

There's a never-ending battle between green energy supporters and, well, every other energy source (oil, gas, coal, nuclear, hydropower) about subsidies. So, a few years ago Senator Lamar Alexander asked the U.S. Energy Information Administration to figure out exactly how U.S. energy subsidies work, who benefits and how much?

Here's the full report: [EIA Study on Energy Subsidies](#)

Here's a key graph:

Table ES5. Subsidies and Support to Electricity Production: Alternative Measures

Fuel/End Use	FY 2007 Net Generation (billion kilowatthours)	Alternative Measures of Subsidy and Support	
		FY 2007 Subsidy and Support (million 2007 dollars)	Subsidy and Support per Unit of Production (dollars/megawatthour)
Coal	1,946	854	0.44
Refined Coal	72	2,156	29.81
Natural Gas and Petroleum Liquids	919	227	0.25
Nuclear	794	1,267	1.59
Biomass (and biofuels)	40	36	0.89
Geothermal	15	14	0.92
Hydroelectric	258	174	0.67
Solar	1	14	24.34
Wind	31	724	23.37
Landfill Gas	6	8	1.37
Municipal Solid Waste	9	1	0.13
Unallocated Renewables	NM	37	NM
Renewables (subtotal)	360	1,008	2.80
Transmission and Distribution	NM	1,235	NM
Total	4,091	6,747	1.65

NOTES: Unallocated renewables include projects funded under Clean Renewable Energy Bonds and the Renewable Energy Production Incentive.

NM=Not meaningful. Totals may not equal sum of components due to independent rounding.