



Renewables account for a bigger share of U.S. electricity generation in decades ahead

The United States will generate a bigger share of its electricity from renewable sources such as solar, wind, and biomass energy in the decades ahead, according to the new long-term outlook just released by the U.S. Energy Information Administration.

EIA says that lower costs are making renewable electricity more economical, and along with federal and state policies that promote renewables, EIA projects that the share of electricity generated by renewables will grow from 13 percent last year to 16 percent in 2040.

As EIA Administrator Adam Sieminski explains:

“Renewable energy sources will become increasingly more cost-competitive for generating electricity, particularly after 2035 when natural gas prices are expected to be higher. “

Hydropower is projected to remain the leading source of renewable electricity, generating 6 percent of the country’s electricity in 2040, followed by wind power at 5 percent. While the fastest growing renewable source is solar power, it grows from a much smaller base, accounting for 2 percent of all electricity by 2040.

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