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Contact: Scott Whiteley Carter  
501-375-0042 or 501-766-6758  
[scarter@progressarkansas.com](mailto:scarter@progressarkansas.com)

## **Progress Arkansas Comments on New U.S. Energy Statistics** **Federal Study Cites Arkansas as High Energy User with Low Residential Electricity Costs**

Little Rock, Ark./October 23, 2009 – In a recent report, the U.S. Energy Information Association (EIA) found that, compared with the nation, Arkansas has high per capita energy use, yet below average residential electricity costs.

According to the EIA, Arkansas is the 15th highest state in the nation in per capita energy consumption, which includes energy used for transportation and to generate electricity for homes and businesses. However, for retail electricity, Arkansas ranks 36<sup>th</sup>, at 9.81 cents per kilowatt hour (kWh), 22 percent less than the national average of 11.96 cents per kWh.

“Arkansans use a lot of energy, and that’s a good thing. It means we have industry and businesses here that provide jobs. Arkansas is also fortunate that our residential electricity rates are low, which helps take the pressure off homeowners, especially during these tough economic times,” said Progress Arkansas Executive Director Scott Carter. “Thanks to our state’s diverse mix of energy sources, including nuclear, natural gas, coal, and biomass among others, Arkansas’ residential electricity rates are 22 percent less than the national average and half that of states like Connecticut and New York.”

Carter continued, “This is a good place to start as lawmakers, regulators and energy producers consider important projects to continue to meet growing energy demand.”

To view the EIA’s new state rankings, [click here](#).

**About Progress Arkansas:** Established in October 2008 under the leadership of Chairman Bob Lamb, Progress Arkansas is a coalition of business and community leaders dedicated to moving Arkansas forward. Our mission is to build consensus and support for economic, energy and environmental policies that will facilitate growth and prosperity for Arkansas.

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*1015 W 2nd Street • Suite 205 • Little Rock, AR 72201  
501-375-0042 • 501-375-0044 fax*