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.

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 also Combined heat and power (CHP) plant, Electricity-only plant, Electric utility, and Independent power producer.

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.

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).

Electricity generation, net: The amount of gross electricity generation less station use (the electric energy consumed at the generating station(s) for station service or auxiliaries). Note: Electricity required for pumping at hydroelectric pumped-storage plants is regarded as electricity for station service and is deducted from gross generation.

Electricity only plant: A plant designed to produce electricity only. See also Combined heat and power (CHP) plant.

Electricity retail sales: The amount of electricity sold to customers purchasing electricity for their own use and not for resale.

End use sectors: The residential, commercial, industrial, and transportation sectors of the economy.

Energy: The capacity for doing work as measured by the capability of doing work (potential energy) or the conversion of this capability to motion (kinetic energy). Energy has several forms, some of which are easily convertible and can be changed to another form useful for work. Most of the world’s convertible energy comes from fossil fuels that are...