

Proposed Amendment to Comprehensive Plan

Addition of new Chapter 9

CHAPTER 9: RENEWABLE ENERGY

Definition

Renewable Energy is defined by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as “resources that rely on fuel sources that restore themselves over short periods of time and do not diminish. Such fuel sources include the sun, wind, moving water, organic plant and waste material (eligible biomass), and the earth’s heat (geothermal).”

Goals

Goal 1: Encourage and support the development and use of renewable energy sources to build the local economy, improve the environment, and reduce long-term risks associated with traditional energy supply from fossil fuels.

Goal 2: Encourage local production of solar energy on new residential and commercial construction.

Goal 3: Maximize the production of solar photovoltaic energy to the extent feasible, while minimizing potential biological, agricultural, aesthetic, and other environmental impacts.

Policies

Policy 1: Support the State’s efforts to develop Iowa’s local energy resources and reduce reliance on imported energy fuels by encouraging appropriate solar development in regulations and programs.