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# Energy: Business Council for Sustainable Energy Notes Clean Energy, Natural Gas Consumption, and Energy Efficiency Increase in 2015

## Arkansas Environmental, Energy, and Water Law Blog

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The Business Council for Sustainable Energy ("BCSE") announced in a February 4<sup>th</sup> news release the findings from a study by itself and Bloomberg New Energy Finance in regards to what it characterizes as long-term gains in 2015 for new energy technologies.

BCSE characterizes itself as an organization dedicated to implementing market-based approaches to reducing pollution and providing a diverse, secure mix of energy resources.

The organization states that:

... Energy efficiency continued to rise, renewable power generation set new records, and natural gas consumption and production surged as CO2 emissions fell to levels not seen since the 1990s, while power prices remain flat.

These statistics are found in the fourth annual *Sustainable Energy in America Factbook* ("Factbook")

The *Factbook* notes the combined contributions of energy efficiency, natural gas and renewables in 2015:

- Investment in energy efficiency continues to pay dividends for the US economy. American energy productivity increased by 13% from 2007 to 2015.
- 2015 was a record year for natural gas production, consumption, flows to power generation and volumes into storage – demonstrating a robust and flexible system that is serving more customers than ever.
- Renewable energy is a prominent part (20%) of the US 2015 power fleet, with 222GW of installed capacity across the country, a 57% increase over 2008 levels, resulting in a diverse electricity portfolio that is reliable and reduces emissions and costs.

The news release also notes under the heading of economic growth statistics regarding an increase in energy productivity and the contribution of low United States power prices to the country's economic competitiveness. It also addresses the dividends paid by energy efficiency along with carbon emission reductions, costs savings and investment in infrastructure and technology.

A link to the news release that provides access to the *Factbook* can be found here

<http://www.bcse.org/2016-factbook-released-2015-a-landmark-year-for-us-energy-evolution/>