

TRANSFORMING POWER IN PARADISE: THE HAWAII CLEAN ENERGY INITIATIVE

ABOUT HCEI: LEADING HAWAII TO CLEAN ENERGY

HCEI was the impetus that started Hawaii's journey from the most fossil fuel dependent state in the country to a world leader in clean energy.

HCEI is a framework of statutes and regulations supported by a diverse group of stakeholders committed to Hawaii's clean energy future. The initiative was launched in 2008 when the State of Hawaii and U.S. Department of Energy signed a groundbreaking Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to collaborate on the reduction of Hawaii's heavy dependence on imported fossil fuels. In 2008, the state estimated that 60-70 percent of future energy needs could be fulfilled by local, clean, renewable energy sources. To turn that vision into reality, HCEI is transforming the financial, regulatory, legal and institutional systems that govern energy planning and delivery within the state.

The initiative has grown stronger over the course of three gubernatorial administrations. In 2014, HCEI renewed Hawaii's commitment to setting bold clean energy goals that include:

- Achieving the nation's first-ever 100 percent renewable portfolio standards (RPS) by the year 2045.
- Reducing electricity consumption by 4,300 gigawatt-hours by 2030, enough electricity to power every home on Oahu, Maui, Molokai, Lanai and Hawaii Island for more than two years.
- Reducing petroleum use in Hawaii's transportation sector which accounts for two-thirds of the state's overall energy usage.

Hawaii continues to make progress towards HCEI goals. To account for market changes and optimize innovative opportunities, the process has remained nimble while also responsibly addressing aging infrastructure demands and limitations.



Guiding Principles



HCEI adheres to the state's energy policy directives:

1. Diversifying our energy portfolio
2. Connecting and modernizing our grids
3. Balancing technical, economic, environmental and cultural considerations
4. Leveraging our position as an innovation test bed
5. Creating an efficient marketplace that benefits producers and consumers



HCEI IN ACTION: STAKEHOLDER COLLABORATION

To support Hawaii's aggressive clean energy goals, HCEI is structured for collaborative engagement and partnerships with all stakeholders. Since the formation of HCEI, the state has made great strides toward energy independence.

A core Executive Management Team (EMT), consisting primarily of state and federal government representatives, with a focus on achieving Hawaii's clean energy goals.

The EMT engages with an Advisory Board and appoints its chair. Representing many industries, the Board consists of approximately 30 committed stakeholders, including state, federal and county policymakers, landowners, electric and gas utilities, non-profit organizations, the military and the private sector.

Strike teams and charrettes will bring vital stakeholders together and provide a format for focused dialog and critical thinking around developing issues.

HCEI PROGRESS: ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE



Since HCEI was established, Hawaii has significantly increased both its RPS levels and its energy efficiency portfolio standards levels. From an RPS of 9.4 percent in 2008, the state has progressed every year in RPS levels and is well on its way to 100 percent RPS by 2045.



The State of Hawaii and the U.S. Department of Energy reaffirmed their commitment to HCEI with the signing of a new MOU in 2014. Crucially, that includes a greater focus on HCEI's third area of concern, transportation. HCEI will continue to work towards reducing petroleum use in Hawaii's transportation sector, an important focus given that transportation accounts for two-thirds of the state's overall energy mix.

HCEI also serves as a roadmap for others to follow, because it engages a wide variety of crucial stakeholders through focused working groups, involves the public in the planning and decision-making process and establishes a process to make informed decisions about the path to success. With multifaceted analysis, HCEI provides the information necessary to advance the state's economic and energy security agenda, demonstrate innovations and develop the workforce of the future.

For more information, visit HawaiiCleanEnergyInitiative.org