



Chicago Based Company

Are you currently working on any LEED projects? Chicago Based Company would like to show you how cost effective it is to obtain LEED points through the "Green Power Point." Our clients' average cost/point is between \$200.00 - \$1,500.00.

Depending on which type of LEED certification your project is going for, you can earn up to four points by purchasing Renewable Energy Certificates. The Green Power Team at Chicago Based Company is eager to provide you with a quote for any LEED project you may be working on. Along with obtaining LEED points, by purchasing Renewable Energy Certificates your clients will be awarded a certificate that will show their support for renewable energy generation.

In order to provide a Green Power Quote for your project our Green Power Team only needs six points of information:

- Name of the project:
- LEED type (i.e. NC 2.2, CI 2.0):
- Annual electricity consumption from an energy model:
- If no energy model has been completed, the square footage:
- What type of building it is (i.e. school, office, hospital):
- When the building was occupied/going to be occupied (mm/dd/year):

After our Green Power Team receives this information, it takes 15-30 minutes for us to turn around a quote.

We at Chicago Based Company look forward to hearing back from you. Please feel free to forward this information to anyone who may be interested in Renewable Energy Certificates for their LEED projects.

Sincerely,

Director of Renewable Energy Sales
Based Company

Response from USGBC

And the fact of the matter is that for most project teams LEED-NC EAc6 is purely a financial transaction. Write a check. Get a LEED point (well 2 points under LEED 2009). Simple as that. Purchasing RECs does not impact the design, construction or operation of the project one iota.

And EAc6, in my experience, is very cheap to achieve. Even at the extreme of \$0.05/kWH for RECs and 30 kWH/sf-yr a project would spend \$1.05/sf to achieve LEED-NC EAc6 (and most RECs are more like \$0.01 - 0.02/kwh and most LEED projects are closer to 10 kWH/sf-yr). My projects typically have construction budgets of \$250 - \$450/sf so the \$0.20/sf or so needed to achieve EAc6 is a meaningless number lost within a 5% construction contingency budget line item.

And what really galls me is how the RECs resellers tend to wrap themselves up in their noble and mighty green cause but I can never get straight answers from them to simple questions such as:- How much of the money for RECs goes to the renewable energy producer and how much to the RECs reseller?

What is the profit margin of the renewable energy plant with and without selling the RECs?

Warm images and nice quotes are well and good but the actual economics of how RECs work is anything but transparent to me. The RECs resellers are for profit companies that are essentially selling vapor as far as I can tell and frankly I do not have a lot of sympathy if the market for vapor is drying up. . .