

Where Do We Get Electricity?

Not only will atomic power be released, but someday we will harness the rise and fall of the tides and imprison the rays of the sun.

Thomas Edison, 1847–1931



Electricity is generated from many different natural resources today. A combination of renewable and nonrenewable resources power electrical generators that distribute electricity throughout the state and beyond. Power stations in Minnesota are part of a grid that extends across state lines and into Canada. During periods of high demand, electricity is imported to or exported from other states and Canada.

Petroleum,
Natural Gas: 7%

Renewables: 6%

Other: 1%

How much electricity comes from each source?

Coal, a nonrenewable resource, is the source for the majority of electricity produced in Minnesota. By 2025, the state will require energy companies to provide 25% of their power from renewable sources such as wind, solar, hydro, and biomass.