

Energy Shift Haida Gwaii

The New Wave

Old Massett

Masset

North Grid

Port
Clements

Tow
Hill

There are two
electrical grids on
the Islands.

The North Grid
serves
1,430
customers

Tlell

South Grid

Skidegate

Queen
Charlotte

Sandspit

The South Grid
serves
1,650
customers

Mitchell Inlet

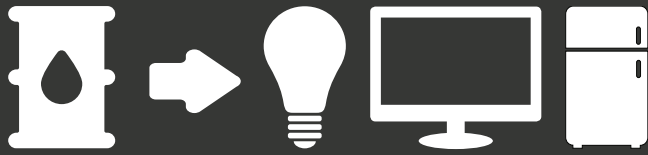
A small hydro plant
located at Mitchell Inlet
provides about 80% of
the energy for the south
grid.

65% of the Island's
total electricity
comes from
burning diesel

Haida Gwaii burns
10 million litres of
diesel a year



This is how it is



Currently diesel keeps the majority of our lights on, our computers running, and food frozen.

Powering our homes uses over 56% of the total electricity on Haida Gwaii.



Even though many of us use wood stoves, heating our homes requires 23% of the overall electricity consumed each year.

The Haida Gwaii Grid

Old Massett
Masset
Port Clements
Tow Hill
North Grid

The North Grid supplies energy to Old Massett, Masset, Tow Hill, and Port Clements from seven diesel generators located in Masset. Because we rely solely on diesel for our electricity, the North Grid produces **30-times** more greenhouse gas emissions per person than the rest of BC. Port Clements is the highest energy user per person because the sawmill is included as part of a residents' usage. Masset is the second highest per capita.

Tlell
Queen Charlotte
Skidegate
Sandspit
South Grid

Diesel generators in Sandspit supply power for the **South Grid** including Tlell, Skidegate, Queen Charlotte, and Sandspit. The South Grid produces **10-times** more greenhouse gas emissions per person than the rest of BC. A hydroelectric plant located in Mitchell Inlet produces **80%** of electricity for this grid and diesel is only used as a backup during the drier summer months.



Renewable Energy



Renewable energy is produced from a naturally replenishing resource like sun, wind, tides, waves, and heat from the earth, air, or water.

Why should we switch to renewable energy?

As we go about our days, each one of us is using different types of energy in a variety of ways. Everything we touch is produced using some sort of energy source. Using diesel energy creates a “**carbon footprint**” that is measured in greenhouse gas emissions and each one of us on Haida Gwaii has a higher footprint than most people across the country because of our reliance on diesel.

Look up the *Carbon Footprint Calculator* at: livesmartbc.ca to calculate your home's energy consumption.

Average Annual Energy Use Per Person

BC - 98 GJ

Canada - 106 GJ

Haida Gwaii - 122 GJ



Lowering our carbon footprint is not only good for the environment but also good for our health.



Fossil fuels are expensive – BC Hydro operates at a loss on-Island because of high diesel prices and the cost of transporting diesel.



Jobs in the renewable energy sector will be local, they will be well-paying, and long-lasting.



We will be more self-reliant communities when we can produce our own renewable power.



We won't be tied to the rising price of finite fossil fuels.

Investing in our energy sovereignty will help to create a healthier environment and more local jobs.



Towards Self-Sufficiency

The energy shift is already happening on Haida Gwaii.

Local residents, governments, and business owners have been investing in small-scale, clean power sources. Go to our website to learn more and read about some of the Islanders leading the way to small-scale, renewable energy solutions.



By reducing our energy consumption and investing in renewable solutions, we can meet our own electricity needs on Haida Gwaii. Doing so will ensure our long-term energy security, it will create jobs, build new economic opportunities, and reduce our environmental impact. Local, renewable power will also be more reliable making Islanders less vulnerable to the power outages we experience on diesel generators. By addressing our own electricity needs, Haida Gwaii can become more independent, a model of community-owned sustainability, and be a leader in the shift to clean energy.

Take the clean energy community survey and enter to win a household energy efficiency kit.

Go to: swiilawiid.org

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Swiilawiid Sustainability Society



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