

Governments at all levels have called for increased use of renewable energy, including waste-to-energy, in order to develop homegrown energy sources, establish energy independence, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Eighty-six waste-to-energy plants operating in twenty-four states safely dispose of approximately 28.4 million tons of municipal solid waste per year. These sophisticated power plants recover energy from household waste and generate approximately 17 million kilowatt hours of clean, renewable energy per year—enough to supply an estimated two million homes. That accounted for approximately 20 percent of the nation’s non-hydroelectric renewable energy in 2006.

This *Fact Sheet* identifies the 26 states, the District of Columbia, and two territories that define waste-to-energy as renewable energy under various statutes and regulations.

**States and Territories Defining Waste-to-Energy as Renewable in Law (as of 1/1/11)**

<b>Alaska</b>	<b>Maryland</b>	<b>Oregon</b>
<b>Arkansas</b>	<b>Massachusetts</b>	<b>Pennsylvania</b>
<b>California</b>	<b>Michigan</b>	<b>Puerto Rico</b>
<b>Connecticut</b>	<b>Minnesota</b>	<b>South Carolina</b>
<b>District of Columbia</b>	<b>Nevada</b>	<b>South Dakota</b>
<b>Florida</b>	<b>New Hampshire</b>	<b>Utah</b>
<b>Hawaii</b>	<b>New Jersey</b>	<b>Virginia</b>
<b>Indiana</b>	<b>New York</b>	<b>Washington</b>
<b>Iowa</b>	<b>Northern Mariana Islands</b>	<b>Wisconsin</b>
<b>Maine</b>	<b>Oklahoma</b>	



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