

**Diesel fuel:** A fuel composed of **distillate fuel oils** obtained in petroleum refining operation or blends of such distillate fuel oils with **residual fuel oil** used in motor vehicles. The boiling point and specific gravity are higher for diesel fuels than for gasoline.

**Direct use:** Use of electricity that (1) is self-generated, (2) is produced by either the same entity that consumes the power or an affiliate, and (3) is used in direct support of a service or industrial process located within the same facility or group of facilities that house the generating equipment. Direct use is exclusive of **station use**.

**Direct-use energy:** Energy, usually in the form of heat, used by an onsite application.

**Distillate fuel oil:** A general classification for one of the **petroleum** fractions produced in conventional distillation operations. It includes **diesel fuels** and fuel oils. Products known as No. 1, No. 2, and No. 4 diesel fuel are used in on-highway diesel engines, such as those in trucks and automobiles, as well as off-highway engines, such as those in railroad locomotives and agricultural machinery. Products known as No. 1, No. 2, and No. 4 fuel oils are used primarily for space heating and **electricity generation**.

**Dry hole:** An exploratory or development well found to be incapable of producing either oil or gas in sufficient quantities to justify completion as an oil or gas well.

**Dry natural gas production:** See **Natural gas (dry) production**.

**E85:** A fuel containing a mixture of 85 percent **ethanol** and 15 percent **motor gasoline**.

**Electric power plant:** A station containing prime movers, electric generators, and auxiliary equipment for converting mechanical, chemical, and/or fission energy into electric energy.

**Electric power sector:** An energy-consuming sector that consists of electricity only and combined-heat-and-power (CHP) plants whose primary business is to sell electricity, or electricity and heat, to the public—i.e., North American Industry Classification System 22 plants. See **combined-heat-and-power (CHP) plant**, **electricity-only plant**, **electric utility**, and **independent power producer**. The electric power sector consumes **primary energy** to generate electricity and heat (forms of secondary energy). Electricity is sold to the four **end-use sectors** (residential, commercial, industrial, and transportation), stored for future use, and exported to other countries.

**Electric utility:** Any entity that generates, transmits, or distributes **electricity** and recovers the cost of its generation, transmission or distribution assets and operations, either directly or indirectly, through cost-based rates set by a separate regulatory authority (e.g., State Public Service Commission), or is owned by a governmental unit or the consumers that the entity serves. Examples of these entities include: investor-owned entities, public power districts, public utility districts, municipalities, rural electric cooperatives, and state and federal agencies. Electric utilities may have Federal Energy Regulatory Commission approval for interconnection agreements and wholesale trade tariffs covering either cost-of-service and/or market-based rates under the authority of the Federal Power Act. See **Electric power sector**.

**Electric vehicle (EV):** A general term for any on-road licensed vehicle that can plug into an electric power source and uses electric power to move. EVs plug into a source of electricity and store power in a battery pack for all or part of their power needs. Includes **Battery electric vehicles (BEVs)** and **Plug-in hybrid vehicles (PHEVs)**. Can also be referred to as Plug-in Electric Vehicles (PEV).

**Electrical system energy losses:** The amount of energy lost during generation, transmission, and distribution of electricity, including plant and unaccounted-for uses.

**Electricity:** A form of energy characterized by the presence and motion of elementary charged particles generated by friction, induction, or chemical change.

**Electricity generation:** The process of producing electric energy, or the amount of electric energy produced by transforming other forms of energy, commonly expressed in **kilowatthours** (kWh) or megawatthours (MWh).

**Electricity generation, gross:** The total amount of electric energy produced by generating units and measured at the generating terminal in **kilowatthours** (kWh) or megawatthours (MWh).