Energy Blog

# Our Energy Usage

Posted by Username on 20th February 2016 as a reply to “Green Electricity Blog” by Jason Baker

Thanks for sharing your thoughts, Jason. I’ll now dive into the energy usage of my family.

My family uses a lot of energy compared to other households, at least compared to our neighbours. It’s mostly because we have many computers and screens that are powered on a lot. Two PCs and three 55” TVs are quite power hungry. Not to forget, I also have three monitors that are constantly on (even at the time of writing this blog!). The energy that our regular household appliances use is basically negligible compared to the computers and screens.

Without power, we would suffer. Not just because we can’t watch funny cat videos on the internet anymore, but because all the food in the fridge won’t last too long. A fridge full of moldy food isn’t the most pleasant thing in the world. We all rely a lot on electricity for a variety of important things. Communication, work and cleaning to name a few.

We could save electricity by reducing our computer usage, but to me that’s like asking a wood worker to reduce their wood usage. I need my computer for everything work and school related and sure, I could only use one monitor instead of four, but handicapping my multitasking abilities isn’t worth the few Euros of electricity it saves. My parents could more easily reduce their usage, but at the end of the day, entertainment wins over cost. We cannot stop the fridge from working, nor is ditching the convenience of a dishwasher or a washing machine. Our dryer isn’t strictly necessary, but the time it saves is worth the cost.

In conclusion, while our household's energy usage is high due to our reliance on technology and appliances, the convenience, productivity, and entertainment they provide outweigh the cost savings of cutting back. I’m sure many other high electricity usage households feel the same way. What do you think?