Annual Energy Reduction

The Architect of the Capitol (AOC) has an active energy conservation program. The primary driver for the program is the federal government's energy reduction goals outlined in the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (EISA 2007) and the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (EPACT 2005). AOC has consistently met its energy reduction goals since Fiscal Year 2006.

The AOC is driven to apply aggressive standards to reduce energy use. In FY 2013, the AOC successfully exceeded its annual energy goal by achieving a 25.2 percent reduction compared to the 24 percent mandate. The AOC's energy savings are the results from focus in three major categories: Infrastructure, Buildings and People.

Infrastructure: Our Capitol Power Plant implements a free cooling strategy that improves efficiency while building operators take advantage of the AOC's expanded meter network which allows the AOC to execute performance monitoring and ensure the consistency of savings achieved from earlier improvements.
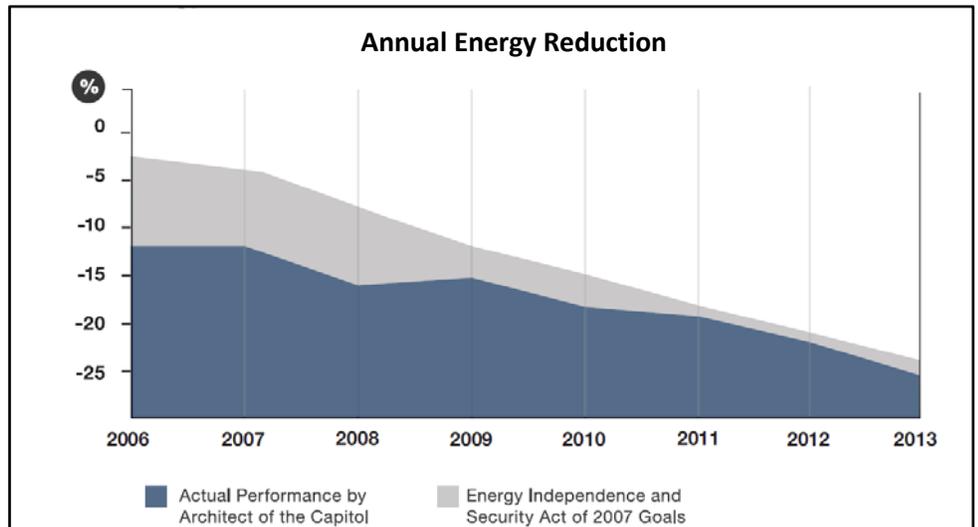
Buildings: The AOC completed three Energy Savings Performance Contracts (ESPC) for the House, Senate and Capitol buildings. Together, these performance improvements accounted for more than half of the AOC's FY13 energy reduction achievement; attributing 15 percent towards AOC's total 25.2 percent energy intensity reduction. These projects provide over $90 million in building energy system improvements.

Annual Energy Reduction

Legend: Actual Performance by Architect of the Capitol / Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 Goals

People: As a result of the efforts to provide infrastructure and building system improvements the AOC now has an extensive amount of data to enable our building operators to identify new conservation targets. We have a robust training program to help our employees use these new tools to drive energy savings from within our building systems. We also focus on the people who occupy the facilities by providing energy conservation guidance to our building occupants through outreach and communication efforts.

In Fiscal Year 2013, the AOC saved enough energy to self-power the entire campus 1 of every 4 days.

ARCHITECT OF THE CAPITOL