



Renewable energy

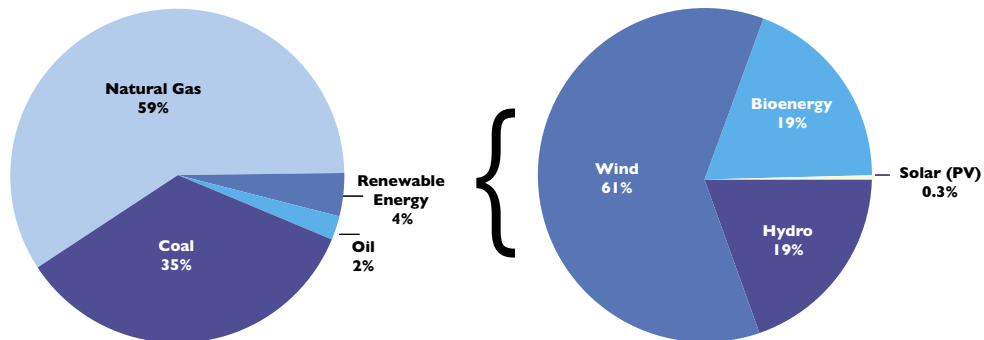
Electricity Generated from Renewable Energy in Western Australia

An estimated 27,433GWh of electricity was generated in Western Australia in 2006/07, most of which came from natural gas and coal energy sources. Renewable energy accounts for around 4.0% of the State's electricity generation, more than half of which is produced from wind power.

Electricity Generation from Renewable Energy on the SWIS

The South West Interconnected System (SWIS) is the main electricity grid in Western Australia and connects Perth, Geraldton, Kalgoorlie and the South West. An estimated 57% (15,658GWh in 2006/07) of the State's electricity is generated on the SWIS. Electricity generated from renewable energy in the SWIS has increased six-fold in recent years. Currently renewable energy is used to generate approximately 5.4% of electricity sold on the SWIS.

Shares in Western Australian Electricity Generation in 2006/07 by Energy Source*



* Note that the percentages in the pie charts are rounded and therefore the total does not add up exactly to 100%.

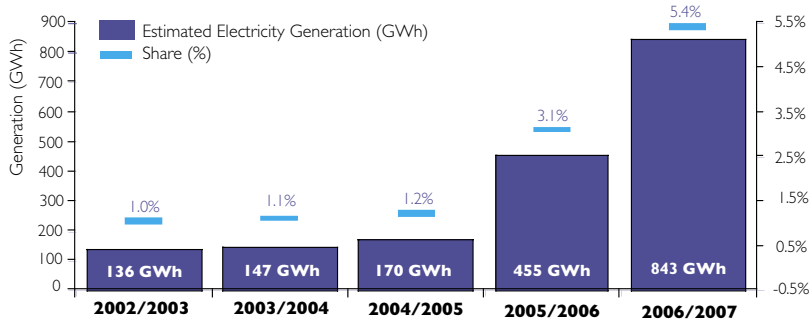
Renewable Energy in Regional Western Australia

An estimated 43% (11,775GWh in 2006/07) of the State's electricity is generated in areas outside the SWIS. Electricity generation from renewable energy sources is approximately 2% of total electricity generated in these areas.

A number of towns in regional Western Australia benefit considerably from renewable energy. Kununurra and Wyndham are supplied from the Ord River hydro system, while Esperance, Hopetoun, Bremer Bay, Rottnest Island, Denham and Coral Bay all have a high contribution from local wind farms.

Renewable energy also plays a role in providing power to pastoral stations, Aboriginal outstations, small tourist operations, telecommunication systems and other facilities in remote areas of Western Australia. Around 40% of pastoral stations in the State now use solar power to contribute to their electricity supplies.

Electricity Generated from Renewable Energy in the SWIS



Sources: Renewable energy electricity production estimated by Office of Energy based on industry data. Western Australian fossil fuel based electricity generation from ABARE (2005) Australian energy: national and state projections to 29-30, ABARE, Canberra. Total electricity generation on the SWIS based on Independent Market Operator and Western Power data.

More information

For more information on renewable energy in Western Australia, see:
<http://www.sedo.energy.wa.gov.au>