Net Zero is a Force Multiplier

Army Vision for Net Zero





The Net Zero Initiative is to be a force multiplier enabling the Army to appropriately steward available resources, manage costs and provide our Soldiers, Families and Civilians with a sustainable future.

Honorable Katherine Hammack

Net Zero is a strategy that strives to bring the overall consumption of resources on installations down to an effective rate of zero. The Army's vision is to appropriately manage our natural resources with a goal of achieving Net Zero Installations. Today, the Army faces significant threats to our energy and water supply requirements both home and abroad. Addressing energy security and sustainability is operationally necessary, financially prudent, and mission essential. The Net Zero concept encompasses not only Energy, but Water and Waste as well. We are creating a culture that recognizes the value of sustainability measured not just in terms of financial benefits, but also in terms of maintaining mission capability, high quality of life, positive relationships with local communities, and options for the Army's future. The Army is leveraging available authorities for private sector investment, including using power purchase agreements (PPA), enhanced-use leases (EUL), energy savings performance contracts (ESPC), and utilities energy service contracts (UESCs) as tools to achieve these objectives. The Army must invest in its installations and improve efficiencies in energy, water and waste for the benefit of our current and future force.

NET ZERO: A Hierarchical Approach

Net Zero Energy

A Net Zero Energy Installation produces as much energy on site as it uses over the course of a year. To achieve this goal, installations must first implement aggressive conservation

and efficiency efforts while benchmarking energy consumption to identify further opportunities. The next step is to utilize waste energy or to "re-purpose" energy. Boiler stack exhaust, building exhausts or other thermal energy streams can all be utilized for a secondary purpose. Co-generation recovers heat from the electricity generation process. Remaining energy needs are then reduced and can be met by renewable energy projects.

Net Zero Energy initiatives are informed by and support overall Energy Security for the installation's critical facilities and functions. More information on Net Zero Energy Installations can be found in the DOE publication: "Net Zero Energy Military Installations: A Guide to Assessment and Planning",

http://www.nrel.gov/docs/fy10osti/48876.pdf.

Net Zero Energy Pilot Installations

Fort Bliss, TX Fort Carson, CO Fort Detrick, MD Fort Hunter Liggett, CA

Kwajalein Atoll, RMI

Parks Reserve Forces Training Area, CA Sierra Army Depot, CA West Point, NY

Additionally, the Oregon Army National Guard will pilot a unique Net Zero Energy Initiative which includes all of their installations across the state.

A Net Zero Water installation limits the

Net Zero Water

consumption of freshwater resources and returns water back to the same watershed so not to deplete the groundwater and surface water resources of that region in quantity and quality over the course of a year. The Net Zero Water strategy balances water availability and use to ensure sustainable water supply for years to come. This concept is of increasing importance since scarcity of clean potable water is quickly becoming a serious issue in many countries around the world. The continued draw-down of major aquifers results in significant problems for our future. Strategies such as harvesting rain water and recycling discharge water for reuse can reduce the need for municipal water, exported sewage or storm water. Desalination can be utilized to convert briny, brackish or salt water to fresh water so it is suitable for human consumption or irrigation.

To achieve a Net Zero Water Installation, efforts begin with conservation followed by efficiency in use and improved integrity of distribution systems. Water is re-purposed by utilizing grey water generated from sources such as showers, sinks, and laundries and by capturing precipitation and storm water runoff for on-site use. Wastewater can be treated and reclaimed for other uses or recharged into groundwater aquifers. Net Zero Water initiatives are informed by and support overall Water Security for the installation's critical facilities and functions.

Net Zero Water Pilot Installations

Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD Camp Rilea, OR Fort Bliss, TX Fort Buchanan, PR

Fort Carson, CO Fort Riley, KS JB Lewis-McChord, WA Tobyhanna Army Depot, PA

Net Zero Waste The approach to creating a Net Zero Waste

Installation is similar to creating a Net Zero Energy Installation. A Net Zero Waste installation reduces, reuses, and recovers waste streams, converting them to resource values with zero solid waste to landfill over the course of a year. The components of Net Zero Waste include reducing the amount of waste generated, re-purposing waste, maximizing recycling of the waste stream to reclaim recyclable and compostable materials, and recovery to generate energy as a by-product of waste reduction, with disposal being non-existent.

Every day, more recycling strategies are developed that move beyond metals, paper, and cardboard to include waste materials such as: mattresses, glass, plastics, batteries, computer printers, and motor oil. The best strategy is to consider the waste stream when purchasing items, reduce the volume of packaging, reuse as much as possible, and recycle the rest. A true cradle-to-cradle strategy considers the end state at the time the purchase decision is made. A Net Zero Waste strategy eliminates the need for landfills, protects human health, and optimizes use of limited resources. for the installation's critical facilities and functions.

Net Zero Waste Pilot Installations

Fort Bliss, TX Fort Hunter Liggett, CA
Fort Carson, CO Fork Polk, LA
Fort Detrick, MD JB Lewis-McChord, WA

Fort Hood, TX

USAG Grafenwoehr, Germany



Ft. Carson Solar Array



Joint Base Lewis-McChord Waste Water Treatment Plant

NET ZERO Hierarchy

The Army Net Zero approach is comprised of five interrelated steps: reduction, repurpose, recycling and composting, energy recovery, and disposal. Each step is a link towards achieving Net

ENERGY

Reduction

Re-Purpose

Recycling & Composting

Energy Recovery

Recovery

Zero. Reduction includes maximizing energy efficiency in existing facilities, implementing water conservation practices, and eliminating generation of unnecessary waste. Re-purpose involves diverting energy, water or waste to a secondary purpose with limited processes. Recycling or composting involves maximizing diversion of materials from the solid waste stream, development of closed loop systems to reclaim water, or cogeneration where two forms of energy (heat and electricity) are created from one source. Energy recovery can occur from converting unusable waste to energy, renewable energy or geothermal water sources. Disposal is the final step and last resort after the last drop of water, the last bit of thermal energy and all other waste mitigation strategies have been fully exercised.

Opportunity

Net Zero is a force multiplier. It is a holistic approach to addressing energy, water, and waste at installations that allows the Army to appropriately steward available resources, manage costs, and provide our Soldiers, Families and Civilians with a sustainable future. The Net Zero vision ensures that sustainable practices will be instilled and managed throughout the appropriate levels of the Army, while also maximizing operational capability, resource availability and well-being.

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