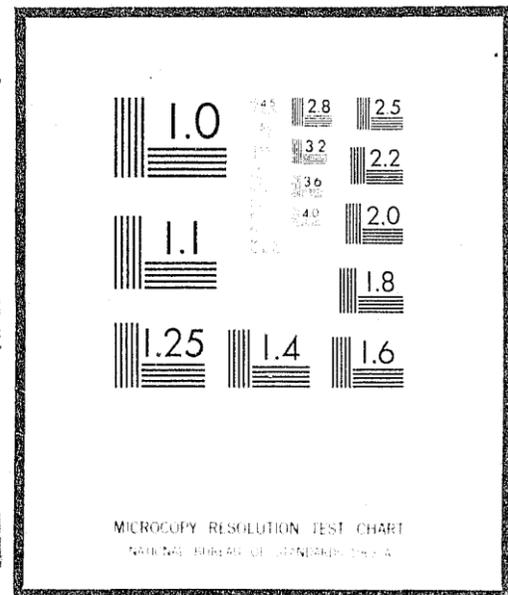


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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE ADMINISTRATION  
NATIONAL CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFERENCE SERVICE  
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# Energy and Criminal Justice



## A Message from the LEAA Administrator:

The energy crisis poses new and difficult problems for the entire criminal justice community. Although the worst of the crisis appears to be over, the likelihood of spot shortages and the need to conserve energy will continue for an indefinite period of time.

Individual citizens can take steps to conserve energy without unfavorable repercussions. Law enforcement agencies, however, have a responsibility to the public to reduce energy consumption without hampering their performance. This nation cannot afford to forego any of its law enforcement services.

Several months ago, I pledged that LEAA would provide a wide range of assistance to criminal justice agencies to help them cope with the national energy shortage. The LEAA Emergency Energy Committee has a number of such efforts under way, some of which are described in this report.

We at LEAA believe that a two-way exchange of information can be a useful tool with which to tackle the energy problem. It was for this reason that LEAA created the Energy Clearinghouse.

With the publication of this report, LEAA begins to share with each of you some of the problems encountered by individual agencies as well as the solutions they have devised. We will follow up with other reports, studies and informational materials in the future.

Through the Energy Clearinghouse, LEAA will work closely with criminal justice agencies in isolating the problems flowing from the energy shortage and in working toward solutions. We invite your comments on this report and your suggestions for energy-saving measures.

Donald E. Santarelli  
Administrator  
Law Enforcement Assistance  
Administration.

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## Clearinghouse Defined

State and local criminal justice agencies, like other segments of American society, are feeling the effects of the energy problem.

While virtually every plan for fuel allocation takes into consideration the essential nature of law enforcement activities such as police patrol, that is only part of the picture. Frequently unmentioned is the impact of shortages on the courts, correctional institutions and other important police operations.

In addition to possible disruption of criminal justice operations, the energy problem undoubtedly will place additional burdens on law enforcement agencies as new criminal activity arises to capitalize on fuel shortages.

The possibility exists that black marketing of oil products, hijacking of fuel trucks and assaults and robberies in darkened stores and residential areas may rise. To these must be added the likelihood of confidence rackets for heat- and gasoline-saving devices plus counterfeiting and theft of ration coupons if rationing is implemented.

The Law Enforcement Assistance Administration, through the National Criminal Justice Reference Service, has established an Energy Clearinghouse to acquire and disseminate information to help the criminal justice community cope with emergency conditions resulting from the energy crisis and to gauge the impact of shortages on their work.

The Clearinghouse will maintain a central reservoir of information, including data on computers, communications equipment, patrol cars, emergency vehicles, aircraft, burglar alarms, security systems, power-generating devices, and all hard and software. Equally important will be information on citizen reaction to the crisis, energy conservation programs and pertinent school curricula.

The Clearinghouse has begun to identify significant items and to acquire appropriate material. Sources include correspondence, reports, books, articles, newsletters, press clippings and grant announcements. To these may be added films, posters, charts and kits.

Through periodic and special mailings, the Clearinghouse will keep users abreast of the most recent developments. Among the information tools planned by the Clearinghouse are flyers, brochures, bulletins, letters, and individual responses to special requests.

We hope that you, as a member of the criminal justice community, will assist us in this endeavor. Success in maintaining a data base as up-to-date and relevant as possible depends heavily on feedback from you in the field.

Let us know about any new developments, programs, reports or other useful material so that we may share them with all interested individuals and agencies. Your assistance will help make the Energy Clearinghouse a meaningful service to the criminal justice system.

(For information on submitting material to the Clearinghouse, please see "We Need Your Help" on the last page of this report.)

## LEAA Moves To Identify Problems and Solutions

In November, LEAA Administrator Donald E. Santarelli created the LEAA Emergency Energy Committee in an effort specifically designed to help state and local criminal justice agencies meet serious problems that might result during the nation's energy crisis. Geoffrey M. Alprin, Director of the Office of Research Programs of the National Institute of Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice (NILECJ), is chairman of the special committee.

Since November, the committee has met regularly and taken several actions, including the establishment of the Energy Clearinghouse at The National Criminal Justice Reference Service (NCJRS).

Mr. Alprin said that the Committee is continuing to address the energy problem from the four perspectives outlined by Mr. Santarelli:

1. Conservation--Identifying possible ways the criminal justice system can reduce its energy requirements without hampering performance.
2. Crime Prevention--Identifying new and increased types of criminal activity likely to result from energy shortages and factors likely to increase criminal activity.
3. Enforcement--Identifying the effect of fuel and energy shortages on the performance of law enforcement and criminal justice functions.
4. Information--Identifying mechanisms for the collection and rapid dissemination of information on crime, enforcement, and conservation problems resulting from the energy crisis.

This special NCJRS report is the first in a series of documents which share this information with the criminal justice community.

Mr. Alprin said, "While the full force of the energy crisis seems to have lessened, there is still a critical need for persons involved in law enforcement and criminal justice to be continually aware of the overall effect of the energy problems upon their areas."

He announced the publication of seven reports--which should already be in the hands of the NCJRS users and which deal very specifically with particular areas. These seven reports are:

No. 1 SUMMARY OF RESULTS OF SPOT SURVEY OF SELECTED LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES

Summary of data received from selected law enforcement agencies representing various geographic locations, climatic conditions, and scopes of operation. Information includes responses to specific inquiries on fleet size and fuel consumption rate, anticipated problems in gasoline purchasing and distribution policies, fuel conservation programs, emergency contingency plans, and any anticipated increase in crime relating to energy shortages.

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## No. 2 STREET LIGHTING, ENERGY CONSERVATION AND CRIME

This report examines the relationship of street lighting and crime reduction and suggests measures if lighting is reduced because of an energy shortage. Figures showing energy savings through reduced street lighting are also included.

## No. 3 PRELIMINARY REPORT ON ROLLING BLACKOUTS

This report examines the effects of temporary electrical system blackouts on law enforcement and criminal justice agencies.

## No. 4 POLICE CARS AND ENERGY CONSERVATION

A detailed analysis of factors affecting fuel consumption in police vehicles is presented in this report.

## No. 5 SUGGESTED ENERGY CONSERVATION MEASURES FOR COURTS AND CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS

A checklist of energy conservation measures for courts and correction in the areas of space and water heating, electric lighting, and air conditioning. The report is intended as a guide for the improvement of current conservation programs.

## No. 6 PETROLEUM ALLOCATION AND PRICING REGULATIONS FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES

A list of existing allocation regulations and procedures available to law enforcement agencies for obtaining gasoline. It includes a list of all state and federal Regional Energy Offices.

## No. 7 PRELIMINARY REPORT ON CRIME AND THE ENERGY CRISIS

This report identifies the types of crime that may increase due to the energy crisis. Tentative recommendations are presented for local law enforcement agencies in alleviating problems associated with the current gasoline shortage.

Mr. Alprin noted that among other areas, NILECJ had begun studies into the feasibility of compact or intermediate-sized cars for use by police departments.

"The nation's 160,000 police patrol vehicles average 35,000 miles per year and approximately eight miles per gallon," he said. "With a one-mile-per-gallon improvement, over 100 million gallons of gasoline could be saved each year. If nothing else, the cost savings implications are staggering."

Mr. Alprin said specific examples of cost savings effected by different agencies are being studied. As techniques are found, their successes will be shared through the NCJRS Energy Clearinghouse, he added.

"The overriding uncertainty of the next few months will be the extent of the continuing impact of gasoline shortages in local law enforcement agencies," he said, pledging that the efforts of the LEAA Emergency Energy Committee would be directed toward meeting and working to find solutions, as well as sharing that information with others in the law enforcement and criminal justice community.

## The Problem of Economic Crime

Energy-related crime poses a serious threat to the nation's economy. In fact, it has been one of the greatest fears since the term "energy crisis" became part of the American vocabulary. LEAA is supporting the Economic Crime Project Center, conducted by the National District Attorneys Association, to make the public aware of the variety of crime possibilities in this area. In their January Newsletter, the project examined several economic crimes which are directly related to the energy shortage.

A good example is a case in Los Angeles where two independent gasoline dealers were selling ethyl gasoline which had an octane level equal to that of regular gas, but at the higher price. In Chicago, a dealer recently was convicted of violating Federal Energy Office guidelines by "giving" gasoline to customers who purchased a rabbit's foot and a blank will form.

The Center found that, through investigations like this one in Los Angeles enough evidence can be substantiated to bring such people into court and prosecute them. The Center believes that such crimes should be given high priority by all participating District Attorneys' offices.

Certainly, this is not the only type of illegal activity resulting from the energy crunch. There are as many or more crimes as there are areas affected by the shortage.

Another example is a lucrative "con" operation in the guise of an employment agency. An "advanced fee" case, which the Center examined in its Newsletter, deals specifically with construction of the Alaskan pipeline. Here, the "agency" advertised construction jobs and collected fees from those who accepted positions through their offices. In many instances, these jobs did not exist--a fact the job seeker found out once he reached Alaska. Now stranded in another state without a job, the victim had paid traveling expenses and had lost his advanced fee to the "agency." The Center warns all potential job seekers to be very selective in their choice of out-of-state employment and/or employment agencies.

District Attorneys are also asked to report any similar situations which might appear in local newspapers to the Economic Crime Center in Washington, D.C.

Their address is 1900 L Street, N.W., Suite 601, Washington, D.C. 20036. Nathaniel E. Kossack is Project Director and Richard P. Lynch is Operations Director of the Economic Crime Project.

## NAAG Urges State Action

In its "Report on the Energy Crisis," the National Association of Attorneys General (NAAG) emphasized the urgent need for each state to participate actively in "alleviating [fuel] shortages and righting inequities [caused by the crisis]," a goal which can be attained by cooperation and constant exchange of information among its members.

The NAAG also approved a resolution "calling for establishment of a joint state-federal anti-trust task force to investigate the energy industry," and has announced its support of a "mandatory oil allocation program for all refiners, wholesalers, and distributors."

The report made note of decisive actions taken by individual Attorneys General to protect their citizens against illicit, energy-related activity. The New York Attorney General's office, for example, has been investigating oil company bids on public contracts. Oil company representatives are requested to testify before the Attorney General or risk losing their bids if they refuse.

Investigations are also underway in the anti-trust division of the Attorney General's office to determine the "behavioral aspects of oil marketing." Oil products marketing is also being studied in Colorado, Maryland, and Minnesota.

More immediate actions also were taken by the New York Attorney General's office which procured various types of fuel supplies for many consumers in the state. Typical examples included obtaining diesel fuel for buses, gasoline for 1,000 taxicabs, and fuel to power an apartment house's generator.

Although these are only a few of the efforts made by members of the NAAG, they are significant examples of what can and is being done to combat the energy crisis in various parts of the country.

## Corrections Institutions and Energy Saving

The December issue of "The Corrections Professional" reports that Connecticut Corrections Commissioner John R. Manson initiated energy conservation measures in that state's correctional facilities. Two separate institutions have closed one housing unit each.

At Bridgeport Correction Center and the Criminal Justice Academy at Hadden, sleeping space has been converted to emergency housing centers. This action took place after the massive electrical blackouts in December. Emergency power is available at both of these locations.

To monitor energy-saving activity, Raymond L. Corrigan, Chief of Engineering Services, has been named the energy coordinator for the Department of Corrections.

Of those corrections departments responding to the Energy Clearinghouse, main areas of concern are potential shortages of heating oil, gasoline, and electricity.

General energy conservation measures adopted by several correctional institutions include:

- \* setting of all thermostats at between 65° and 68°
- \* repairing all broken windows, keeping windows closed, and securing all doors
- \* turning off all lighting not essential for security
- \* turning off exhaust fans when not in use
- \* maintaining temperatures just above freezing (35-40°) in all unoccupied areas
- \* elimination of all non-essential use of state vehicles
- \* encouraging employees to form car pools

The Bureau of Corrections for the State of Kentucky has initiated an energy conservation program aimed at conserving the steam, fuel oil, electricity, and gasoline resources of their correctional institutions. The current minimum energy requirements for every state institution have been graphically recorded.

Based on these data, an overall emergency plan has been formulated containing specific plans to temporarily eliminate certain occupied floors of the state penitentiary and dormitories in the state reformatory, reduce all non-essential travel, and establish energy conservation committees at Kentucky's three major correctional institutions.

These energy conservation committees systematically evaluate all of the operating procedures and practices within their particular institution to develop energy-saving measures. Their recommendations are then submitted to the Bureau of Corrections for approval.

The State Prison of Southern Michigan has adopted specific operating measures in an effort to conserve their energy resources.

These measures include:

- \* reduced lighting during work hours
- \* re-establishment of the "lights out" requirement for residents
- \* reduction of hot water temperatures by five degrees except for sanitizing and dishwashing
- \* initiation of funding for storm windows for high heat loss areas
- \* replacement of existing vehicles with compact models
- \* a program of "energy thrift maintenance" initiated on a regular basis to insure physical plant facilities are in proper working order

The Department of Corrections for the State of Tennessee has also implemented energy conservation procedures in the areas of:

- \* inter-institutional transporting of inmates on a once-a-week basis, utilizing a bus instead of a car
- \* securing of all temperature controls and thermostats to avoid tampering by unauthorized personnel
- \* calibrating all boiler instrumentation

Additionally, the Tennessee Department of Corrections states that all of its institutions have been converted to gas heating with oil standby. However, four of their institutions can be re-converted to utilize coal.

## Probation Agencies: Positive Steps Taken

In order to conserve gasoline, the Pima, Arizona Probation Department has assigned probation officers to specific districts throughout the county. Prior to the implementation of this system, Probation Officers would supervise their probationers on a county-wide basis.

The Probation Officers for the United States District Court - Northern District of Georgia are establishing meeting places within the community, from which interviewing and counseling may be conducted.

These community centers will save on travel time and gasoline, especially in congested metropolitan areas. Mr. Harold B. Coody, Jr., the Supervising U.S. Probation Officer suggests this will cause each officer to become more involved in the community where he is working.

## We Need Your Help

NCJRS is making an all-out effort to identify, locate, and acquire significant information on the energy crisis as it relates to every discipline of law enforcement and criminal justice. Our success in this effort will be greatly enhanced through the cooperation and assistance of members of the law enforcement and criminal justice community.

If your agency or organization has produced, or is producing, material which may be of interest to other agencies and individuals in the field, please send a copy to NCJRS. To assure maximum interchange of information, please send your material to:

ENERGY

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
National Criminal Justice Reference Service  
Law Enforcement Assistance Administration  
Washington, D.C. 20530

**END**