

About the Responsibility for Environmental Damage

The Environmental Framework Law abides by the *polluter pays* principle which establishes certain responsibilities for actions which cause damage to the environmental heritage. Firstly, everybody causing environmental damage is obligated to repair it. Such repair must be on account of he who causes such deterioration. In addition to the damage repair, the party must indemnify pursuant to the law. In this sense the law considers what is called *environmental action* which is an action meant to indemnify and repair environmental damage caused. Moreover, the law establishes penalties because of environmental damage.

Primary Energy Overview				
Physical Units				
1994				
	Gross Production	Imports	Exports	Gross Consumption
Crude Oil	714	7989	0	8451
Natural Gas	2185	0	85	1777
Coal	1182	1930	0	3145
Hydroelectricity	17256	0	0	16977
Firewood & Others	9166	0	0	9166
Biogas	66	0	0	66

Balance de Energia 1994
Comision Nacional de Energia

3.1 OIL AND GAS IN THE ENERGY SECTOR¹

Energy is one of the most dynamic sectors in the Chilean economy. Between the years 1990 and 1994, the most recent figures available from the CNE, consumption of primary energy has increased by 20%, or at a rate of about 4.8% annually. The growth of the economy, projected at over 5% annually points to an increase in the demand for energy supplies as new productive activities, new investment projects and consumption, in general, increase.

Energy Consumption Breakdown

Transportation	26.2%
Industrial & Mining	26.2%
Business & Residential	23.8%
Consumption in Transformation Centres	23.8%

Source: *Balance Nacional de Energia 1994* (p. 5), published by the National Energy Commission, 1994.

¹For complete statistical information on energy production and consumption see *Balance Nacional de Energia 1975-1994 Chile*, Comision Nacional de Energia.