

Wellspring – Your opportunity to support renewable energy

The Wellspring program provides businesses with an easy, affordable and meaningful way to support sustainable energy efforts. By participating in the Wellspring program, you are able to offset your conventional energy use and take pride in helping promote and expand renewable energy development. Small acts can make a big impact. As more businesses support the program, more opportunities arise to generate power from renewable sources. Together, we can power the future.

What exactly am I buying?

Those who participate in the Wellspring program are purchasing renewable energy credits (RECs). A REC embodies all of environmental attributes of renewable generation and can be tracked separately from the underlying electricity. For every 1,000 kWhs of clean, renewable electricity generation, a REC is created. 1 REC = 1,000 kWhs = 1 MWh

Name	Size	Corresponding Rate	Term
Wellspring C&I Tier 1 Energy	Small Business C&I <1000 MWh	\$3 MWh	1 year – suggested commitment with auto renew. Notice sent annually if REC rate is to change
Wellspring C&I Tier 2 Energy	C&I ≥1000 MWh	\$4 MWh	5 year maximum term. Early termination penalty applies. See contract for details.



Is the Wellspring energy supplied directly to my business?

No. The electricity generated by the renewable generation sources is fed into the region's electric grid. Renewable Energy Credits provide a tracking mechanism for the purchase of renewable energy that is added to and pulled from the electric grid. The renewable power you purchase replaces electricity that would have been generated by conventional fossil fuels.

Will power in my business be dependent on the wind blowing?

No. Your power will continue as usual because conventional generation will ensure power is supplied when the wind is not blowing.

Can your utility generate all of its electricity from wind?

Wind-generated electricity is an important part of the overall mix of generation options, but cannot support all of our electricity needs.

Is wind energy cheaper to produce than other generation options?

Today, wind represents a cost-competitive source of energy. As technology advances and costs come down, wind will become more and more cost competitive. Another factor is that the windiest areas are often far from the areas that need the power. Therefore, transmission lines need to be built, and this adds to the overall cost of wind energy.

Who can participate?

To qualify for the program you must be located in your local electric cooperative's service territory.

Program Details	Tier 1	Tier 2
Qualification	Individual Participant: <1,000,000 kWh (1,000 MWh) annually <ul style="list-style-type: none">Available to a single consumer meeting minimum qualifications	Individual Participant: >1,000,000 kWh (1,000 MWh) annually <ul style="list-style-type: none">Available to a single consumer meeting minimum qualifications
Contract Term	1 year suggested with annual auto renew <ul style="list-style-type: none">Full calendar year terms only (Jan 1-Dec 31)Notice sent annually if REC rate is to change	5 year maximum <ul style="list-style-type: none">Cooperative/Member to define term
Pricing	\$3/REC = \$3/MW <ul style="list-style-type: none">REC cost subject to change at the end of each annual cycle	\$4/REC = \$4/MW <ul style="list-style-type: none">Pricing set annually but locked-in for length of contract termEnrollment by August 31st for current year pricing, if price changes would take effect Sept 1stIf enroll after Jan, true-up quantity billed in first month
Maximum REC offering	100% of energy usage <ul style="list-style-type: none">Will not sell more RECs than what offsets participant or aggregation energy usage	100% of energy usage <ul style="list-style-type: none">Will not sell more RECs than what offsets participant or aggregation energy usage
Large Capacity RECs	N/A	Individual participant exceeding 10,000,000 kWh (10,000 MWh) annually <ul style="list-style-type: none">Requires approval to ensure REC supply planning
Early Termination	Voluntary Termination: No penalty Involuntary Termination: No penalty <ul style="list-style-type: none">Cannot re-enroll in Wellspring until next annual cycleInvoluntary Termination: facility closure, ownership transfer, bankruptcy, etc.	Voluntary Termination: 1 year penalty payment based on previous 12 months energy usage Involuntary Termination: No penalty <ul style="list-style-type: none">Cannot re-enroll in Wellspring until after original contract termination dateInvoluntary Termination: facility closure, ownership transfer, bankruptcy, etc.

How can I get started?

Contact your local electric cooperative to learn more about how to sign up for the Wellspring program.