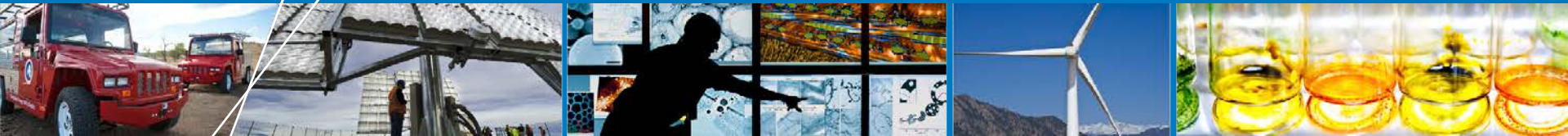


Status of the Voluntary Renewable Energy Markets



**Renewable Energy Markets
Conference 2011**

San Francisco, California

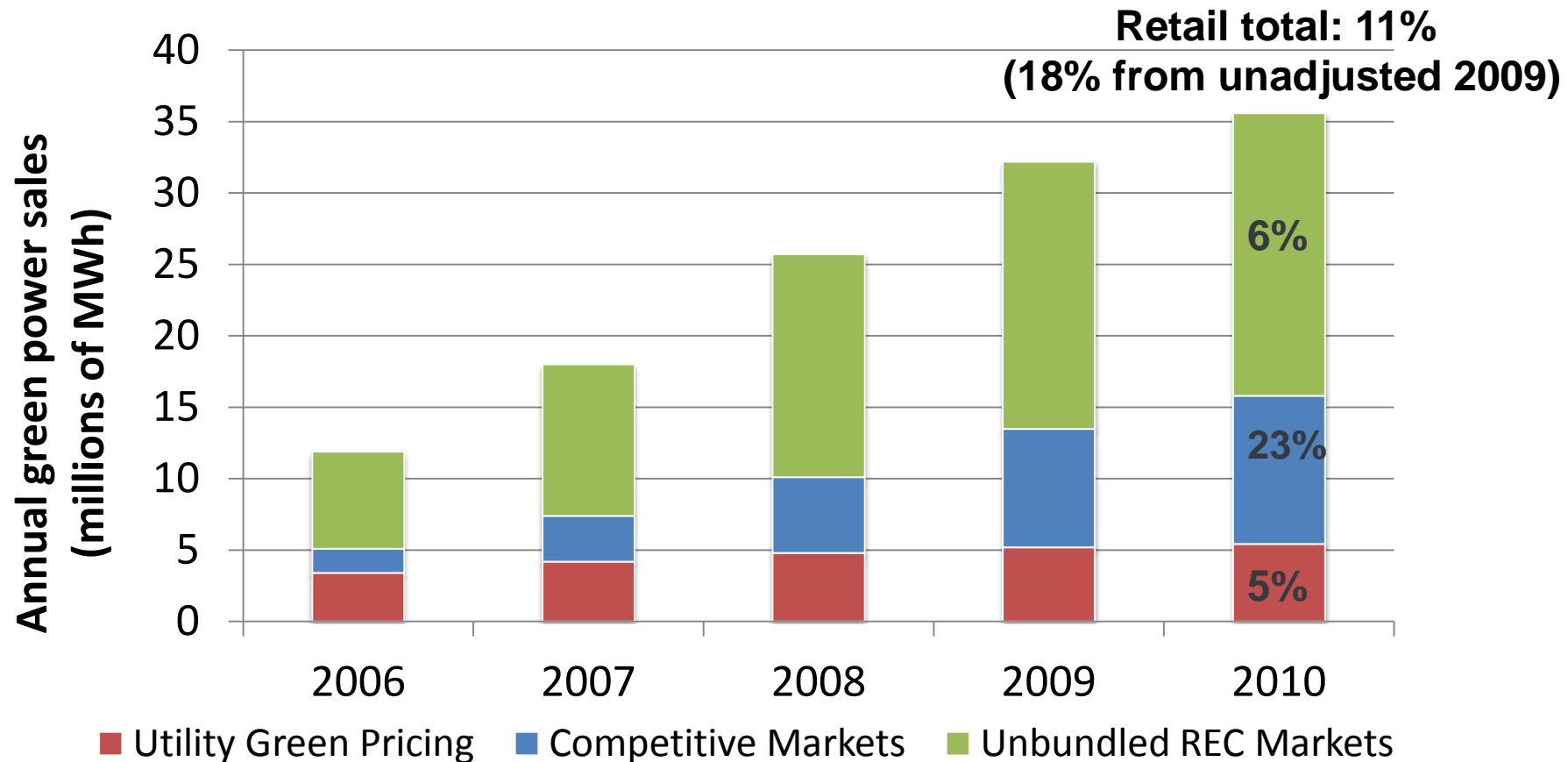
Lori Bird

November 16, 2011

Overview

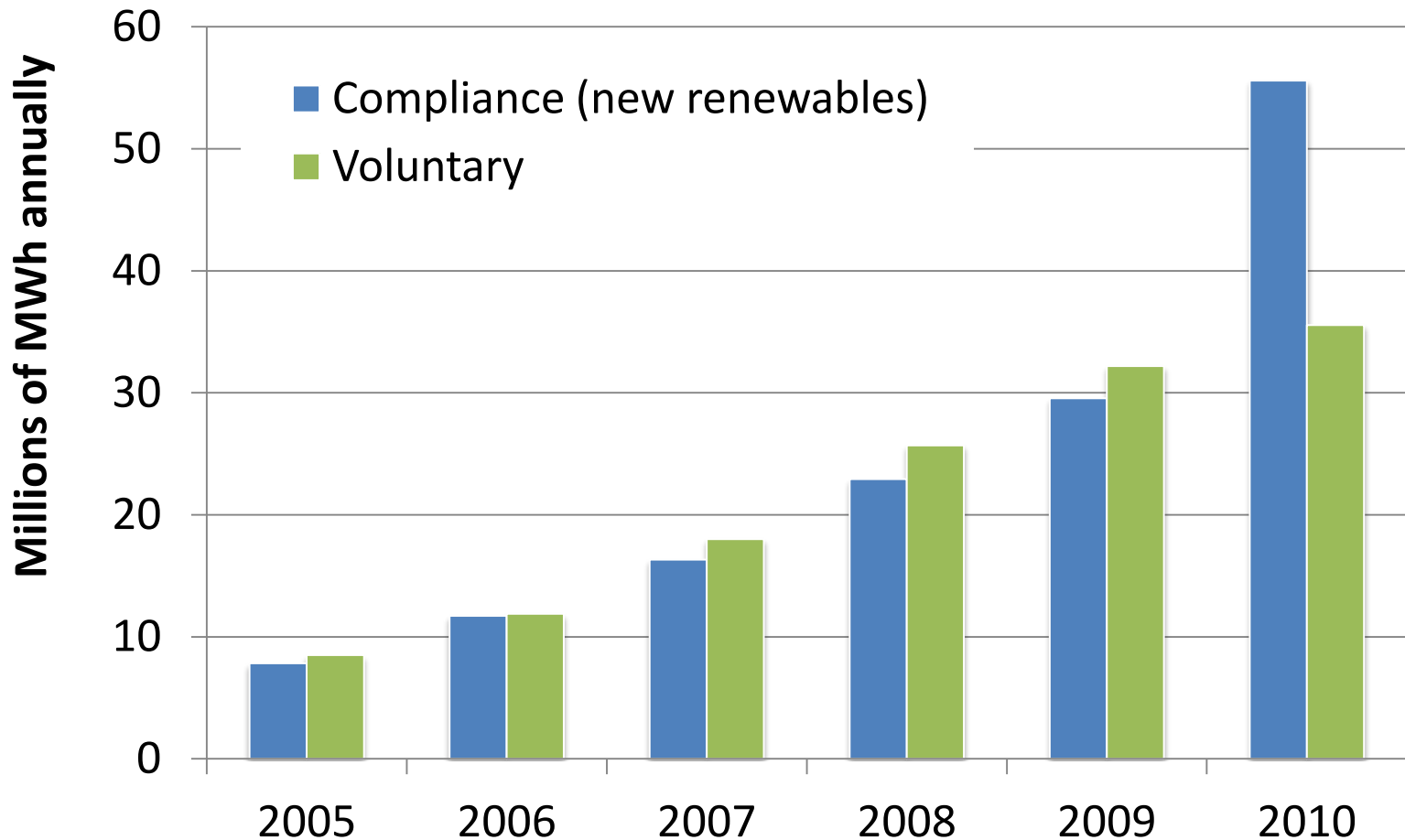
- **Voluntary market growth in 2010**
- **Consumer attitudes**
- **Sales and customer trends**
- **Price premiums and REC prices**
- **Highlights from 2011**

Green Power Sales Up in 2010 by 11% (18% unadjusted)



Competitive market sales lead growth; REC market remains largest on MWh basis. Mixed market - some programs/marketers reported losses.

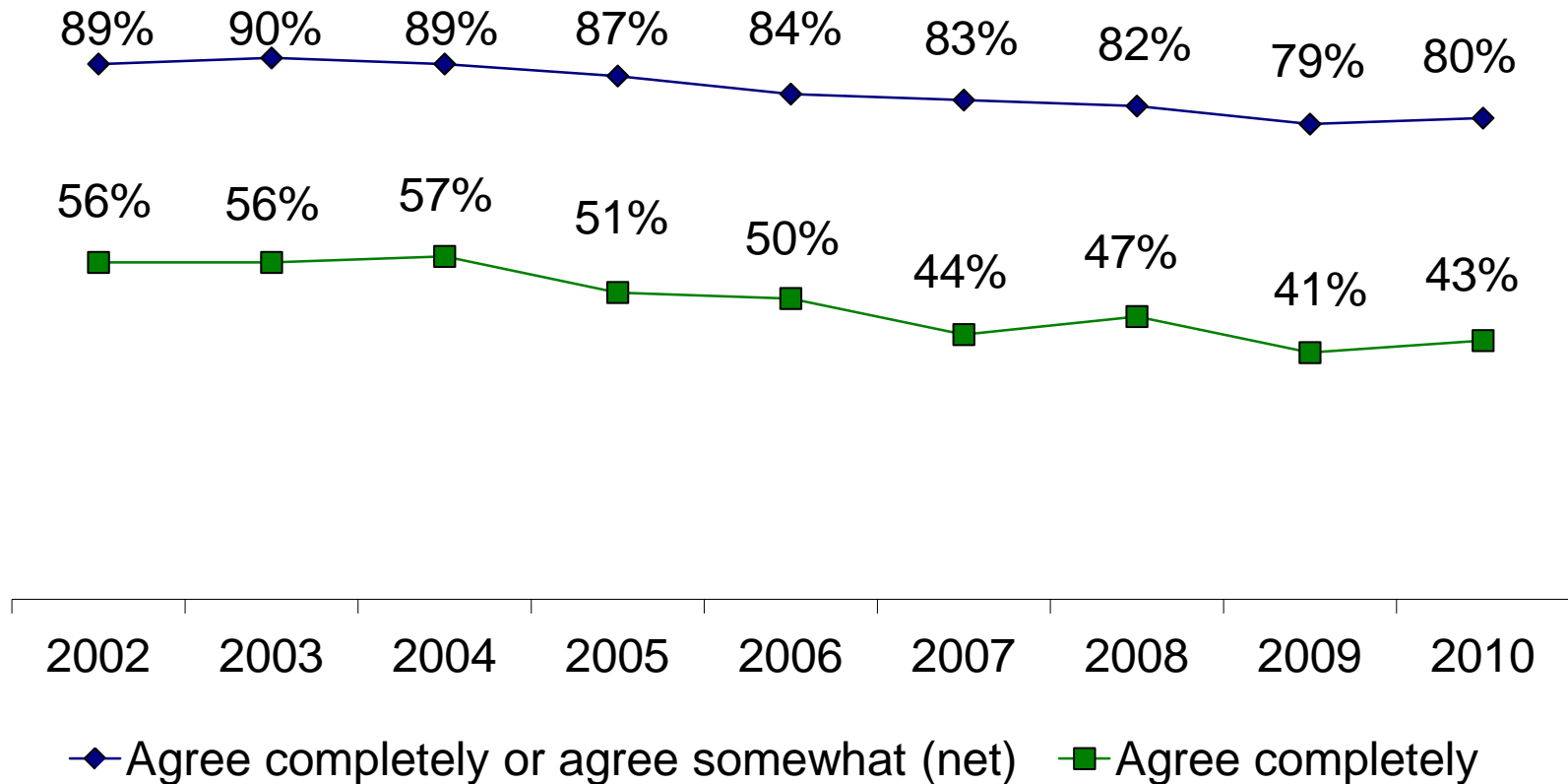
Compliance Markets Overtake Voluntary Markets



Compliance requirements increased dramatically due to many states setting significant targets for 2010.

Data sources: LBNL, NREL 2011

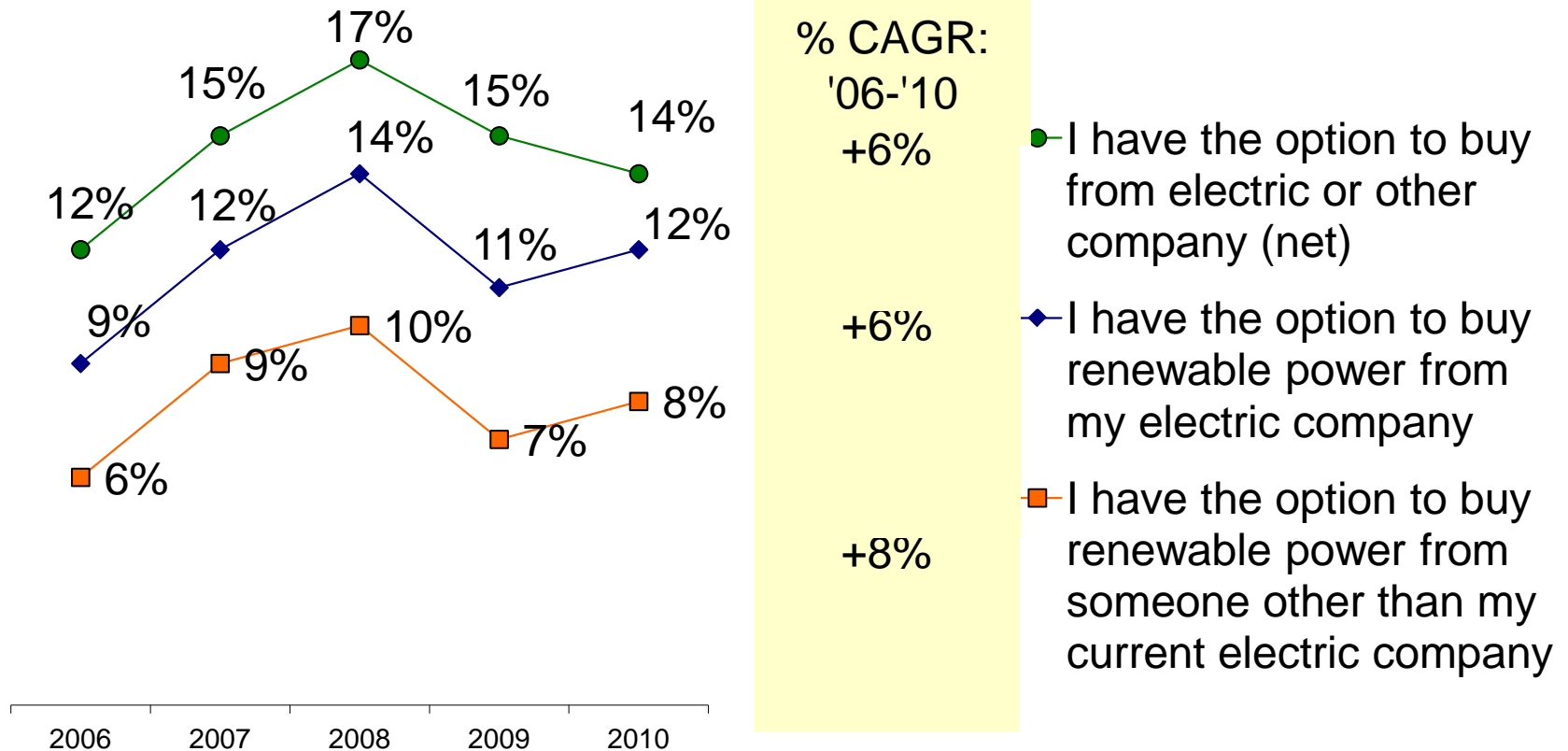
Consumer Caring About Using Renewables



Decline consistent with trends in other environmental attitudes (e.g., environmental protection); no regional differences

Source: Natural Marketing Institute, 2010 LOHAS Consumer Trends Database

Consumer Awareness of RE Purchase Options

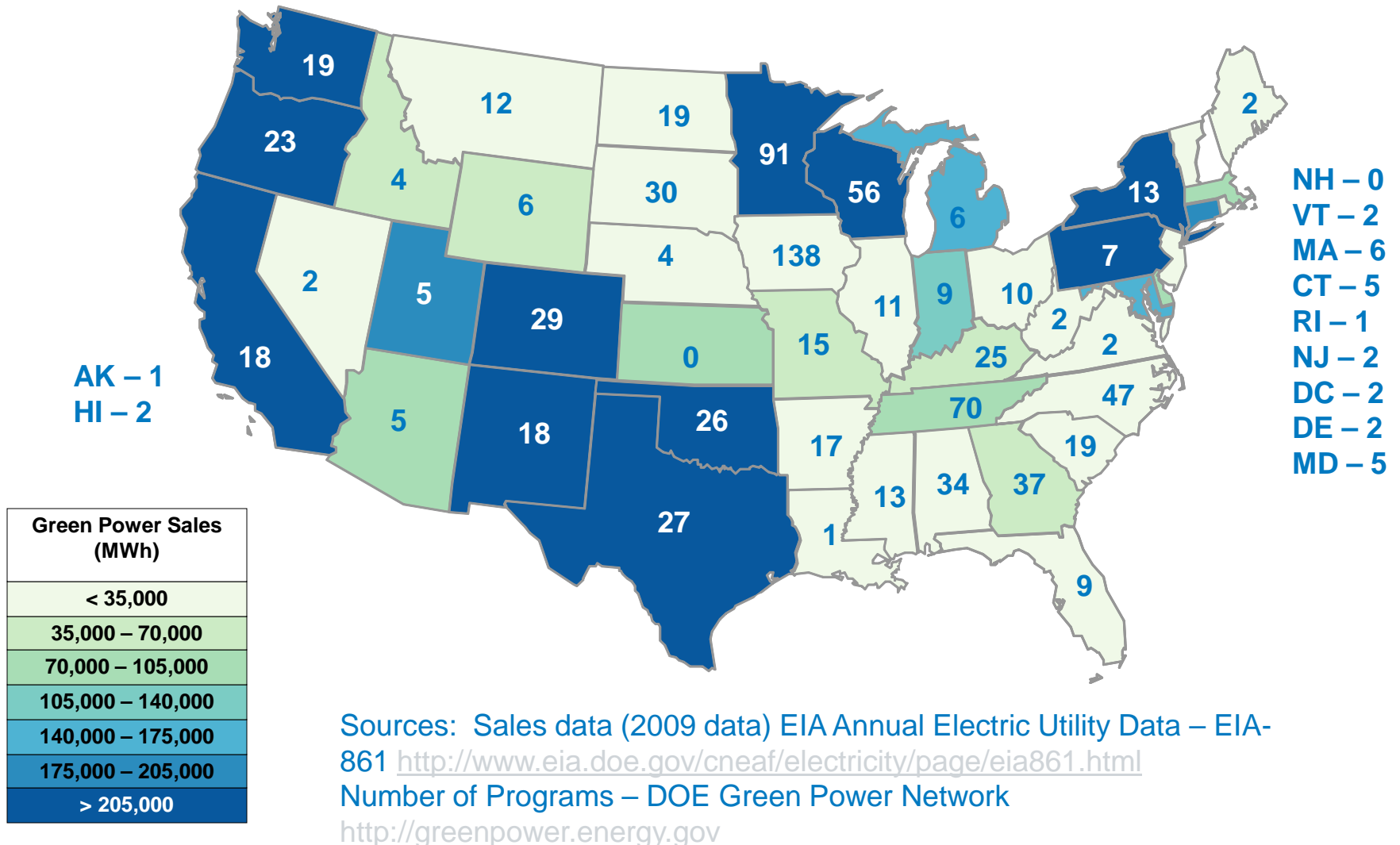


Consumer awareness continues to pose a challenge

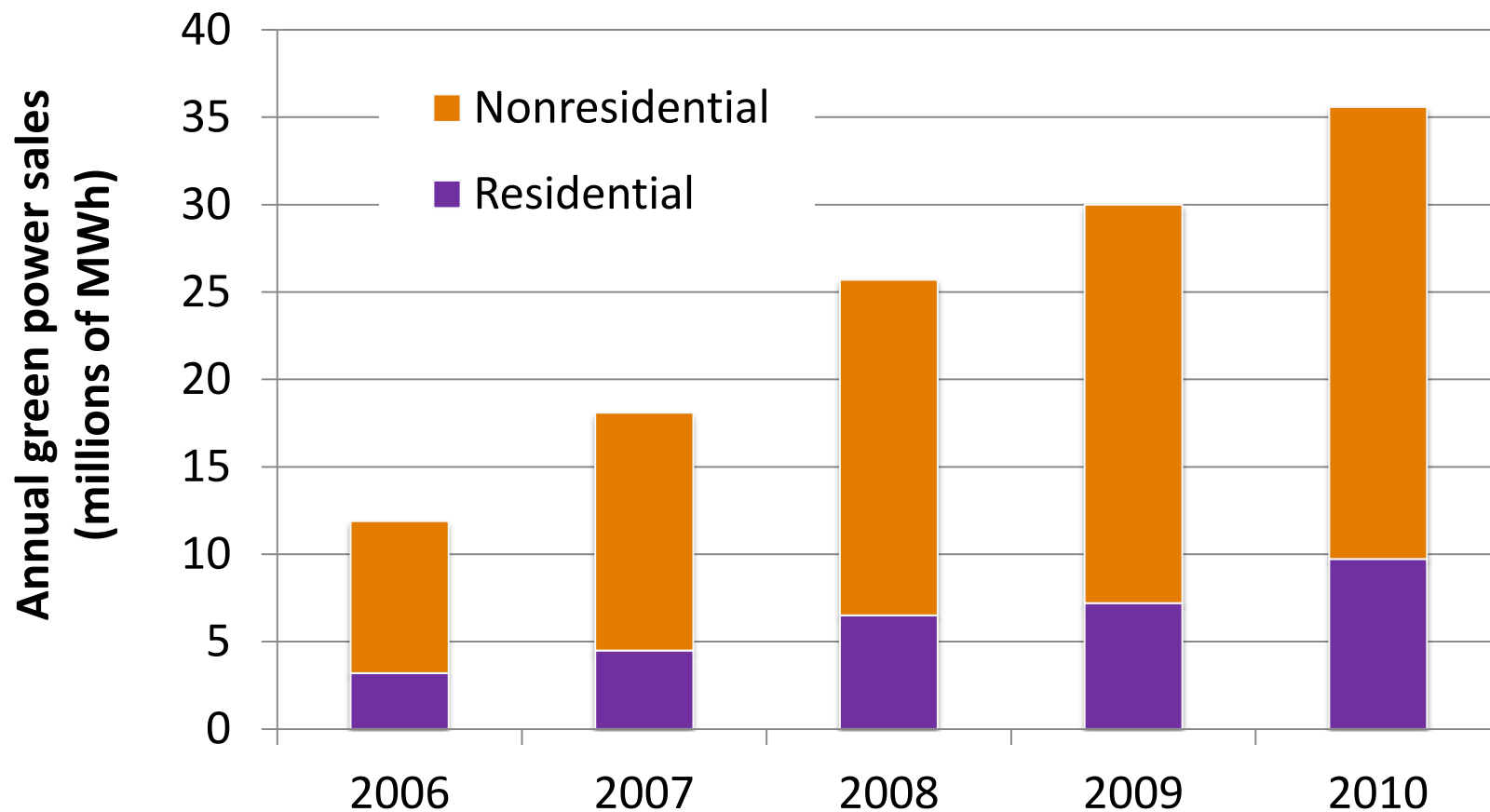
Source: Natural Marketing Institute, 2010 LOHAS Consumer Trends Database

Green Power Sales and Number of Programs by State

Sales and program figures include both utility green pricing programs and retail marketers

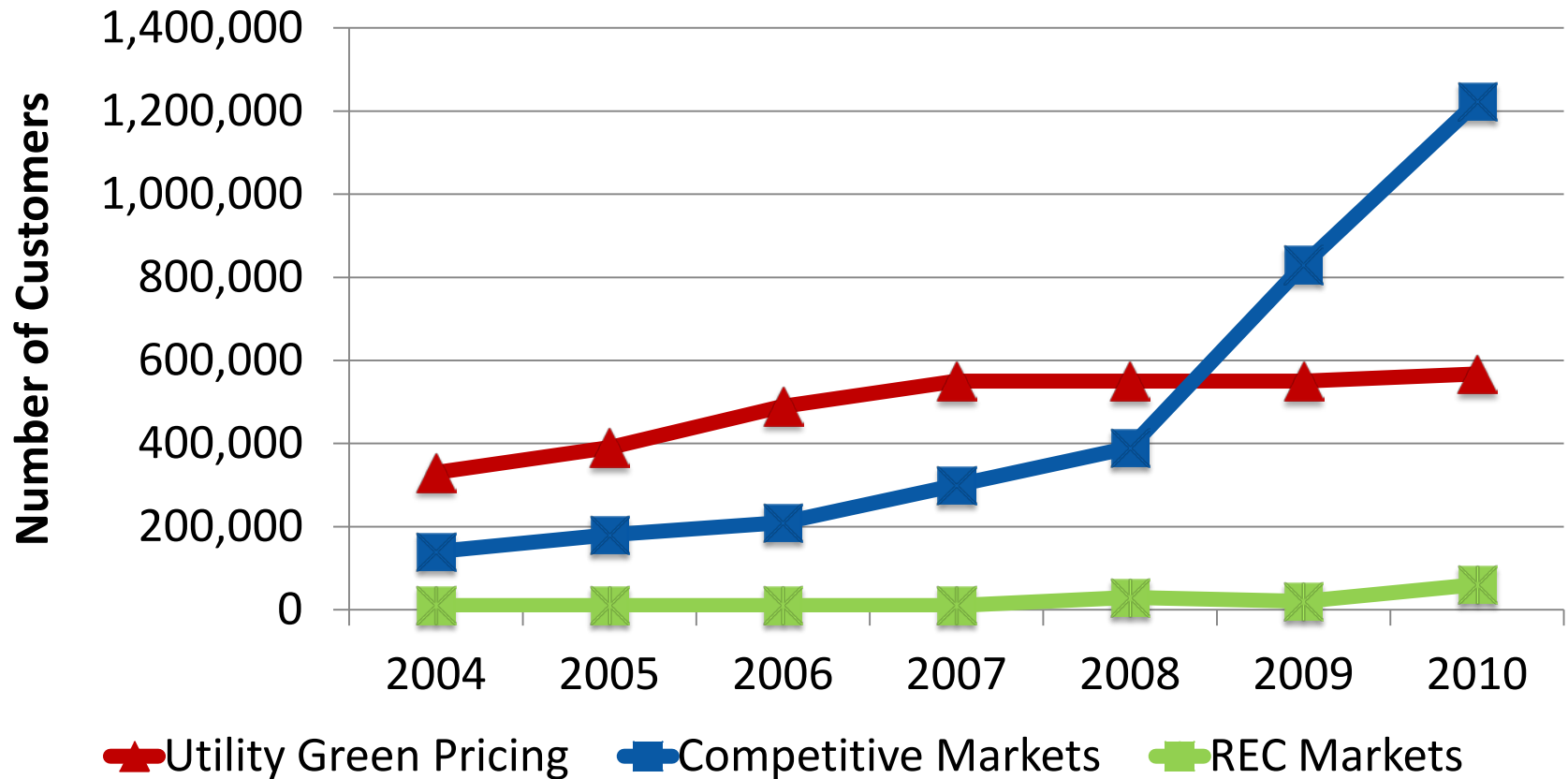


Nonresidential Purchases Still Dominate Market



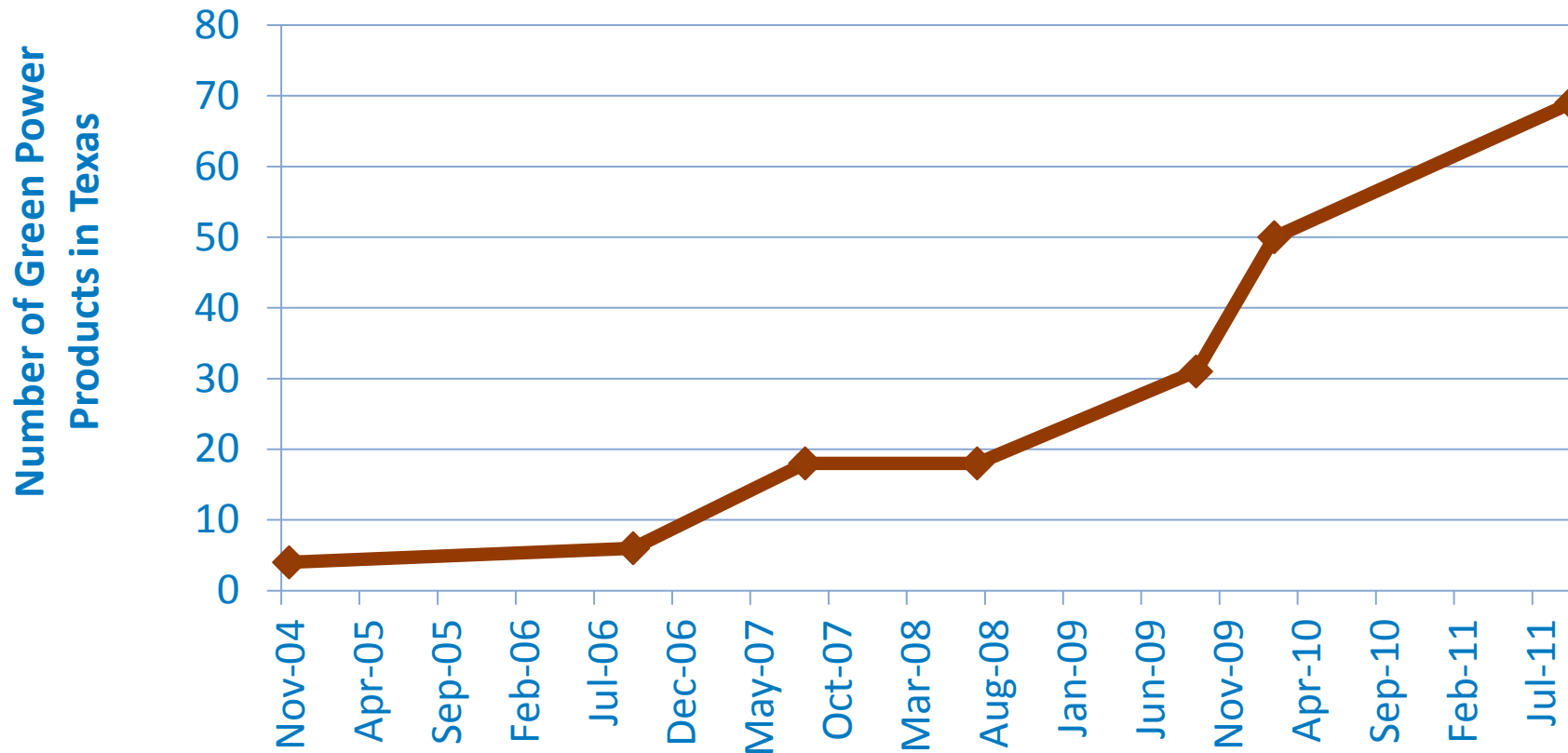
Nonresidential purchases represented nearly 75% of annual green power sales in 2010.

Customer Numbers Continue to Surge, Led by Competitive Market



- Competitive market participation increases by 45%. Participation in utility green pricing programs increases slightly. REC market participation triples but remains smallest market in terms of customer participation.*

Surge in RE Offerings in Texas

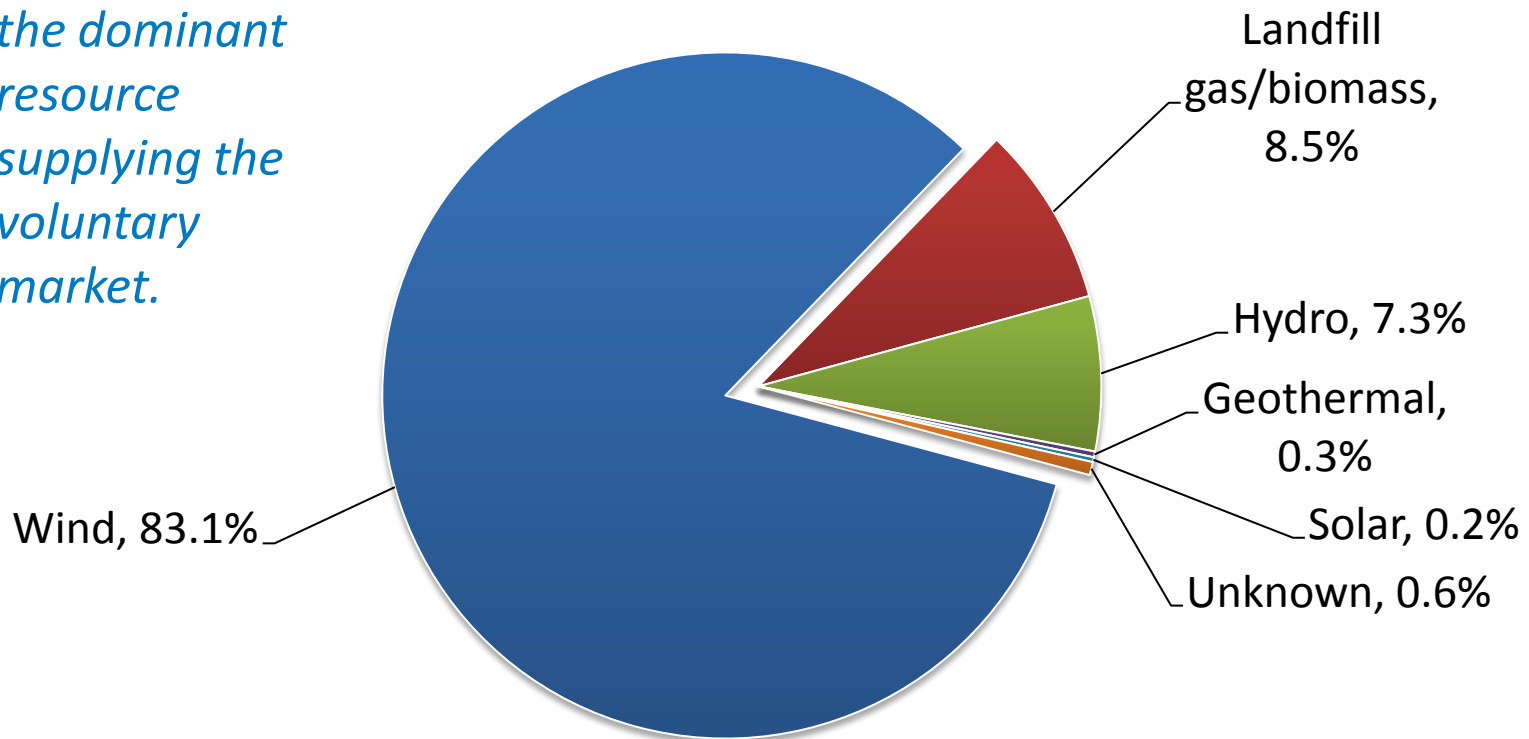


Voluntary REC retirements in Texas, including those by competitive marketers and utility green power programs, increased by 33% between 2009 and 2010, from 8.9 million MWh to 11.8 million MWh.

Wind Continued to Be Dominant Resource

Estimated Green Power Sales by Source

Wind remained the dominant resource supplying the voluntary market.

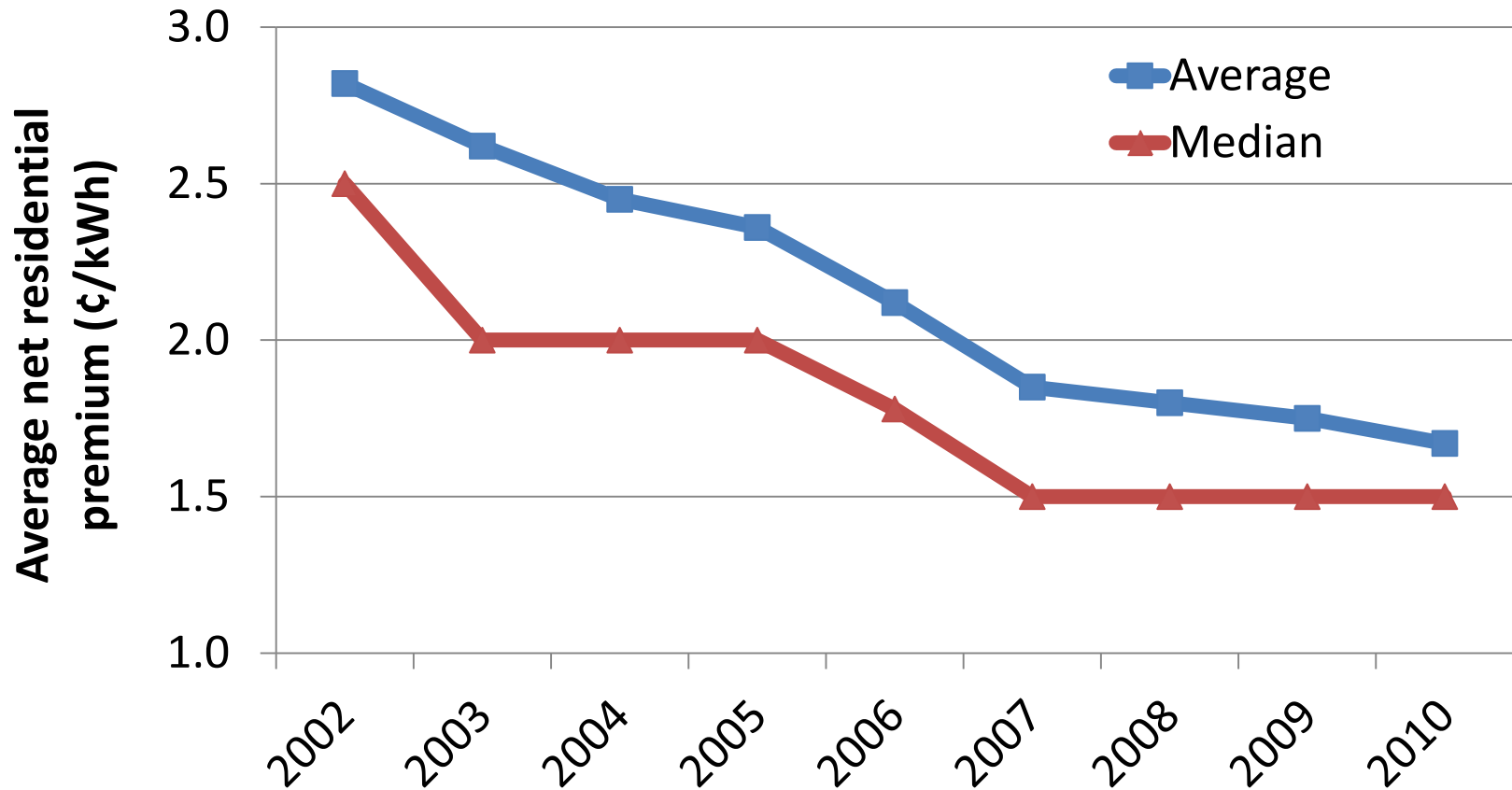


Community Solar Programs on the Rise

Community solar programs allow customers to purchase a share of a solar system and receive the benefits of the energy that is produced by their share. Existing programs range in size from 5 kW to 1 MW.

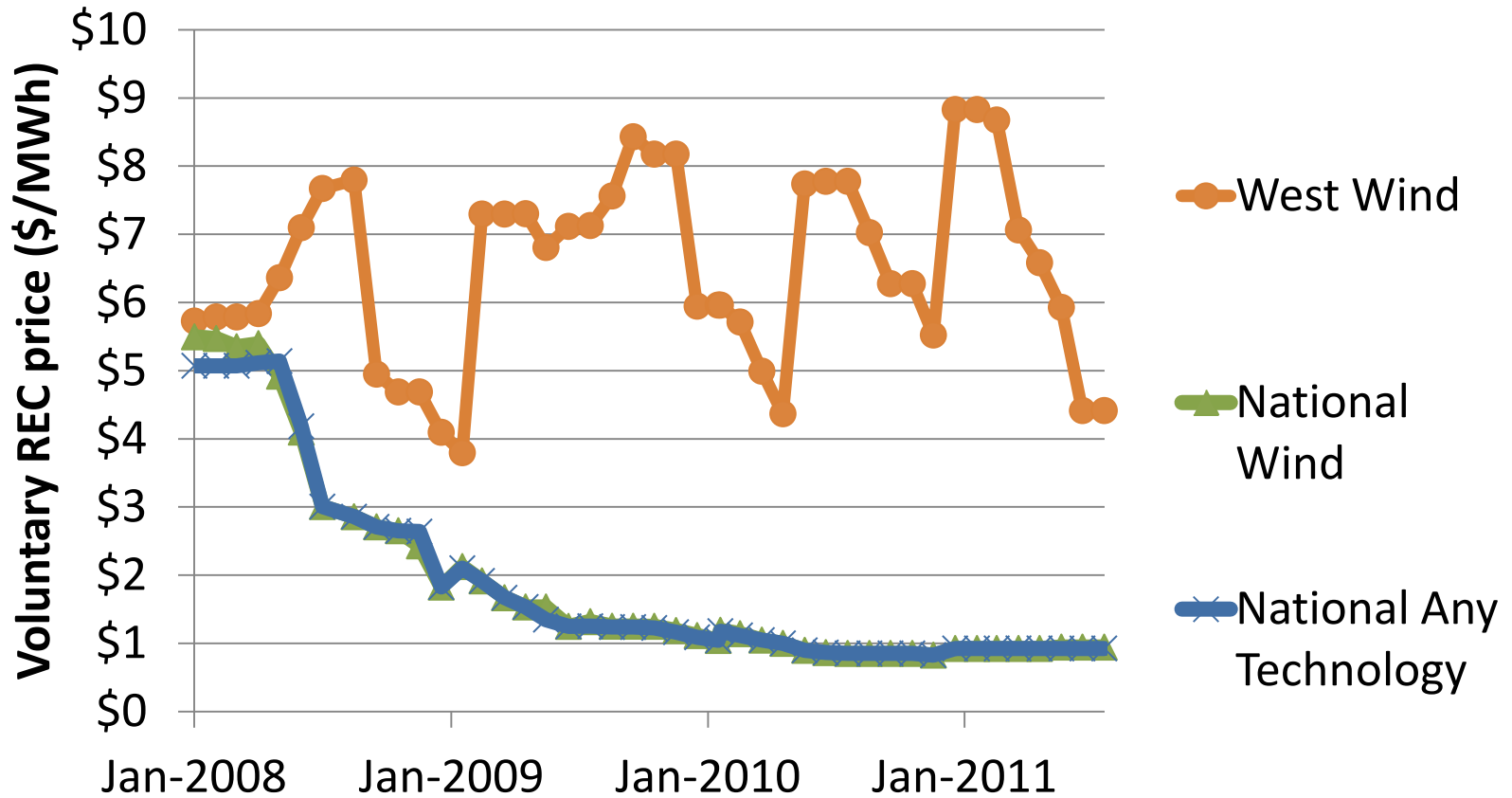
Utility/Provider – Program Name	Program Size (kW)	Program Start
Ellensburg (WA) – Community Solar Project	27	2006
Ashland (OR) – Solar Pioneers II	63	2008
Florida Keys Electric Cooperative (FL) – Simple Solar	117	2008
Sacramento Municipal Utility District (CA) – SolarShares	1,000	2008
Bainbridge Island (WA) – Solar for Sakai	5	2009
St. George (UT) – Sun Smart	250	2009
United Power (CO) – Sol Partners	10	2009
Holy Cross Energy/Clean Energy Collective (CO) – Mid Valley Solar Array	80	2010
Delta-Montrose Electric Association (CO) – Community Solar Array	20	2011
Holy Cross Energy/Clean Energy Collective (CO) – Garfield County Array	858	2011
Poulsbo Project (WA) – Poulsbo Middle School	75	2011
Trico Electric (AZ) – Trico Sun Farm	193	2011
Seattle City Light (WA) – Community Solar	24	2011

Premiums Continued Downward Trend



Green power premiums continued to decrease in 2010 as a result of increasing competitiveness of renewables.

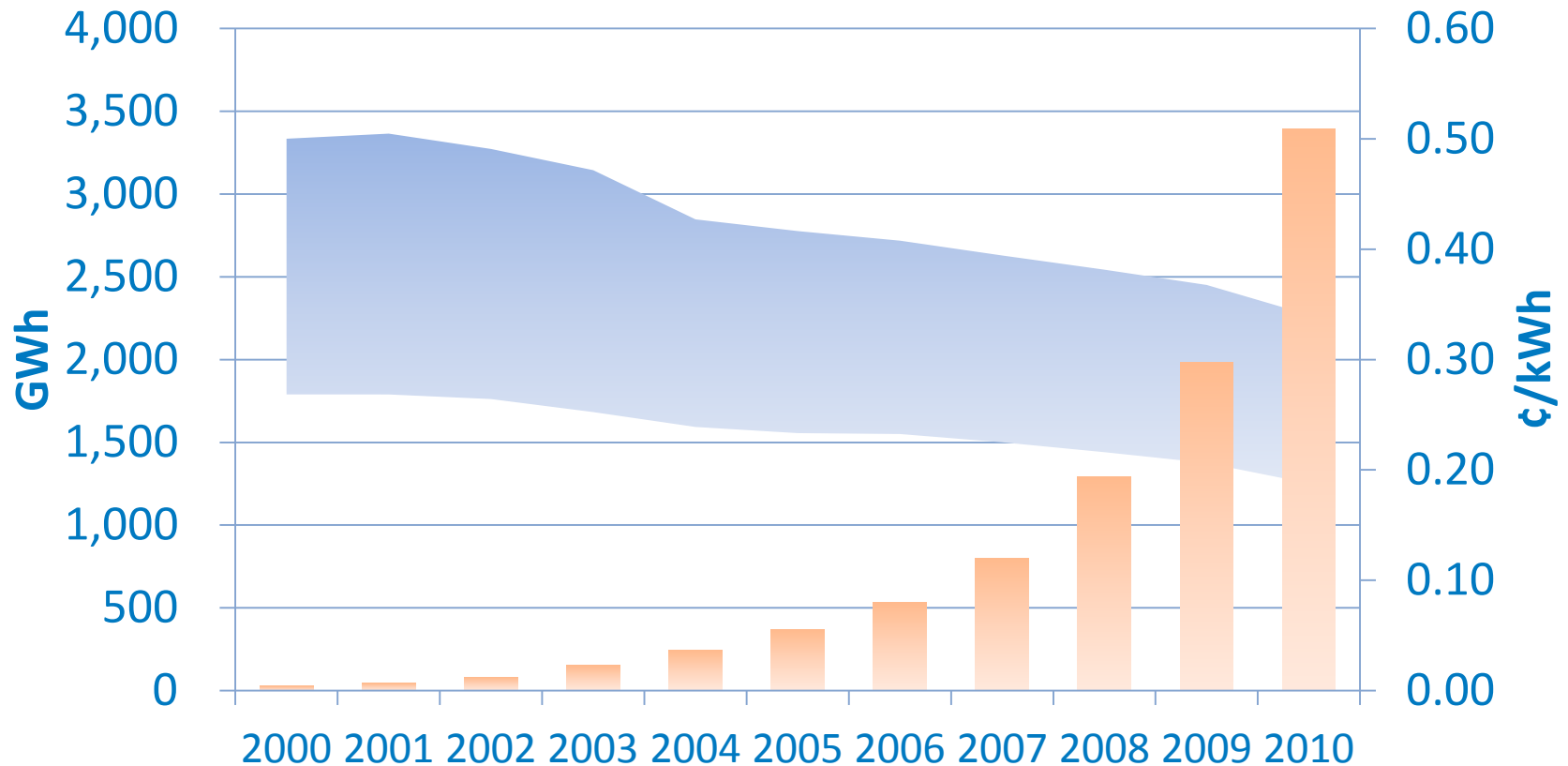
Voluntary REC Prices, Higher in West



Sources: Evolution Markets, Spectron Group

In 2010, prices paid for nationally sourced voluntary RECs were ~\$1/MWh. West Wind garnered higher, more volatile prices.

Rapid Growth in Solar PV, Price Declines



*314 MW installed in first half of 2011, 887 MW installed in 2010;
\$6.42/watt average residential; \$5.20/watt commercial systems
(before incentives) (Q2 2011); total installed capacity 2,676 MWdc end of 1H2011*

Highlights of 2011

- **FTC issues proposed updates to Green Guides**
- **Frank Dodd Act regulation of RECs as swaps still open question**
- **WindMade launches new label**
- **Growth and diversity in new products (community-solar programs, EE, fuel cells)**
- **Strong interest in on-site solar, leasing options grow**
- **Continued interest in community choice aggregation (IL and CA) and bulk purchases**
- **CA 33% RPS law clarifies roles of RECs**

What About 2011 Voluntary Market Growth?

- **Limited data on 2011, but some indicative data available**
- **Texas growth may not be fully captured in 2010 data**
- **2011 EPA Green Power Partnership data**
 - Partner purchases up about 9% from year-end 2010 of 19.2 million MWh to about 21 million MWh
 - New purchases tempered by suspended purchases

Additional Information

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY | Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy

The Green Power Network

About the GPN | Green Power Markets | Buying Green Power | Leadership Awards | Publications | Renewable Energy RFPs

Search Help | More Search Options

Site Map | EERE Information Center

News

Ross (CA) and Novato (CA) to Join Marin Clean Energy Authority | September 2011

University of Utah Increases Green Power Commitment | September 2011

Google Releases Renewable Energy Use Data; Funds Residential Solar | September 2011

More News

Events

Renewable Energy Markets 2011 | November 15-18, 2011 | San Francisco, CA

More Events

Features

Featured Green Power Reports

Buy Green Power

Find green power options in your state.

Utility Green Pricing

Renewable Energy Certificates

Environmental attributes sold separately from electricity.

On-site Renewable Energy Systems

Green Power Topics

- Community Renewable Energy Development
- Consumer Protection
- Green Power Policies
- REC Prices
- REC Tracking Systems
- Greenhouse Gas Offsets

Printable Version

Lead Story

Austin (TX), Brookeville (MD) and Washington D.C. Increase Purchasing

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recognized the communities of Brookeville (MD) and Washington, D.C. as winners of the first Green Power Community Challenge. The year-long challenge encouraged communities across the U.S. to voluntarily increase ... [See full story](#)

Subscribe to Email Updates | RSS Feed

Hot Off the Press

[Role of Renewable Energy Certificates in Developing New Renewable Energy Projects](#)

[Green Power Marketing in the United States: A Status Report \(2009 Data\)](#)

[Consumer Attitudes About Renewable Energy](#)

[Using Renewable Energy Purchases to Achieve Carbon Goals](#)

[Voluntary Green Power Market Forecast through 2015](#)

[Guide to Purchasing Green Power: Renewable Electricity, Renewable Energy Certificates, and On-Site Renewable Generation](#)

Save the Date!

RENEWABLE ENERGY MARKETS CONFERENCE

Nov. 15-18 San Francisco California

TOP 10 Top Ten Utility Green Power Programs

The annual ranking of leading utility green power programs. (Updated April 2011)

<http://greenpower.energy.gov>

New Content:

- [REC Prices](#)
- [Community Renewables](#)
- [REC Tracking Systems](#)

Recent Reports:

- [Voluntary and Compliance Market Status Report](#)
- [SREC Market: Status and Trends](#)
- [Role of Renewable Energy Certificates in Developing New Renewable Energy Projects](#)
- [Consumer Attitudes About Renewable Energy](#)
- [Using Renewable Energy Purchases to Achieve Carbon Goals](#)

[EERE Home](#) | [U.S. Department of Energy](#)
[Webmaster](#) | [Web Site Policies](#) | [Security & Privacy](#) | [USA.gov](#)
Content Last Updated: 09/16/2011