We're proud of the culture of sustainability we've created in our 50+ years of serving the Lincoln area. It’s part of why we stand tall within the industry...and it’s only just begun.

LES has a long history of using innovation to meet our customers’ needs while balancing high standards of reliability and cost effectiveness with sustainability. This focus on sustainability is visible throughout LES, from our power resource mix to our wide array of customer programs. As a public power utility, we continually strive to make decisions that align with the values of those we serve while positioning the utility for future success.

As we look to the future and the pursuit of LES’ decarbonization goal – achieving net-zero CO₂ emissions from our generation portfolio by 2040 – that culture of sustainability and a balanced approach will be key to ensuring LES remains a valued partner and a source of support for our customer-owners.
POWER IN DIVERSITY

Utilizing power from different sources in different places puts us on the map with one of the best portfolios in the industry today. This mix of power resources provides LES flexibility, adaptability and stability in an ever-changing energy landscape.

Over the last decade-plus, our renewable footprint has grown significantly. LES’ nameplate resource portfolio — the full capacity of our generation fleet — is diversified with renewable energy (hydro, solar, wind and landfill gas) accounting for 34.3 percent of the power we can generate while natural gas accounts for 35.1 and coal 30.6.

POWER TO SAVE

We started promoting conservation and energy efficiency back in the early 1970s, and we’ve continued to provide programs and partnerships that empower you to become a smart energy consumer.

Customers have several ways to help make a greener today and a cleaner tomorrow.

ELECTRIC VEHICLE STUDIES >> LES.com/EV

LES launched new EV studies focused on our customers’ charging behaviors, the drivers for plug-in vehicle adoption and the impact on our local grid. With partners like the American Public Power Association, the Electric Power Research Institute and the National Renewable Energy Laboratory, these studies will help ensure that LES and power systems across the country are better prepared for a future with more EV drivers.

COMMUNITY SOLAR PROGRAMS >> LES.com/Solar

We put the power of the sun at your fingertips! With LES Virtual Net Metering, you can purchase a “virtual” solar panel, representing the actual energy output of a panel at our 5-megawatt community solar facility, and receive bill credits for years to come. You also can join LES SunShares and donate to renewable energy in our community through your monthly LES bill.

CUSTOMER-OWNED GENERATION >> LES.com/Solar

We’re here to help when our customers take the initiative to install their own generation. With Net Metering, we provide incentives to customers who produce up to 25 kilowatts of their own renewable energy. We also offer our Renewable Generation Rate, which allows customers to partner with their neighbors to sell up to 100 kW of renewable energy to LES at the same incentive levels.

PEAK REWARDS >> LES.com/PeakRewards

Help us manage air conditioning energy use more efficiently and keep electric costs low through our smart thermostat program. Residential and small commercial customers with a qualifying, internet-connected thermostat can sign up and earn incentives by allowing LES to make brief, limited thermostat adjustments June to September each year.

SUSTAINABLE ENERGY PROGRAM >> LES.com/SEP

Every year, we offer customers and contractors incentive funds for energy-efficient installations and upgrades. You can lower the cost of these energy-smart investments in your home or business while helping lower our community’s demand for electricity.

PAPERLESS BILLING >> LES.com/Paperless

We believe opting out of printed statements opts us all into a greener future. You will get more convenience with less paper waste. LES used past savings to support tree plantings and solar charging stations in Lincoln.

RENEWABLE ENERGY CERTIFICATES >> LES.com/REC

This program allows you to support and directly participate in the benefits of LES’ renewable electricity from wind, solar and landfill gas. Reduce your carbon footprint and officially mark your home or business use as 100% renewable by purchasing LES Renewable Energy Certificates via your monthly bill.
LES’ decarbonization goal – net-zero CO₂ emissions from our generation portfolio by 2040 – may have first been established in 2020, but we started taking key steps towards meeting that goal as far back as 2010. The ultimate path and pace to achieving this aggressive goal remains to be seen, but these past decisions and the sound, balanced planning behind them have given us both a strong start and a proven process to follow as we move forward.

**By the numbers**

- **41%** The tons of CO₂ produced by our generation portfolio has been reduced by 41% from 2010 to 2021.
- **15K** First adopted in 2009, our Sustainable Energy Program now offsets the energy use of about 15,000 average homes.
- **43%** Our energy production from renewable resources is equivalent to 43% of retail sales.
- **76%** Our passenger car fleet is 76% hybrid, plug-in hybrid or all-electric vehicles.