

WBR ARTICLE

Wyo dead last in energy efficiency

By MJ Clark

October 22, 2009 --

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy (ACEEE) has released its 2009 State Energy Efficiency Scorecard, ranking states in six energy-saving categories. The ACEEE notes making the most efficient use of energy is the cheapest, cleanest and quickest of all energy resources. And according to their scorecard, Wyoming comes in dead last of all the 50 states, plus the District of Columbia.

The scorecard examines six state energy efficiency policy areas: (1) utility-sector and public benefits programs and policies; (2) transportation polices; (3) building energy codes; (4) combined heat and power; (5) state government initiatives; and (6) appliance efficiency standards. States can earn up to 50 possible points in these six policy areas combined.

Wyoming had a zero score in transportation policies, building energy codes, combined heat and power, state government initiatives and appliance efficiency standards. The only sector that Wyoming scored anything was utility-sector and public benefits programs and policies, where Wyoming got a score of 1 compared to Utah's 9.5.

Colorado scored highest in the Rocky Mountain states, with a rank of 16, with Idaho next at 20 and Utah coming in at 23. At number one in terms of energy efficiency was a tie between California and Washington State.

ACEEE Executive Director Steven Nadel said: "The states continue to be leaders in advancing energy efficiency policies and programs. In fact, this growing and deepening commitment to energy efficiency is so strong that the current recession has not put a dent in the vast majority of state programs. And that is for good reason: Energy efficiency is the only resource that can actually reduce energy consumption while growing the economy – making efficiency the 'first fuel' states can use to balance their energy portfolios."

On the Web: www.aceee.org