

The carbon power of electric efficiency: a simple comparison*

- **Change 1 lightbulb to CFL:**
 - ❖ 100 watts to 23 watts x 10,000 hours
 - ❖ Saves 770 kwh x 1.8 pounds CO₂/kwh = ~1400 pounds CO₂ <when displacing coal>
 - ❖ SAVES the economy \$30+ in power costs
- **OR Make 700 gallons of corn-based ethanol:**
 - ❖ 700 gallons x 2 pounds CO₂ saved per gallon = ~1400 pounds CO₂ <when displacing gasoline>
 - ❖ COSTS taxpayers \$420 (700 gal x .60/gal tax benefits)
- **Total utility EE spending nationwide is about \$1.6 Billion**
- **Government support for ethanol is \$5.1 – \$6.8 Billion**

**R Cowart comparison, based on EPA fuel & carbon data; IISD, "Biofuels –at What Cost?" (2006), standard CFL savings data, and federal + state tax benefits for ethanol. Corrections invited.*

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