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NREL Highlights Leading Utility Green Power Programs***Pricing programs give consumers clean power choices***

Golden, Colo., April 3, 2007 – The U.S. Department of Energy’s (DOE) National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) today released its annual ranking of leading utility green power programs. Under these voluntary programs, consumers can choose to help support additional electricity production from renewable resources such as solar and wind. More than 600 utilities across the United States offer these programs.

Using information provided by utilities, NREL develops “Top 10” rankings of utility programs in the following categories: total sales of renewable energy to program participants, total number of customer participants, customer participation rate and the lowest price premium charged for a green pricing service using new renewable resources.

Ranked by renewable energy sales, the green power program of Austin (Texas) Energy is first in the nation, followed by Portland General Electric, Florida Power & Light, PacifiCorp and Xcel Energy.

Ranked by customer participation rates, the top utilities are City of Palo Alto (Calif.) Utilities, Lenox (Iowa) Municipal Utilities, Montezuma (Iowa) Municipal Light & Power, Portland General Electric, and Sacramento Municipal Utility District. (See attached tables for additional rankings).

“Utility green power sales continue to show strong growth across the country,” said Lori Bird, senior energy analyst at NREL. “These utilities are the national leaders.”

Customer choice programs are proving to be a powerful stimulus for growth in renewable energy supply. In 2006, total utility green power sales exceeded 3.5 billion kilowatt-hours (kWh), about a 30% increase over 2005. More than 500,000 customers are participating in utility programs nationwide, up more than 10% from 2005.

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Utility green pricing programs are one segment of a larger green power marketing industry that counts Fortune 500 companies, government agencies and colleges and universities among its customers, and helps support more than 2,500 MW of renewable electricity generation capacity.

NREL analysts attribute the success of many programs to persistence in marketing and creative marketing strategies, including in some cases, utility partnerships with independent green power marketers.

In addition, the rate premium that customers pay for green power continues to drop. “Higher prices for conventional energy sources, as well as increasing environmental concerns, are focusing greater attention on renewable energy options,” said Blair Swezey, NREL principal analyst.

NREL performs analyses of green power market trends and is funded by DOE’s Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy.

NREL is the U.S. Department of Energy's primary national laboratory for renewable energy and energy efficiency research and development. NREL is operated for DOE by Midwest Research Institute and Battelle.

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Green Pricing Program Renewable Energy Sales
(as of December 2006)

Rank	Utility	Resources Used	Sales (kWh/year)	Sales (aMW) ^a
1	Austin Energy	Wind, landfill gas	580,580,401	66.3
2	Portland General Electric ^b	Existing geothermal and hydro, wind	432,826,408	49.4
3	Florida Power & Light ^b	Landfill gas, biomass, wind, solar	302,792,000	34.6
4	PacifiCorp ^{cd}	Wind, biomass, solar	299,862,690	34.2
5	Xcel Energy ^{ef}	Wind	236,505,718	27.0
6	Basin Electric Power Cooperative	Wind	217,427,000	24.8
7	Sacramento Municipal Utility District ^e	Wind, landfill gas, small hydro	216,476,278	24.7
8	National Grid ^{ghi}	Biomass, wind, small hydro, solar	156,447,869	17.9
9	OG&E Electric Services	Wind	134,553,920	15.4
10	Puget Sound Energy	Wind, solar, biogas	131,742,000	15.0

^a An "average megawatt" (aMW) is a measure of continuous capacity equivalent (i.e., operating at a 100% capacity factor).

^b Some products marketed in partnership with Green Mountain Energy Company.

^c Includes Pacific Power and Rocky Mountain Power.

^d Some Oregon products marketed in partnership with 3 Phases Energy Services.

^e Product is *Green-e* certified (www.green-e.org). For Xcel Energy, the Colorado and Minnesota Windsource products are *green-e* certified.

^f Includes Northern States Power, Public Service Company of Colorado, and Southwestern Public Service.

^g Includes Niagara Mohawk, Massachusetts Electric, Narragansett Electric, and Nantucket Electric.

^h Marketed in partnership with Community Energy, EnviroGen, Green Mountain Energy Company, Mass Energy, People's Power & Light, and Sterling Planet.

ⁱ Some products are certified by *Green-e* (www.green-e.org) or Environmental Resources Trust <http://www.ert.net>.



Total Number of Customer Participants
(as of December 2006)

Rank	Utility	Program(s)	Participants
1	Xcel Energy ^a	<i>Windsource^b</i> <i>Renewable Energy Trust</i>	63,028
2	PacifiCorp ^{cd}	<i>Blue Sky Block</i> <i>Blue Sky Usage</i> <i>Blue Sky Habitat</i>	51,297
3	Portland General Electric ^e	<i>Clean Wind</i> <i>Green Source</i>	50,284
4	Sacramento Municipal Utility District	<i>Greenergy^b</i>	35,707
5	PECO ^f	<i>PECO WIND</i>	34,303
6	Florida Power & Light ^g	<i>Sunshine Energy</i>	28,742
7	Los Angeles Department of Water & Power	<i>Green Power for a Green LA</i>	24,320
8	National Grid ^{hi}	<i>GreenUp^j</i>	23,751
9	Puget Sound Energy	<i>Green Power Program</i>	17,426
10	We Energies	<i>Energy for Tomorrow^b</i>	15,823

^a Includes Northern States Power, Public Service Company of Colorado, and Southwestern Public Service.

^b Product is *Green-e* certified (www.green-e.org). For Xcel Energy, the Colorado and Minnesota *Windsource* products are *Green-e* certified.

^c Includes Pacific Power and Rocky Mountain Power.

^d Some Oregon products marketed in partnership with 3 Phases Energy Services.

^e Some products marketed in partnership with Green Mountain Energy Company.

^f Marketed in partnership with Community Energy, Inc.

^g Marketed in partnership with Green Mountain Energy Company.

^h Includes Niagara Mohawk, Massachusetts Electric, Narragansett Electric, and Nantucket Electric.

ⁱ Marketed in partnership with Community Energy, EnviroGen, Green Mountain Energy Company, Mass Energy, People's Power & Light, and Sterling Planet.

^j Some products are certified by *Green-e* (www.green-e.org) or Environmental Resources Trust <http://www.ert.net>.



Customer Participation Rate
(as of December 2006)

Rank	Utility	Customer Participation Rate	Program(s)	Program Start Year
1	City of Palo Alto Utilities ^a	16.9%	<i>Palo Alto Green</i> ^b	2003
2	Lenox Municipal Utilities ^c	16.6%	<i>Green City Energy</i>	2003
3	Montezuma Municipal Light & Power ^c	6.5%	<i>Green City Energy</i>	2003
3	Portland General Electric ^d	6.5%	<i>Clean Wind Green Source</i>	2002
5	Sacramento Municipal Utility District	6.2%	<i>Greenergy</i> ^b	1997
6	Silicon Valley Power ^a	6.1%	<i>Santa Clara Green Power</i>	2004
7	Holy Cross Energy	5.6%	<i>Wind Power Pioneers Local Renewable Energy Pool</i>	1998 2002
8	Central Electric Cooperative ^e	5.5%	<i>Green Power</i>	1999
9	River Falls Municipal Utilities ^f	5.4%	<i>Renewable Energy Program</i>	2001
10	Orcas Power and Light Cooperative	5.1%	<i>Go Green</i>	1997

^a Marketed in partnership with 3 Phases Energy Services

^b Product is *Green-e* certified (www.green-e.org).

^c Program offered in association with the Iowa Association of Municipal Utilities.

^d Some products marketed in partnership with Green Mountain Energy Company.

^e Power supplied by PNGC Power.

^f Power supplied by Wisconsin Public Power Inc.



Price Premium Charged for New, Customer-Driven Renewable Power^a
(as of December 2006)

Rank	Utility	Resources Used	Premium (¢/kWh)
1	Austin Energy ^b	Wind, landfill gas	-0.13
2	OG&E Electric Services ^b	Wind	0.026
3	Edmond Electric ^{bc}	Wind	0.144
4	Avista Utilities	Wind, landfill gas, biomass	0.33
5	Indianapolis Power and Light	Wind	0.35
6	Eugene Water and Electric Board ^{bd}	Wind	0.65
7	Clallam County Public Utility District ^b	Landfill gas	0.70
8	PacifiCorp ^e	Wind, biomass, solar	0.78
9	Idaho Power	Wind, solar	0.882
10	Mason County PUD 3	Wind	1.0
10	Sacramento Municipal Utility District ^d	Wind, landfill gas, hydro	1.0
10	Wisconsin Public Service Corporation	Wind, landfill gas, biomass	1.0

^a Includes only programs that have installed or announced firm plans to install or purchase power from 100% new renewable resources.

^b Premium is variable; customers in these programs are exempt or otherwise protected from changes in utility fuel charges.

^c Power supplied by Oklahoma Municipal Power Authority.

^d Product is *Green-e* certified (www.green-e.org).

^e Pacific Power *Blue Sky Usage* product; only available in Oregon. Product marketed in partnership with 3 Phases Energy Services.

