, support renewable energy, and operate more efficiently can make a significant impact on national emissions. EO 13693 builds on the Federal Government’s significant progress in reducing emissions to drive further sustainability actions through the next decade. The Executive Order outlines a number of measures to make the Federal Government’s operations more sustainable. Specifically, the Executive Order directs Federal agencies to:

- Ensure 25 percent of their total energy (electric and thermal) consumption is from clean energy sources by 2025.
- Reduce energy use in Federal buildings by 2.5 percent per year between 2015 and 2025.
- Reduce per-mile GHG emissions from Federal fleets by 30 percent from 2014 levels by 2025, and increase the percentage of zero emission and plug in hybrid vehicles in Federal fleets.
- Reduce water intensity in Federal buildings by 2 percent per year through 2025.

Don’t forget to check out [what’s new](#) on FedCenter.gov.

Encouraging Federal Supplier Sustainability

Along with the signing of EO 13693, Administration hosted a roundtable that brought some of the largest Federal suppliers together to discuss the benefits of their GHG reduction targets or to make their first-ever corporate commitments to disclose emissions and set new reduction goals. Together, the combined results of the Federal Government actions and new supplier commitments will reduce GHG emissions by 26 million metric tons by 2025 from 2008 levels, the equivalent of taking nearly 5.5 million cars off the road for a year. And to encourage continued progress across the Federal supply chain, the Administration released a [new scorecard](#) to publicly track self-reported emissions disclosure and progress for all major Federal suppliers, who together represent more than \$187 billion in Federal spending and account for more than 40 percent of all Federal contract dollars.

2015 GreenGov Presidential Awards – Call for Nominations



The Office of Federal Sustainability is pleased to announce that the nomination process for the White House Council on Environmental Quality's 2015 GreenGov Presidential Awards opened on **Monday, April 6th**. We invite Federal civilian and military personnel to

participate in the Awards nomination process to celebrate extraordinary achievement in the pursuit of President Obama's Executive Order on Federal Sustainability. The GreenGov Presidential Awards honor exceptional Federal personnel, teams, projects and facilities, and programs that exemplify President Obama's charge to lead by example in sustainability. **The Awards nomination submission period will be from April 6th – May 22nd**. More information on the background, award categories, and submission instructions can be found at the [GreenGov Presidential Awards website](#).

Progress in Deploying Federal Renewable Energy Projects

Federal facilities are making huge strides toward cleaner energy production and greater energy independence. For example, last year, through the [Capital Solar Challenge](#), the President challenged Federal agencies and military installations to deploy more solar energy on rooftops, covered parking, and open land. In early April 2015, the Army's [Fort Detrick groundbreaking](#) marked the first project launched under the Challenge. Other Federal agencies and branches of the U.S. Military are making progress to meet the President's goals. From the west coast to the mid-Atlantic, a number of renewable energy projects have been announced that will help the Federal Government to continue demonstrating leadership in the deployment of renewable energy. For more on these projects, check out our recent blog post on [Driving renewable progress in the Federal Government](#).



On Wednesday, April 1, the Army broke ground on a 15 MW solar project at Fort Detrick. Photo courtesy of the U.S. Army.

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First Project to Produce Energy in Capital Solar Challenge – USDA Opens Solar Farm in Beltsville, MD

On Earth Day, April, 22, Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack announced the activation of [USDA's first solar array project in the National Capital Region](#). The 1.6 Megawatt (MW) solar farm, located at the George Washington Carver Center (Carver Center) in Beltsville, Maryland, is the largest solar array on federal property in this region. This project, which is part of a larger commitment to transform the facility into a model for sustainability, will help meet the President's Capital Solar Challenge. The new solar farm is expected to provide about 2,000 megawatt hours (MWh), or 20% of the Carver Center facility annual electrical power requirements, and handle most of GWCC's electrical needs during the day.

Administration Announces Actions to Drive Growth in Solar Energy and Train Workers for Clean-Energy Jobs

Solar electricity generation has increased 20 fold since 2009 – doubling last year alone. The cost of solar has continued to fall as a result of investments in research and manufacturing innovation. The solar industry is adding jobs 10 times faster than the rest of the economy, creating a source of good paying American employment. To continue progress, the Administration is announcing actions to drive growth in the solar industry while also supporting our veterans. The Department of Energy (DOE), in partnership with the Department of Defense (DOD), is launching a *Solar Ready Vets* program at 10 military bases across the country. The *Solar Ready Vets* program will train transitioning military service personnel to enter the solar workforce by joining with SunShot's Solar Instructor Training Network and leveraging the DOD's Skillbridge transition authority authorized by Congress in 2012. The program is based on the specific needs of high-growth solar employers, is tailored to build on the technician skills that veterans have acquired through their service, and incorporates work-based learning strategies. More information on this exciting new program is available on the [White House Fact Sheet](#).

CEQ “GreenGov Challenge” Informs EO 13693

The process of developing a robust Federal sustainability plan for the next decade could not have been accomplished without data, input, and feedback from voices all across the Federal government. Through the 2014 GreenGov Challenge, we received more than 1,000 suggestions on how to improve Federal sustainability from Federal employees at 28 agencies. The input we collected helped shape the new Executive Order in substantive ways. For example, we received a number of suggestions for incorporating more renewable and alternative energy at Federal facilities. These suggestions helped influence our new clean energy goal, which now looks at total energy use (both electric and thermal) and encourages the use of technologies such as combined heat and power and fuel cells, which were not included in our previous goals. In another example, we heard suggestions on how to improve the environmental performance of the Federal vehicle fleet, some of which is reflected in our new fleet goals. These new goals encourage fuel efficiency and the adoption of advanced technology – themes that were common to the majority of our GreenGov Challenge fleet suggestions. If you submitted ideas through the GreenGov challenge, we encourage you to [check out E.O. 13693](#) and learn more about the new Federal Sustainability Plan.

Join EPA's Federal Green Challenge

Sustainable Materials Management

Federal Green Challenge



CHANGING HOW WE THINK ABOUT OUR RESOURCES FOR A BETTER TOMORROW

Don't forget to check out [what's new](#) on FedCenter.gov.

EPA's Federal Green Challenge is a national effort under the [Sustainable Materials Management Program](#) that challenges EPA and other federal agencies throughout the country to lead by example in reducing the Federal Government's environmental impact. Federal offices or facilities start their participation by selecting a minimum two of the six target areas —waste, electronics, purchasing, energy, water, or transportation. At least one of the selected target areas must be waste, electronics, or purchasing. Members commit to an improvement goal of at least 5% per year in their selected target areas. More information on the Federal Green Challenge is available at <http://www.epa.gov/fgc/>.

GSA Launches New Supply Chain GHG Emissions Reporting Pilot

In March, [GSA announced a new pilot program](#) to encourage GSA vendors and contractors to publicly disclose their corporate-wide greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) and set targets for reducing them. GSA is the first federal agency to launch such a program. This program will help GSA operate more sustainably, and will give participating suppliers an opportunity to plan more comprehensively to cut costs and carbon. The initiative also supports E.O 13693, which encourages agencies to find opportunities to promote sustainability throughout the Federal supply chain.

Congratulations to the Winners of the 2015 DOD Environmental Awards

The Department of Defense has announced the winners of the 2015 Secretary of Defense Environmental Awards. The Secretary of Defense Environmental Awards recognize individuals, teams, and installations that distinguish themselves in supporting mission readiness through environmental acumen. Information about each of the nine winners and their projects is available at www.defense.gov/releases/release.aspx?releaseid=17237&source=GovDelivery

Federal Bike Challenge

The Federal Bike Challenge is a free, friendly competition between groups of federal employees to bicycle to and from work as often as possible during the month of May. Participants log their bicycle commutes, or trips, on a website. The website tabulates number of trips, percentage of possible trips commuted by bicycle, total miles bicycled, and reduction in CO2 from bicycling. These statistics are available for the participant, participating team, an office, a bureau, department, and the Federal Government. Teams may challenge other teams. More information, including team registration info is available on the [Department of the Interior's Federal Bike Challenge website](#).

Saving Energy through Lighting & Daylighting Strategies

If you're looking to cut energy costs at your facilities, look at your lighting first – and let daylight be your friend. Lighting accounts for over 20% of the energy used by commercial buildings. New research conducted by the General Services Administration (GSA) and National Renewable Energy Lab (NREL) at the Fort Carson Army Base outlines strategies to save energy and enhance lighting quality by building in *layers of light*. See [the factsheet](#) or read much more about GSA's Fort Carson Energy Research Project at www.gsa.gov/fortcarson.

Don't forget to check out [what's new](#) on FedCenter.gov.