

State of Connecticut
FY 2020

Sustainability Performance Plan

Department of Agriculture

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Approved by Bryan Hurlburt
Commissioner



This report was written in compliance with section 5 of Executive Order 1.

EO 1 Background

On April 24, 2019, Governor Lamont launched the GreenerGov CT initiative by signing Executive Order 1 (EO 1) which directs Executive Branch agencies to advance environmental leadership and cost savings for taxpayers by reducing greenhouse gas emissions and other sustainability objectives in energy use in buildings and vehicles, water use, and waste disposal.

EO 1 calls on agencies to recommit to and expand the state's Lead by Example (LBE) program to reduce the operating costs and environmental impacts of state government facilities and operations. EO 1 builds on the foundation of the state's LBE program by setting new sustainability goals, listed below, for Executive Branch agencies and invoking deeper levels of commitment and participation.

GHG

45% reduction in
GHG emissions
below 2001 levels

WATER

10% reduction in
water consumption
from a FY20 baseline

WASTE

25% reduction in
waste disposal from a
FY20 baseline

Since the GreenerGov CT initiative was launched, significant progress has been made towards laying the groundwork for expanded LBE initiatives in the future: governance structures were established, baseline data was collected, and financing and project strategies were developed. Additionally, agencies reported completing or making progress on 120+ sustainability projects in FY19 in the first annual agency Sustainability Performance Plans. Sustainability Performance Plans are plans drafted each year by Senior Sustainability Officers to detail agency progress and necessary goals, actions, and responsible parties to achieve the targets set in EO 1.

In 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic brought significant changes to the operations of state agencies as agencies responded to the crisis. The impact of the pandemic on the sustainability goals of EO 1 is not yet known, but some effects will be documented in the FY20 Sustainability Performance Plans and the GreenerGov CT Progress Report.

DOAG and EO 1

DOAG's mission

The Department of Agriculture will benefit the citizens of the state through proactive programs that address the issues of the changing face of agriculture. The mission of the Department of Agriculture is to foster a healthy economic, environmental and social climate for agriculture by developing, promoting and regulating agricultural businesses; protecting agricultural and aquacultural resources; enforcing laws pertaining to domestic animals; and promoting an understanding among the state's citizens of the diversity of Connecticut agriculture, its cultural heritage and its contribution to the state's economy.

DOAG's FY20 participation overview

DOAG participated in meetings with the Process Improvement and Renewable Energy Project Teams through the GreenerGOVCT initiative.

DOAG staff involvement in EO 1

Nathan Wilson
Stephen Anderson

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Sustainability Projects

including projects relating to infrastructure improvements or behavioral change that took place in owned, leased, or occupied space and were either in progress or completed in FY20

Sustainability Projects

1

Location: 450 Columbus Bureau Hartford, CT 06103

Project Type: Structural - GHG - Vehicle/fleet

Description: DOAG is in the process of cutting down its FLEET vehicles and using less mileage by better coordinating inspections around the state.

Status: In progress in FY 2020

Benefits Summary: Cost savings in our operating budget

2

Location: 450 Columbus Blvd Hartford, CT 06103

Project Type: Behavioral - Waste

Description: DAS set up food waste bins around DOAG's offices, and when possible staff use them to save on waste.

Status: In progress in FY 2020

Benefits Summary: Environmental benefits

Performance Data

The following data was pulled from EnergyCAP, the state's utility tracking software, on March 15, 2021. Note that utility data on agencies occupying space owned by another state agency may or may not be linked to their EnergyCAP accounts.

Total Utility Costs

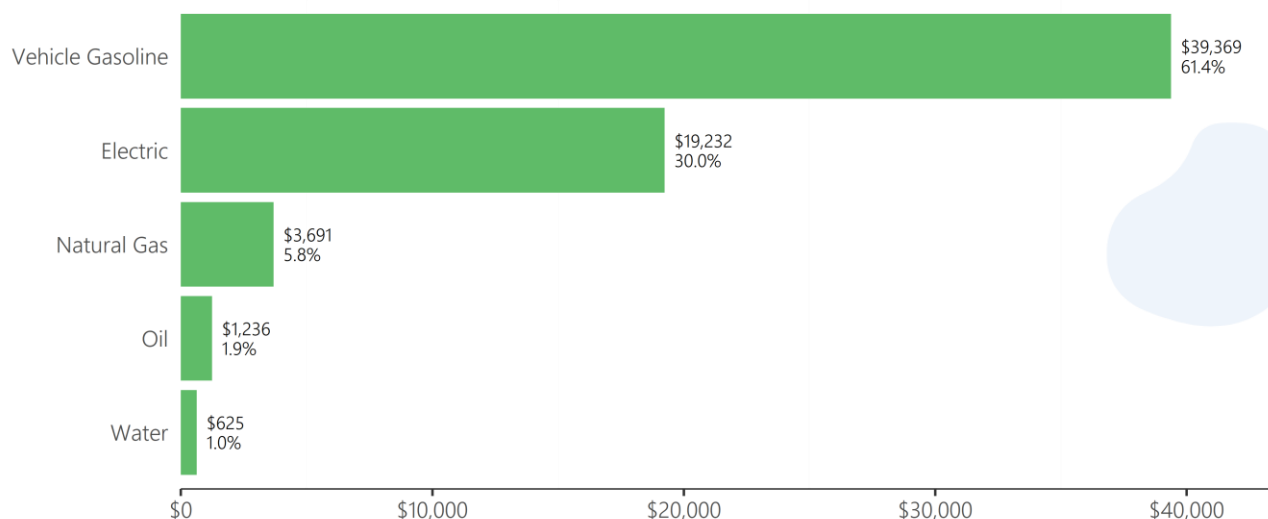
Commodity	Unit	Use			Cost		
		FY19	FY20	Change	FY19	FY20	Change
Electric & Natural Gas	MMBtu	619	598	-3.4%	\$23,382	\$22,923	-2.0%
Other Building Energy	MMBtu	145	103	-29.2%	\$2,213	\$1,236	-44.1%
Vehicle Gasoline	Gal	19,382	16,612	-14.3%	\$49,811	\$39,369	-21.0%
Vehicle Diesel	Gal	355	-	-	\$1,129	-	-
Total GHG Emissions	mtCO2e	221	189	-14.6%	-	-	-
Water	Kgal	158	73	-53.9%	\$1,240	\$625	-49.6%
Total	-	-	-	-	\$77,774	\$64,153	-17.5%

*Gasoline and diesel costs estimated based on average weekly cost from EIA.gov, \$2.37 for gasoline and \$2.96 for diesel in FY20 and \$2.57 for gasoline and \$3.18 for diesel in FY19.

**Other Building Energy sources include oil, propane, steam, and chilled water.

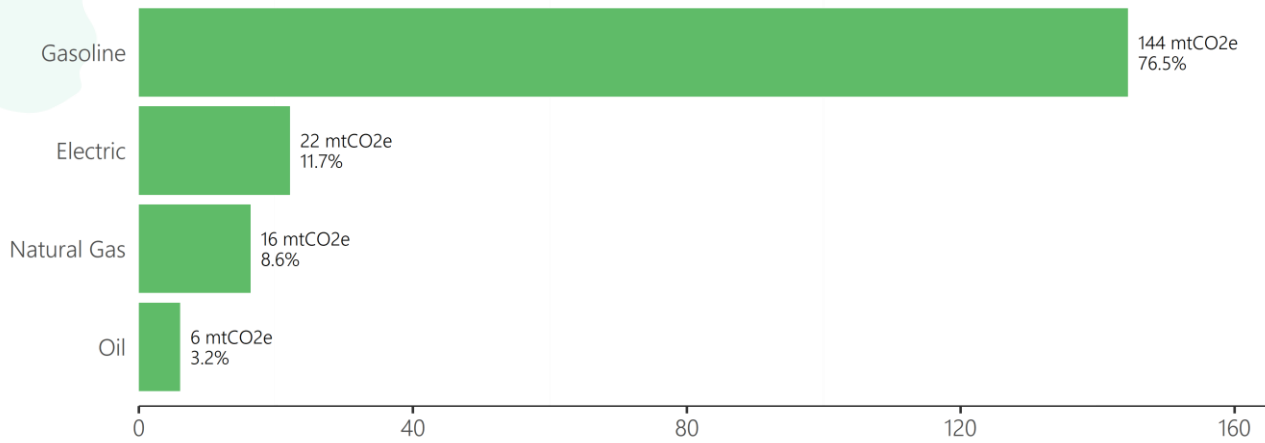
Commodity Cost Breakdown, FY20

The chart below represents the breakdown of commodity costs at DoAG in FY20.



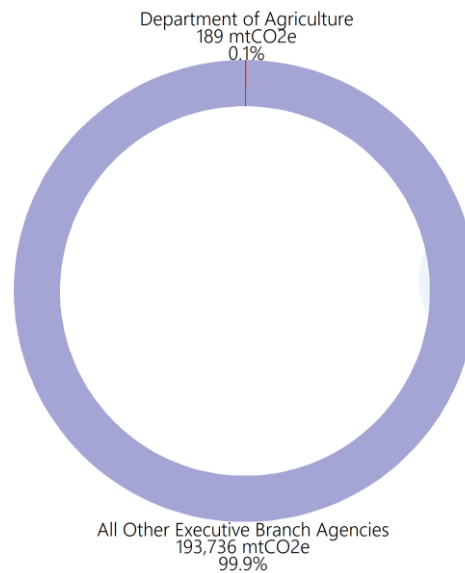
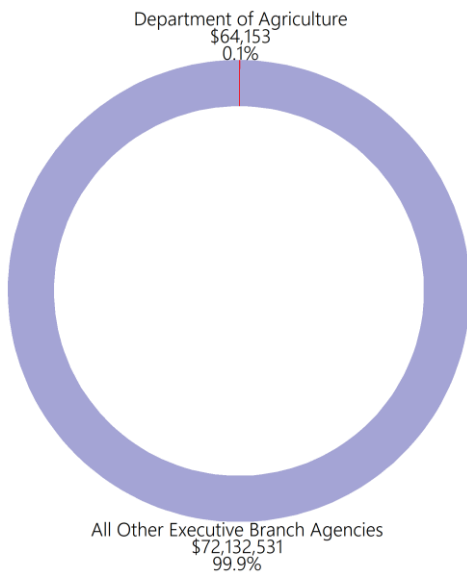
GHG Emissions Breakdown, FY20

The chart below represents the breakdown of GHG emissions by commodity at DoAG in FY20.



Share of Utility Costs and GHG Emissions

The two charts below display DoAG's proportion of the FY20 total utility cost and the total GHG emissions of all agencies participating in EO 1.



Future Planning

GHG Reduction (energy/fleet related)

Status of FY19 Plans

- ✓ **Progress has been made.**
Progress has stalled.
Plans have been completed.
Stated plans no longer a priority.

Planned FY21 Projects

Cut a minimum of one FLEET vehicle from the agency.

Water Use Reduction

Status of FY19 Plans

- Progress has been made.
Progress has stalled.
Plans have been completed.
Stated plans no longer a priority.
- ✓ **Other: DOAG does not operate its office water supply.**

Planned FY21 Projects

No plans reported.

Waste Reduction

Status of FY19 Plans

- ✓ **Progress has been made.**
Progress has stalled.
Plans have been completed.
Stated plans no longer a priority.

Planned FY21 Projects

DOAG has requested staff use the provided DAS food waste bins.

COVID-19 Impacts

Impact of COVID-19 on agency's ability to make progress on the goals of EO 1 in FY20

COVID-19 has reduced gas usage as there is less ability to travel and conduct certain inspections. It has made it a difficult year to track our progress as its an abnormal year.

COVID-19 changes that have led to a positive sustainability outcome that will continue after the pandemic

Strategically evaluating building footprint needed for agency work

- ✓ **Reassessing agency fleet**
- ✓ **Holding virtual meetings as a more regular practice**
- ✓ **Increased telework as a regular practice**

No changes to report

Resources Needed

Barriers encountered while making EO 1 progress in FY20

Funding

- ✓ **Staffing**
- ✓ **Technical expertise**

No barriers encountered

Other

Specific type of support or resources needed to make progress on future sustainability projects

DoAg lacks staff expertise in these fields and efforts and lacks control over certain aspects of our operations that could positively impact the overall state efforts.