



MISSOURI SENATE

JEFFERSON CITY

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Sen. Chris Koster's Green Power Initiative Now In Effect

JEFFERSON CITY — As of January 1, Sen. Chris Koster's (D-Cass) Green Power Initiative has officially become a law.

The purpose of the law is to guide Missouri toward a sustainable energy policy by gradually increasing the state's use of renewable energy sources. This includes setting sales goals for utility companies to ensure that a specific percentage of their retail sales come from renewable energy technology. In 2012, renewable energy sales should reach at least 4 percent of total sales, increasing to 11 percent by 2020. The Public Service Commission will monitor the progress of companies and will report every two years.

"I originally proposed this legislation because I was concerned about Missouri's dependency on traditional energy resources," said Senator Koster. "The goal of the Green Power Initiative is to open the door to new green technology so we can move to a more sustainable energy policy, and eventually, a cleaner environment for Missourians."

While in session, the bill received support from House and Senate lawmakers as well as the governor. Gov. Matt Blunt signed the legislation setting targets for utility companies to use renewable energy sources last June.

"The Green Power Initiative is the most important piece of environmental legislation enacted by the state of Missouri in more than a decade," Koster said. "It will lead to millions of dollars in new construction, spurring economic growth, all the while helping us become energy independent."

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