

# ENERGY + TEMPE BUSINESSES

## Energy in Arizona

Energy in Arizona comes from five main sources - coal (17%), natural gas (31%), nuclear power (37%), nonhydroelectric renewables (8%), and hydroelectric renewables (7%).

### Facts

- There are currently four coal-fired power plants in the state.
- The Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station is Arizona's largest power plant.
- Arizona has 11 hydroelectric dams.
- Arizona ranks second in the country for solar energy potential.
- In 2018, the commercial sector accounted for almost 1/4 of the state's end-use energy.

## Energy Supply + Demand

To save money, increase efficiency, and become more sustainable it is important to understand four key terms:

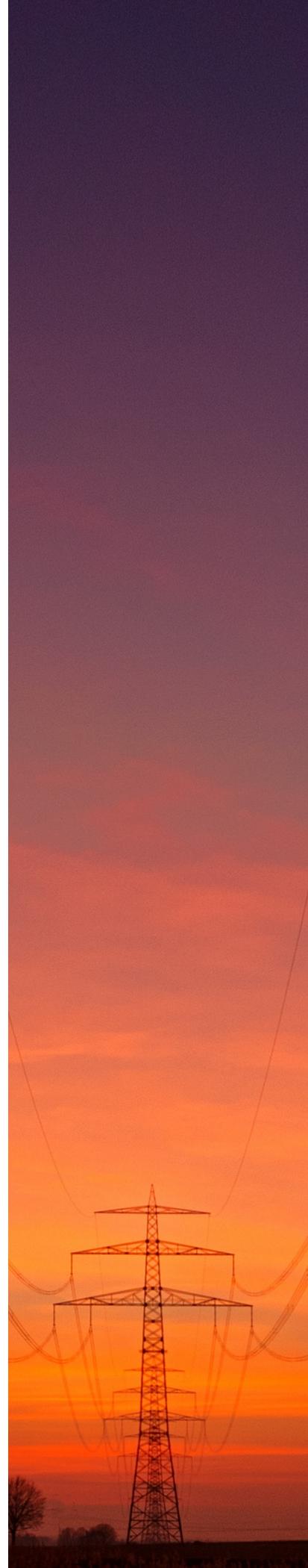
**Peak Hours:** Busiest hours for energy use. Depending on the energy company, peak hours are usually weekdays from 5 a.m. - 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. - 9 p.m. Demand is higher during these times, which means energy is more expensive.

**Load Shifting:** Moving electricity use from one time period to another. Instead of consuming most of your electricity needs during peak hours, you can shift to off-peak hours. This will help your business save money.

**Energy Audit:** An assessment that provides a clear breakdown of how much energy is used in your building, when you are losing energy, and which problem areas need to be prioritized.

**Energy Benchmarking:** A method used to determine whether a building is using more or less energy than its peer facilities with similar occupancies, climates, and sizes.

**Retro-Commissioning:** A process that retrofits a building with more energy-efficient technologies and involves a systemic evaluation of opportunities for energy cost savings.



# Energy Efficiency

According to the EPA, to be energy efficient means using less energy to achieve the same outcome. This allows businesses to save money and reduce pollution.

Energy efficiency is a cost-effective way to mitigate climate change, reduce your business's carbon footprint, and improve your bottom line.

## Actions your business can take:

- Conduct an energy audit
- Reduce heating/cooling and turn off lights in unused areas
- Implement energy efficiency building upgrades, such as LED and motion sensor lighting
- Create/implement energy reduction goals
- Check out the resources below for more information

# Clean + Renewable Energy

Switching to clean energy would give Tempe a sustainable source to meet the city's needs now and in the future. Through the use of renewable energy, we can stimulate the growth of a clean energy economy in Tempe. This can be done by working with utility companies to increase the use of clean energy and the use of battery storage for solar energy.

APS and SRP are committed to providing clean, renewable energy to their customers. Both utility companies have goals to cut carbon intensity by 2050 and switch to renewables.

Businesses can take action by electing to match their standard energy with renewable sources through SRP or APS. While it may cost more initially, you will be able to save money for your business in the long run through energy efficient practices.

Businesses can also purchase renewable energy and install their own renewable generation sources. This will help you save money, protect from price fluctuations, increase reliability, and reduce your risk over the long term.

# Resources + Next Steps

- Take the Tempe Chamber of Commerce's [Pledge for a Sustainable Community](#)
- Check out the [City of Tempe Office of Sustainability's resources and actions](#)
- Take part in one of Local First Arizona's [Sustainability programs](#)
- Learn more about energy use and efficiency:
  - [SRP - Save with SRP Biz](#)
  - [APS - Energy Saving Tips](#)
  - [EPA - Energy and the Environment](#)
  - [Department of Energy](#)

