

# VOLUNTARY RENEWABLE ENERGY MARKETS 101

**MICHELLE VERLINSKY**

SENIOR ANALYST, CERTIFICATION PROGRAMS  
CENTER FOR RESOURCE SOLUTIONS

**SUSHMITA JENA**

RENEWABLE ENERGY RESEARCHER  
NATIONAL RENEWABLE ENERGY LABORATORY (NREL)

**BAILEY ROSEN**

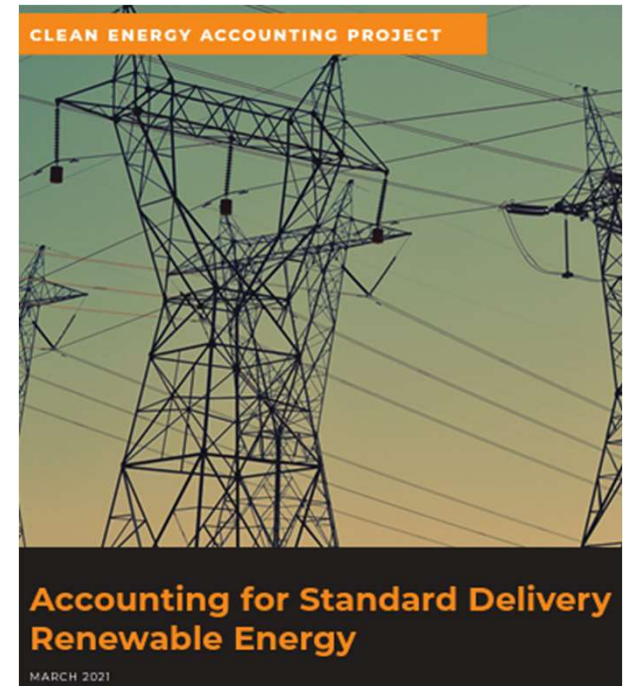
PROGRAM MANAGER, GREEN POWER PARTNERSHIP  
U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (EPA)



# About Center for Resource Solutions

Non Governmental Organization (NGO) creating policy and market solutions to advance sustainable energy since 1997.

- Expert assistance resource for corporate buyers
- Renewable energy and climate policy
  - Clean Energy Accounting Project (CEAP)
- Renewable Energy Markets annual conference
- Green-e® certification for suppliers and users of renewable energy, carbon offsets and biomethane in the voluntary market



# The Basics.





# Renewable Resource Types

- Solar
- Wind
- Geothermal
- Biomass
- Hydroelectric



**Capacity (MW) vs. Output (MWh)**

# Measuring Energy

**CAPACITY = MAXIMUM POSSIBLE POWER** (expressed in MW)



**ENERGY GENERATION = AMOUNT OF ELECTRICITY  
PRODUCED OVER ONE HOUR** (expressed in MWh)



**Maximum full sun**  
**10 MWh**  
(megawatt hours)



**Partly cloudy**  
**8 MWh**  
(megawatt hours)

1  
Megawatt hour = 1000  
Kilowatt hours

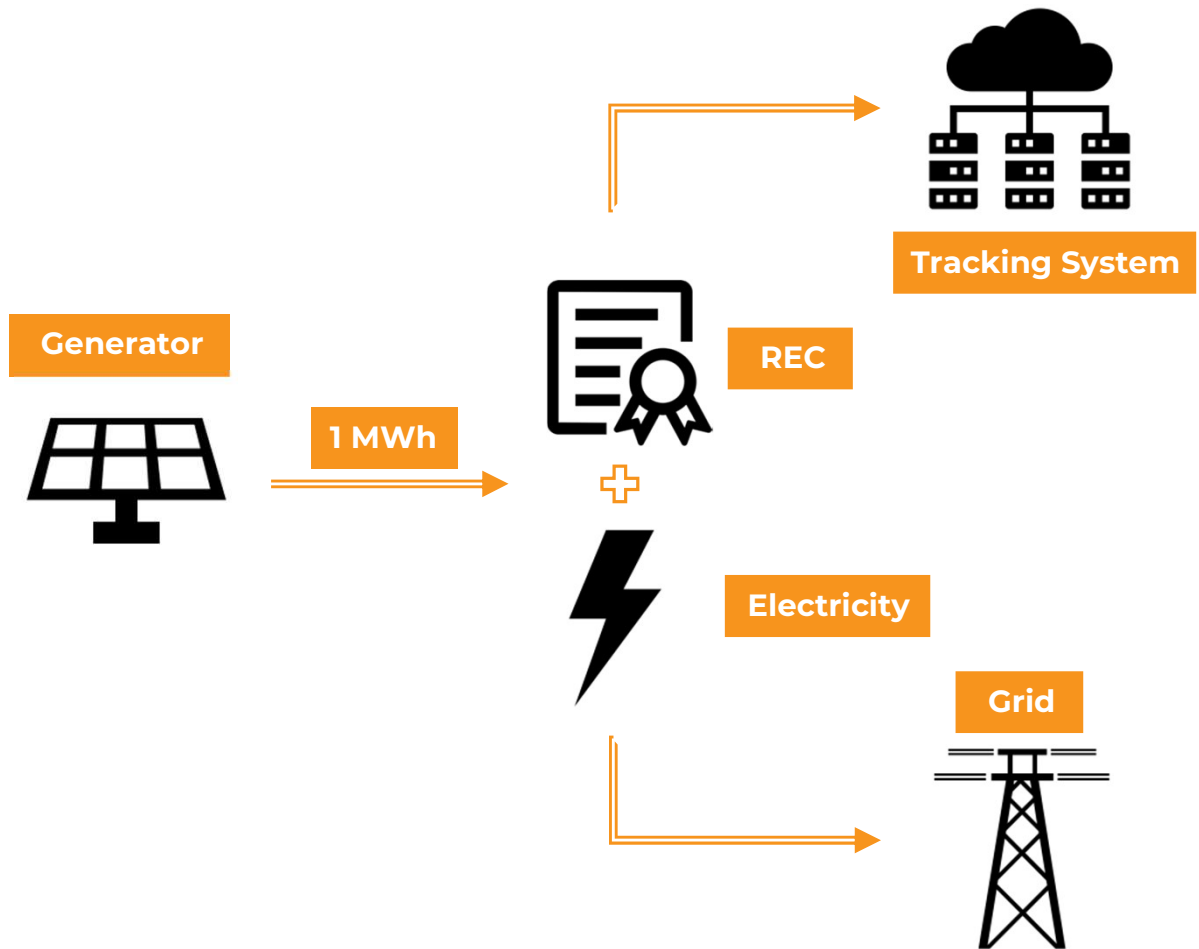


Graphic Source: Climate Council  
<https://www.climatecouncil.org.au/resources/the-difference-between-installed-capacity-mw-and-energy-generation-mwh/>

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# Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs)

1 REC represents the  
renewable attributes of 1  
MWh of renewable energy  
generation



# RECs

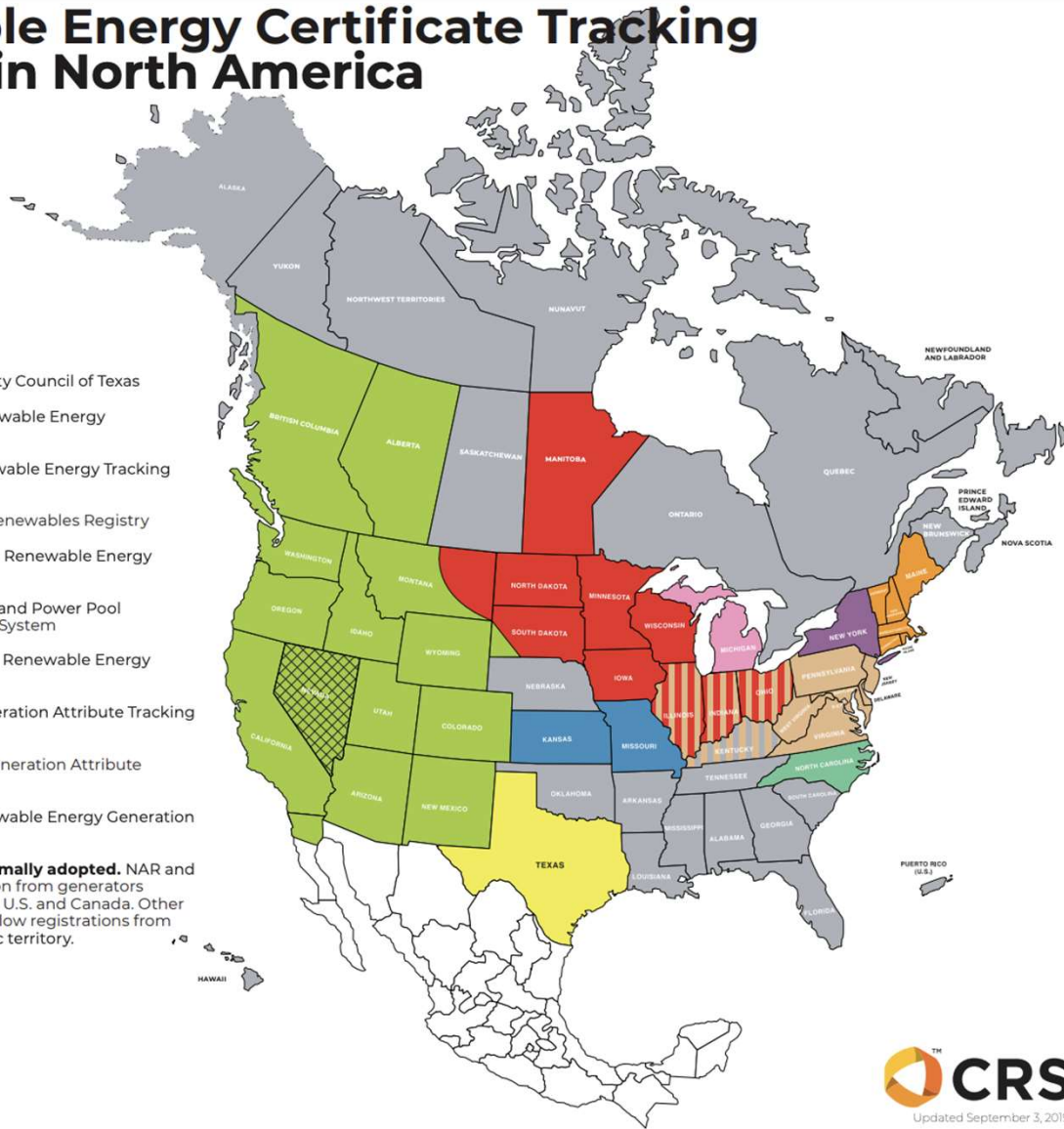
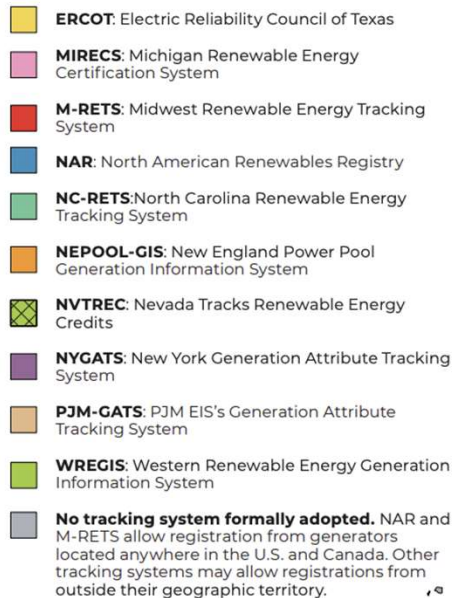
## are needed to:

1. Allocate and claim use of renewable generation on a shared grid
  - For both the voluntary and regulatory market
2. Avoid double counting and double claiming
3. Create a national market for renewable energy





# Renewable Energy Certificate Tracking Systems in North America



# Attribute Tracking



# All renewable energy procurement methods involve RECs

## Self Generation

(Lease and Own Generation)

Onsite self-generation  
or lease

Offsite self-generation  
or lease

## Direct Purchasing

(Purchase from a Generator)

Onsite PPA

Offsite physical PPA

Virtual PPA

Direct attribute-only  
purchase

## Retail Purchasing

(Purchase from a Supplier or Utility)

Utility green pricing

Competitive green power

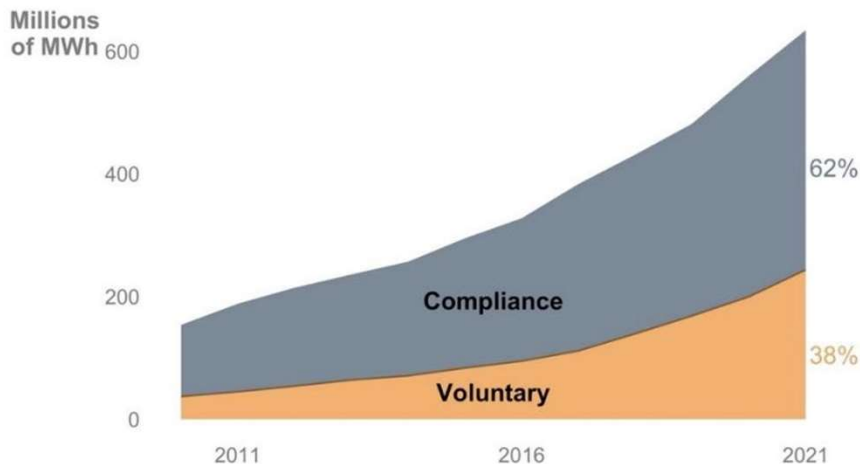
Community renewables

Direct access tariff

Unbundled certificates

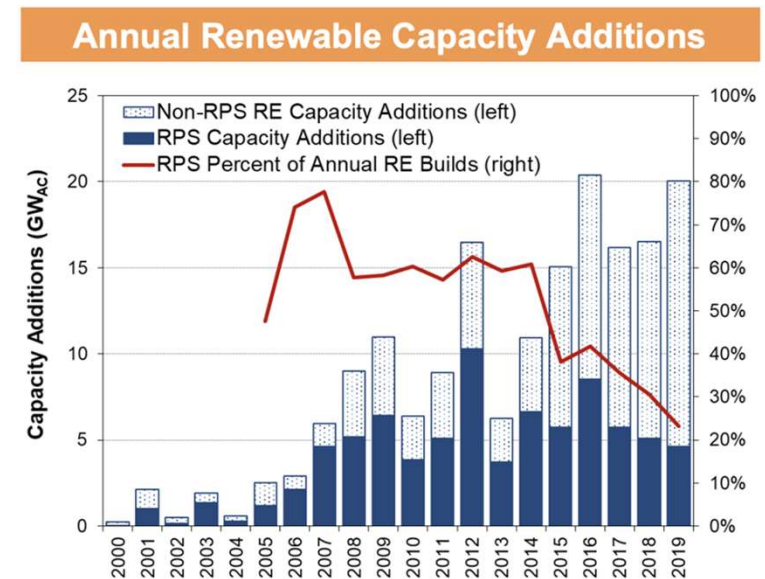
# U.S. Voluntary Renewable Energy Market

Renewable energy sales in voluntary, compliance, and other markets, 2011–2021



Source: National Renewable Energy Laboratory  
<https://www.nrel.gov/docs/fy23osti/86162.pdf>

Renewable Capacity Additions, 2000–2019



Source: Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory  
[https://eta-publications.lbl.gov/sites/default/files/rps\\_status\\_update-2021\\_early\\_release.pdf](https://eta-publications.lbl.gov/sites/default/files/rps_status_update-2021_early_release.pdf)

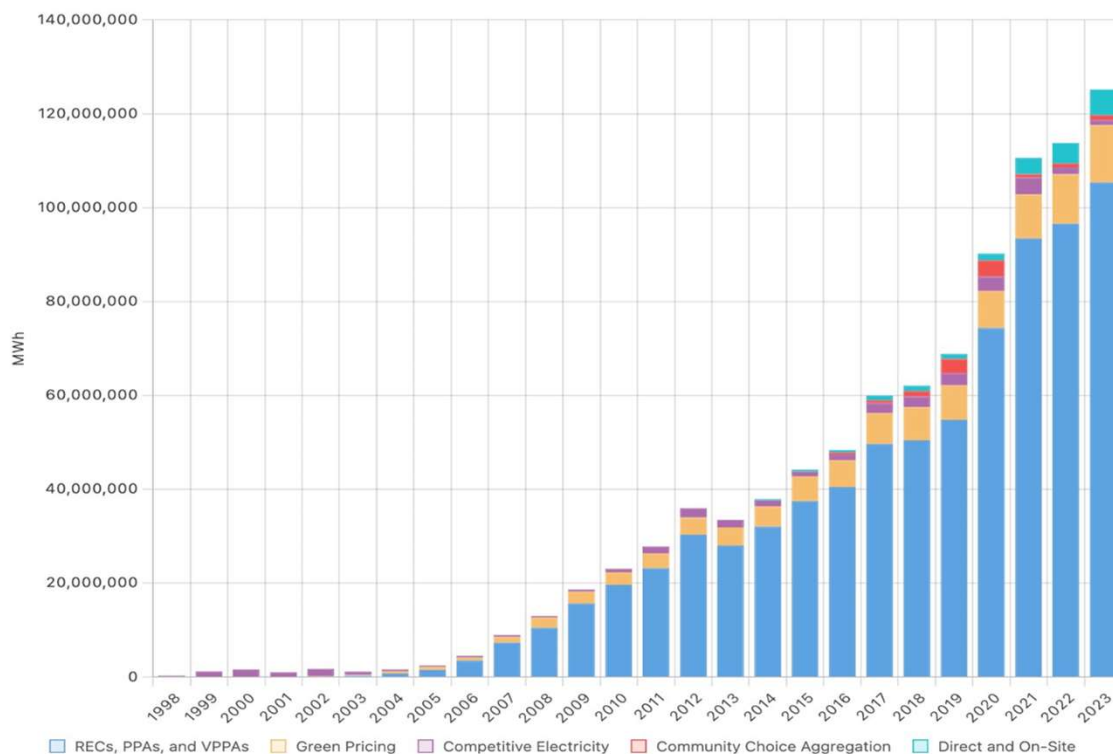
# Green-e® Certification



Green-e

# Green-e® Certified Renewable Energy

Green-e® Energy Certified Retail Sales by Product Type (MWh)



Full Verification Report Data: [www.resource-solutions.org/g2023/](http://www.resource-solutions.org/g2023/)



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## Buyer protections for voluntary renewable electricity purchases

- Green-e® Energy Standard and Code of Conduct
- Independent Governance Board
- From newer generators meeting environmental requirements
- Third-party Audit of:
  - REC retirements
  - Seller disclosures

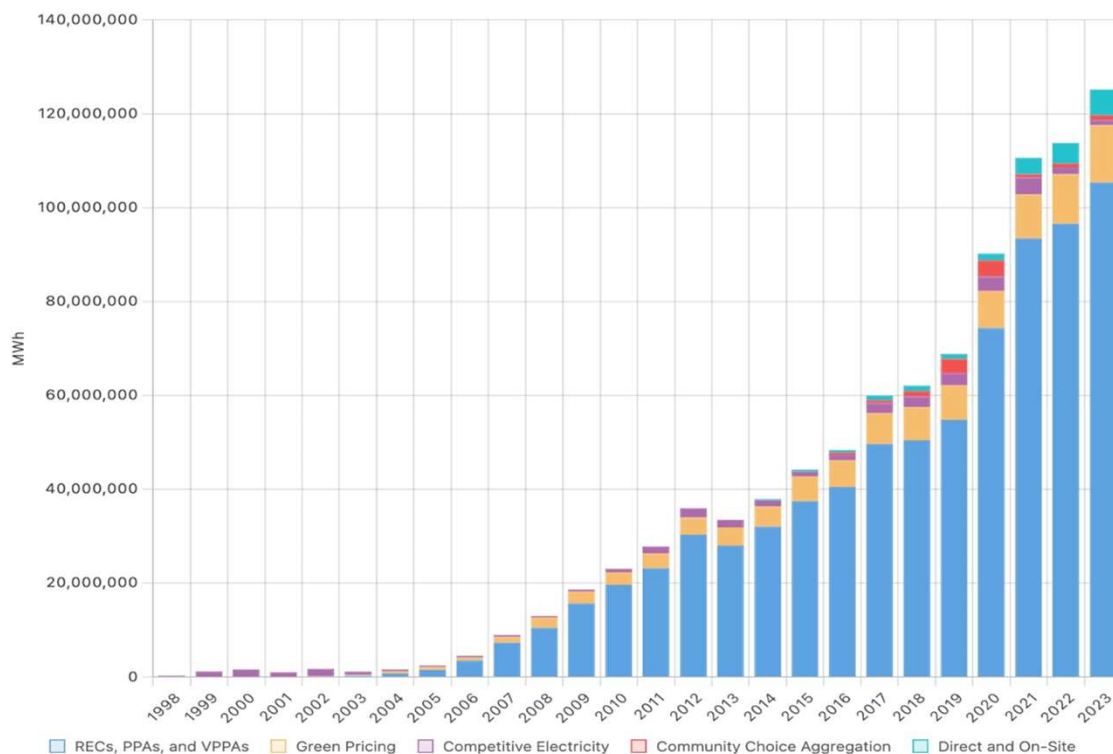


Green-e



# Green-e® Certified Renewable Energy

Green-e® Energy Certified Retail Sales by Product Type (MWh)



Full Verification Report Data: [www.resource-solutions.org/g2023/](http://www.resource-solutions.org/g2023/)



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## Buyer protections for voluntary renewable electricity purchases

### By the Numbers

- More than **125 million** MWh
- **1.3 million** retail purchasers, of those, 298,000 were businesses
- New renewables



Green-e

# Supply Must Meet the Green-e® Standard

- 15-year “New Date”
- Must be surplus to regulation
- No double counting, selling or claiming
- GHG reduction benefits must be included
- State-specific requirements and restrictions
- Vintage requirements



Wind



Solar



Biomass



Low-impact  
Hydropower



Geothermal

6 MONTHS

12 MONTHS

3 MONTHS

# Q&A

**Michelle Verlinsky**

SENIOR ANALYST, CERTIFICATION PROGRAMS

**CENTER FOR RESOURCE SOLUTIONS**

**[Michelle.Verlinsky@Resource-Solutions.org](mailto:Michelle.Verlinsky@Resource-Solutions.org)**



# Voluntary Renewable Energy Markets 101 Workshop

Sushmita Jena

National Renewable Energy Laboratory

16 September 2024

Renewable Energy Markets Conference 2024

Denver, Colorado



# NREL Brings Distinct Capabilities

## Foundational Science

Bench-scale- discovery



Solar Energy Research Facility  
Science and Technology Facility  
Field Test Laboratory Building



## Accelerated Technology Scale-Up

Scaling R&D and Process Engineering



Energy Materials and Processing  
at Scale (Completion 2025)



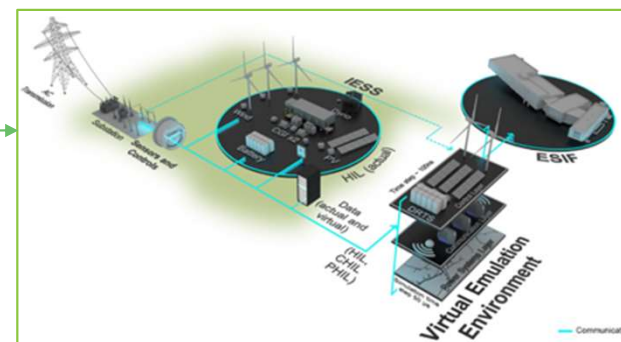
Energy Systems  
Integration Facility

- Carbon-free H<sub>2</sub>
- Products from electrochemical processes and CO<sub>2</sub>
- Advanced Batteries
- PV, Wind, Water Power, Geothermal
- New Buildings and Industrial Materials, Manufacturing and Systems
- Grid and security tech



## Systems

R&D with Industry Partners



Advanced Research on  
Integrated Energy Systems

## Markets

High-Performance Computing, Simulation, and Visualization

# NREL at a Glance

## 3,343 workforce, including:

- 2,482 regular/limited term
- 485 contingent workers
- 183 postdoctoral researchers
- 125 graduate students
- 68 undergraduate students

—as of 12/31/2022

## World-class research expertise in:

- Renewable Power
- Energy Efficiency
- Sustainable Transportation
- Energy Systems Integration

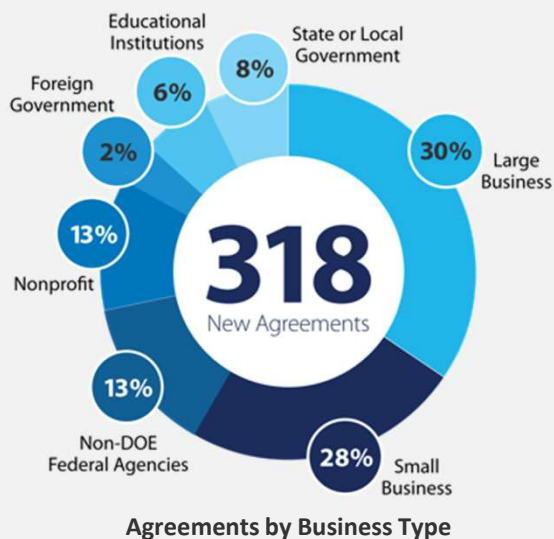
## Partnerships with:

- Industry
- Academia
- Government

**3 campuses** operate as living laboratories



## More Than 1,000 Active Partnerships in FY 2022

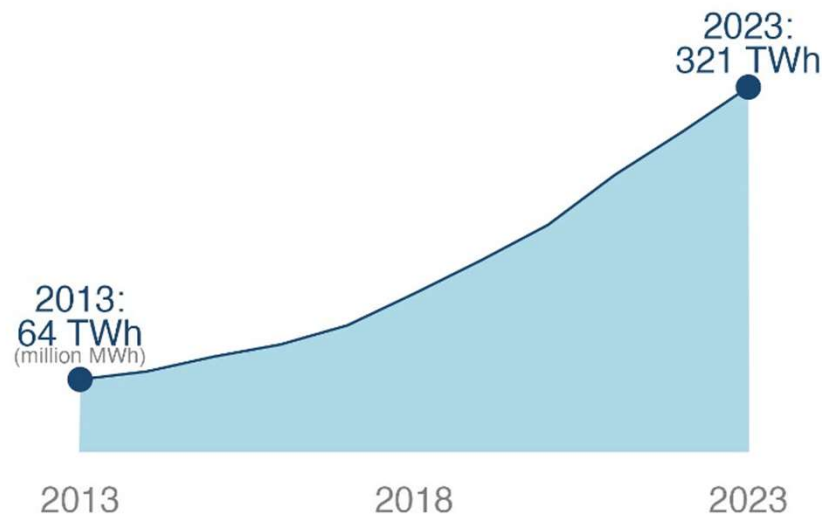


# Voluntary Green Power Markets

- Voluntary green power refers to renewable electricity **voluntarily** purchased by **retail** electricity customers
- The voluntary green power market refers to the suite of products that allow customers to procure green power:
  - Utility green pricing programs
  - Utility renewable contracts
  - Competitive suppliers
  - Unbundled RECs
  - Community choice aggregation
  - Power purchase agreements

# The Big Picture

In 2023, about **9.9 million customers** procured about **321 million MWh** of renewable energy through green power markets.



Total green power sales 2013-2023 (million MWh)

That represents about:

**1 in 16**  
U.S. retail electricity customers

**8%**  
of U.S. retail electricity sales

**44%**  
of U.S. non-hydro renewable energy generation

Note: Estimates compiled from survey data and various data providers including the Energy Information Administration, Center for Resource Solutions, and Bloomberg New Energy Finance



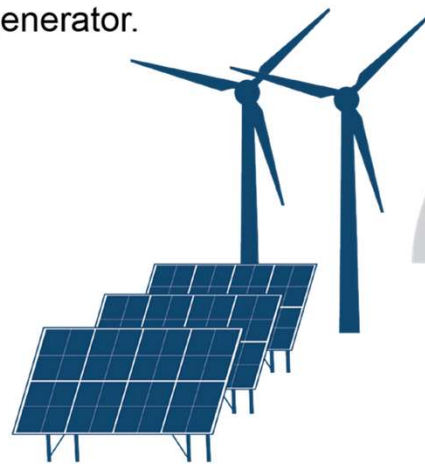
# The Supply Mechanisms

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# Utility Green Pricing

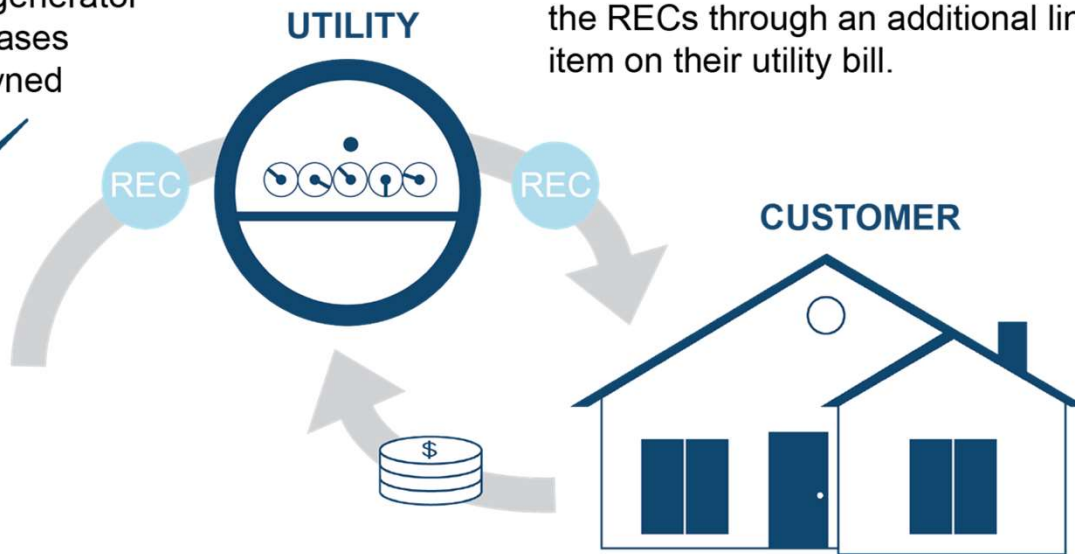
Renewable Energy Certificate (REC):  
Environmental attributes from one MWh of renewable generation

Utility green pricing programs begin with a renewable energy generator. The utility either owns the generator and retains RECs or purchases RECs from a third-party owned generator.



GENERATOR

The utility retires the RECs on behalf of green pricing customers, who pay for the RECs through an additional line item on their utility bill.



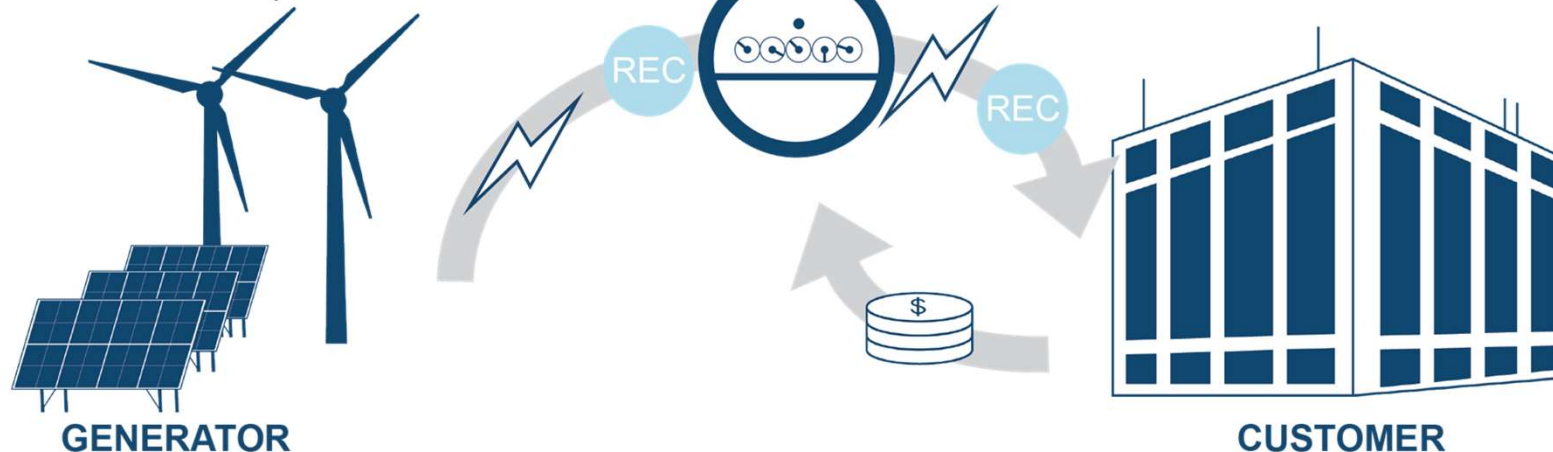
**Basic utility green pricing program structure**

Specific program structures vary

# Utility Renewable Contracts

In a utility renewable contract, the customer enters into a contract with the utility to procure power and RECs from a renewable energy provider. Unlike green pricing programs, the customer may be able to specify the resource for the product.

The utility provides the power and RECs to the customer. The customer continues to pay the utility with a modified green tariff or bilateral contract rate.



## Basic utility renewable contract structure

Specific program structures vary

# Comparing Green Pricing & Green Tariffs

## Comparison of Green Pricing vs. Green Tariffs

- **Green tariff products have a longer contract term and potential utility cost savings, while green pricing products involve a premium and shorter contract term.**
- **Some convergence of products is occurring (e.g. green tariffs that have some attributes of green pricing, like shorter contract lengths).**

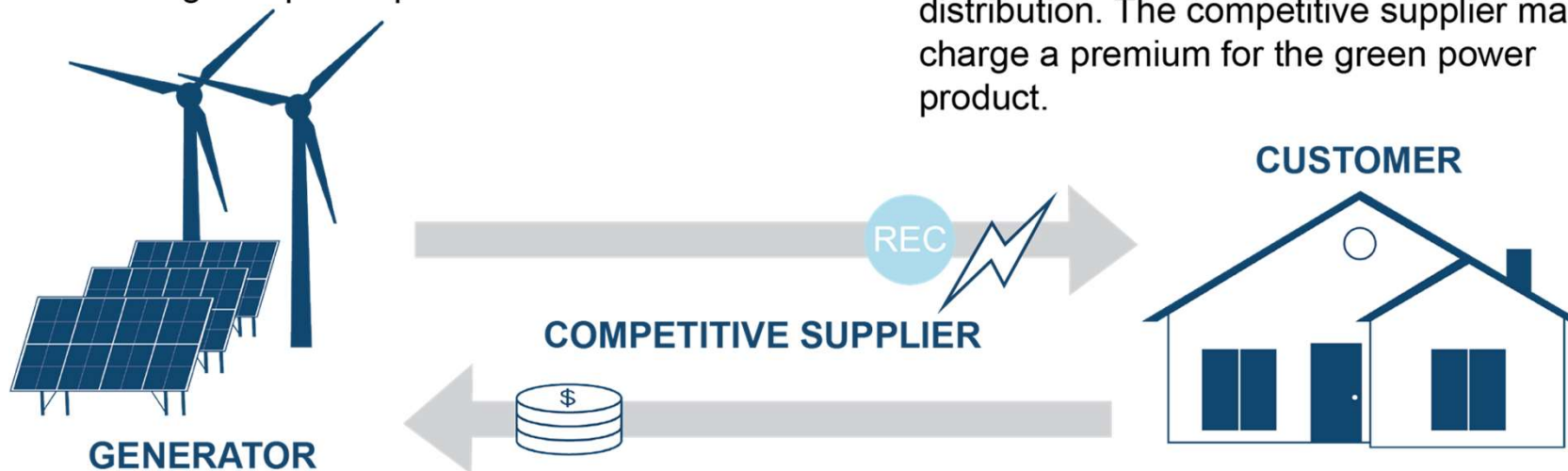
Program Characteristics	Green Pricing	Green Tariff
Cost savings potential	No, products average around 1.5 cents/kWh premium	May be cost-competitive, depending on structure and term
Price stability	No, continue to pay utility rate that is subject to change	Possible under certain program structures
Contract length	Shorter contract terms (typically month-to-month)	Longer agreements possible (10-20 years)
Ease of joining	Typically a simple sign-up process	Often limited availability, longer contract is potential barrier
Choice of RE resource	Utility determines	Customer may have input



# Competitive Suppliers

In restructured electricity markets, customers may choose a competitive electricity supplier that offers a green power product.

The competitive supplier provides the customer with power and RECs. The utility remains responsible for transmission and distribution. The competitive supplier may charge a premium for the green power product.



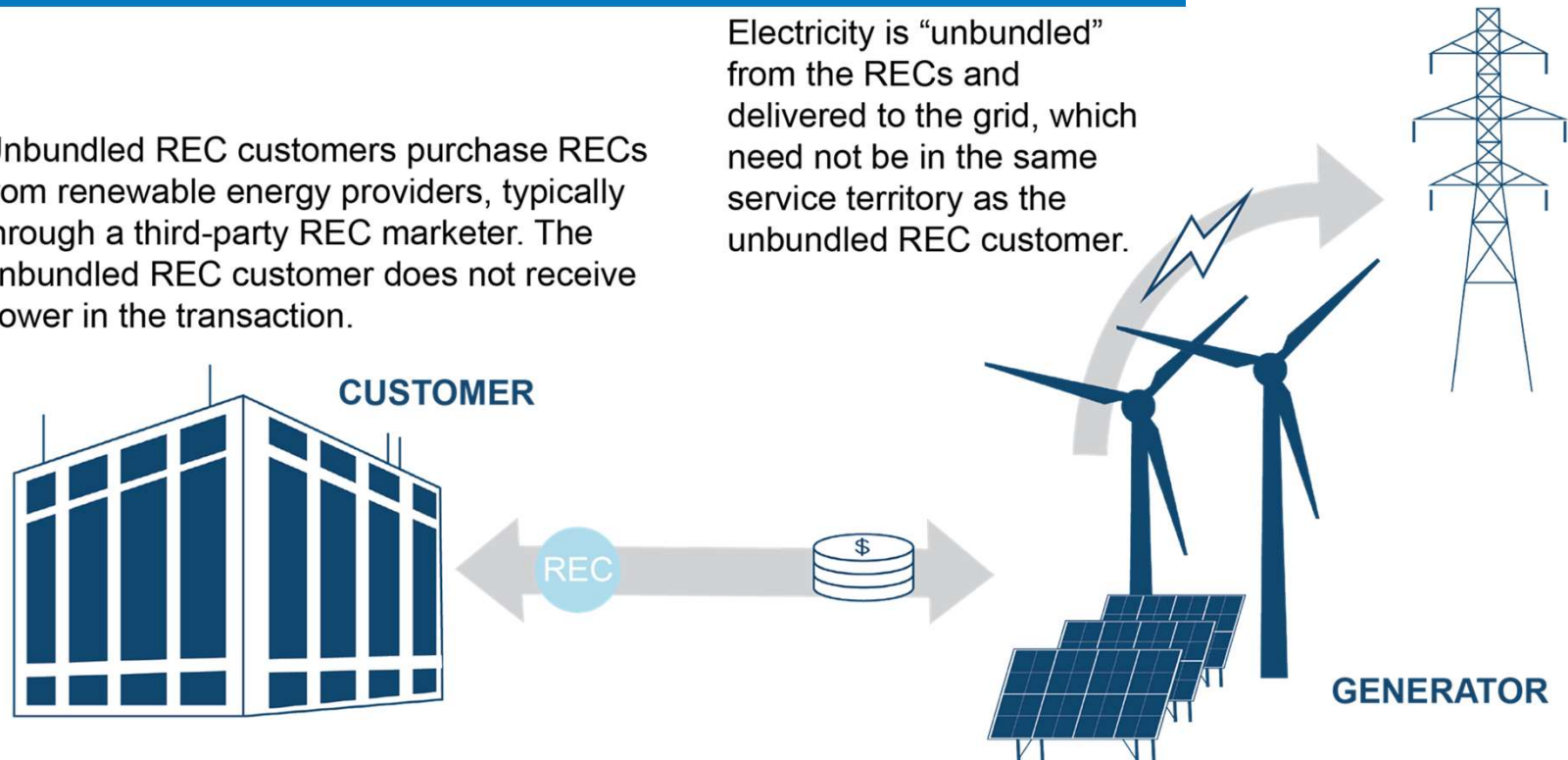
**Basic competitive supplier sales structure**

Specific program structures vary

# Unbundled RECs

Unbundled REC customers purchase RECs from renewable energy providers, typically through a third-party REC marketer. The unbundled REC customer does not receive power in the transaction.

Electricity is “unbundled” from the RECs and delivered to the grid, which need not be in the same service territory as the unbundled REC customer.



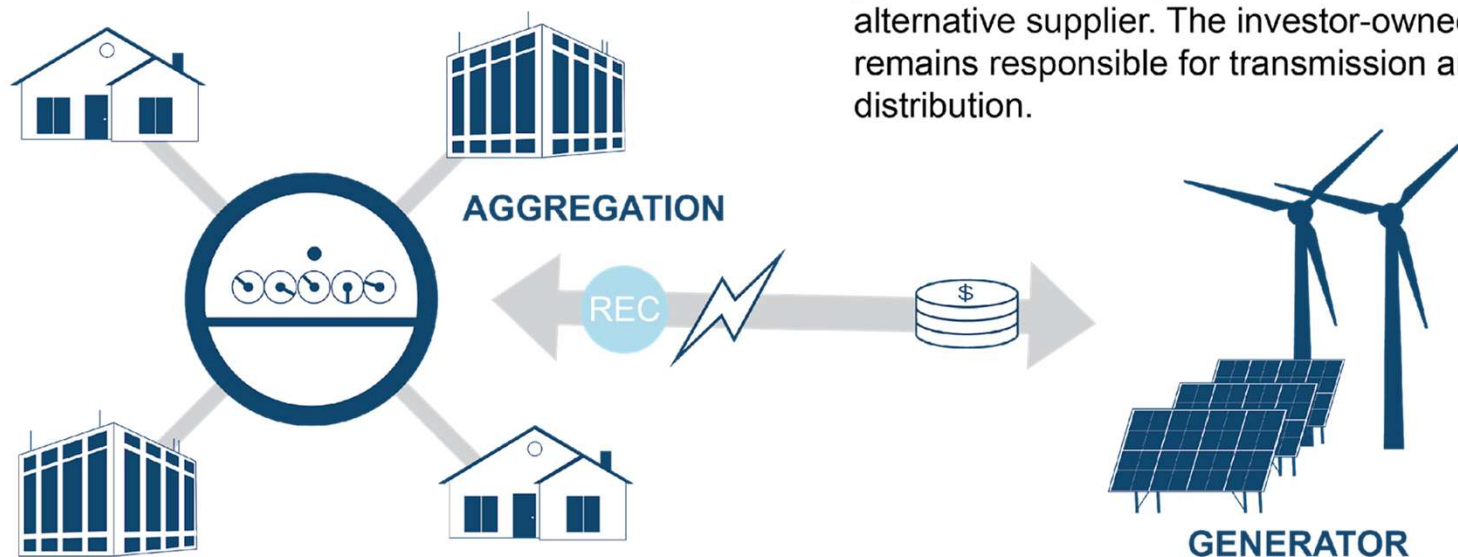
**Basic unbundled RECs sales structure**

Specific program structures vary

# Community Choice Aggregation

A CCA effectively “aggregates” the electricity demand of many customers (residential and non-residential) in order to procure electricity from an alternative supplier.

CCA customers “switch” from an incumbent investor-owned utility to a local government supplier with a green power product. The CCA purchases electricity and RECs from an alternative supplier. The investor-owned utility remains responsible for transmission and distribution.



## Basic CCA structure

Specific program structures vary

# Power Purchase Agreements

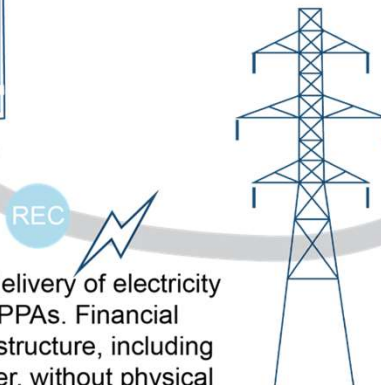
PPAs are generally long-term contracts to purchase electricity between a non-residential customer and a renewable energy provider. The customer agrees to buy the electricity at a negotiated PPA rate throughout the contract term.



CUSTOMER



GENERATOR



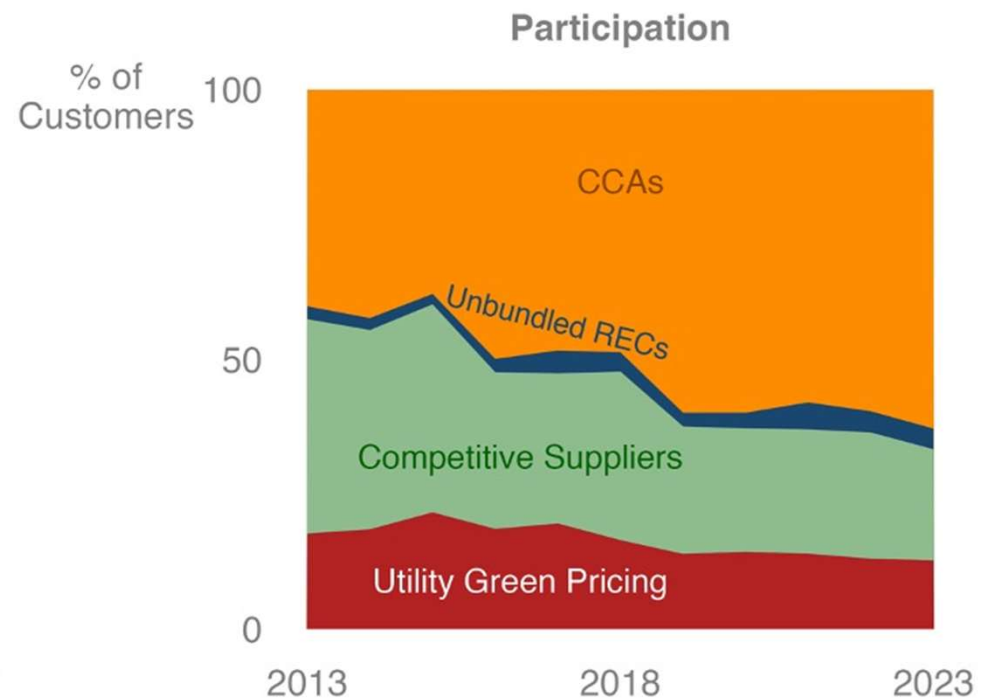
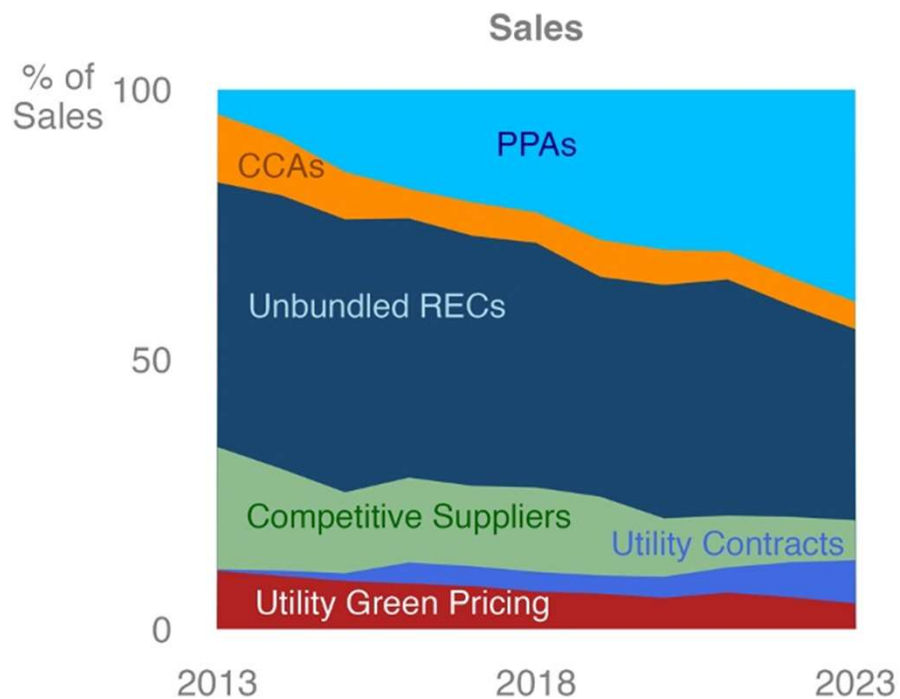
The utility generally remains responsible for transmission and distribution. The customer pays the utility for transmission and distribution.

Although common, physical delivery of electricity is not a requirement in some PPAs. Financial PPAs use much of the same structure, including REC retention by the customer, without physical electricity delivery.

## Basic PPA structure

Specific program structures vary

# Green Power Sales and Customers by Mechanism





## Additional NREL Resources

Find additional resources at the NREL Voluntary Green Power Procurement landing page:

[www.nrel.gov/analysis/green-power.html](http://www.nrel.gov/analysis/green-power.html)

Sushmita Jena  
[sushmita.jena@nrel.gov](mailto:sushmita.jena@nrel.gov)  
202-594-1329

# Session Break

Please Break for 10-minutes and  
return for the Claims Workshop

# RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY MARKETS & CLAIMS 101 WORKSHOP

**Matt Altieri**

SENIOR ANALYST, CERTIFICATION PROGRAMS  
CENTER FOR RESOURCE SOLUTIONS

**SUSHMITA JENA**

RENEWABLE ENERGY RESEARCHER  
NATIONAL RENEWABLE ENERGY LABORATORY (NREL)

**BAILEY ROSEN**

PROGRAM MANAGER, GREEN POWER PARTNERSHIP  
U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (EPA)





# VOLUNTARY RENEWABLE ENERGY MARKETS 101

Bailey Rosen  
[rosen.bailey@epa.gov](mailto:rosen.bailey@epa.gov)  
EPA's Green Power Partnership  
September 16, 2024





# EPA's Green Power Partnership

- A **voluntary** program that encourages organizations to use green power



We seek to:


- Reduce U.S. GHG emissions
  - Expand the voluntary green power market
  - Standardize green power procurement as part of best practice environmental management
- We provide Partners with:
    - Technical assistance and tools on procuring green power
    - A recognition platform for organizations using green power





<https://www.epa.gov/greenpower/meet-our-partners>

# Program Resources




## Guide Green

Renewable Elec  
On-Site Renewa

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
**ENERGY** | Energy Effi  
Renewable





### Offsets and

#### Introduction



In encouraging organiza the Green Power Partne certificates (RECs)—wh power, and how they are Partnership stakeholder before learning about gr be compared with offset "offsetting" emissions. O different instruments.


Organizations working ti mitigation options at the direct emissions, activiti efficiency measures and external reductions. Knc RECs and offsets is criti organization.

This document explains how an organization mig


To begin, this tables sur

Basic Differences
Unit of Measure
Source
Purpose
Corporate GHG Inventori and Reporting
Consumer Environmenta Claims





### Renewable Electricity I Sold Products



September 2024



## RECs: Making Green Power Possible



U.S. Environmental Protec...  
26.3K subscribers

Subscribe

923



Share

Save



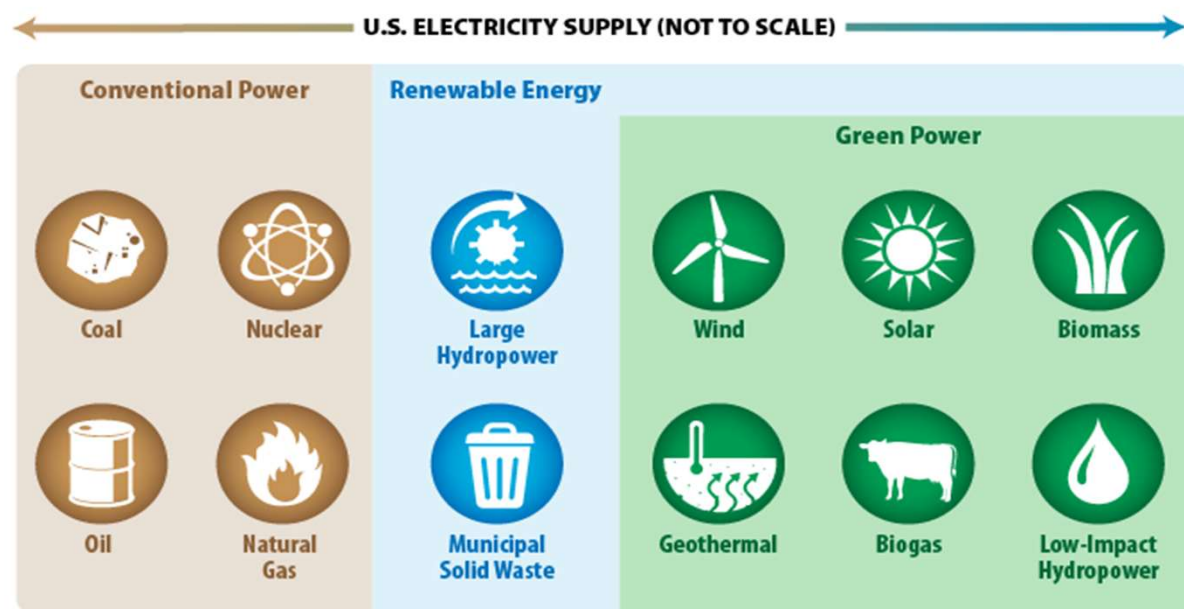
155K views 8 years ago

NOTE: If you need captions, please click the CC button on the player to turn them on.

Renewable Energy Certificates, also known as RECs, represent the environmental and other non-power attribute [Show more](#)

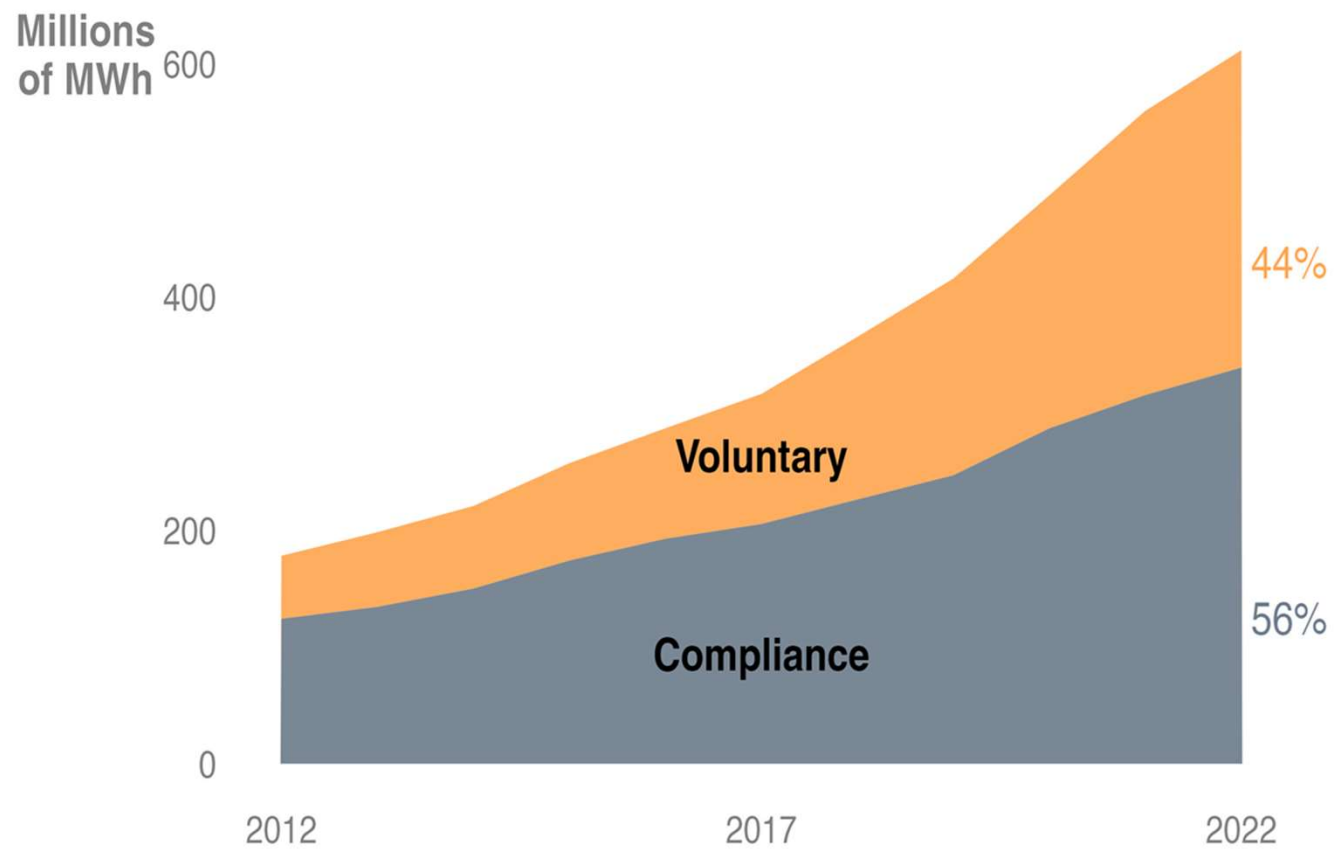
# What is Green Power?

- **Green power** is a subset of renewable electricity that:
  - Meets national standards for product quality and content
  - Is specific to the “voluntary market”
    - Driven by consumer preference rather than policy mandate
- Is incremental to what is required by mandate





# The Voluntary Market







# Green Power Supply Options

## Retail Options

Retail (Unbundled) RECs

Utility Products or  
Programs

Community Choice  
Aggregation

## Project Specific

Self-supply

Physical PPAs

Shared Renewables

Utility Green Tariffs

Financial Contracts (vPPAs)





# Green Power Supply Options

May Cost More

## Retail Options

- Unbundled RECs
- Utility Products or Programs

Current Electricity Costs

May Save You  
Money

## Retail Options

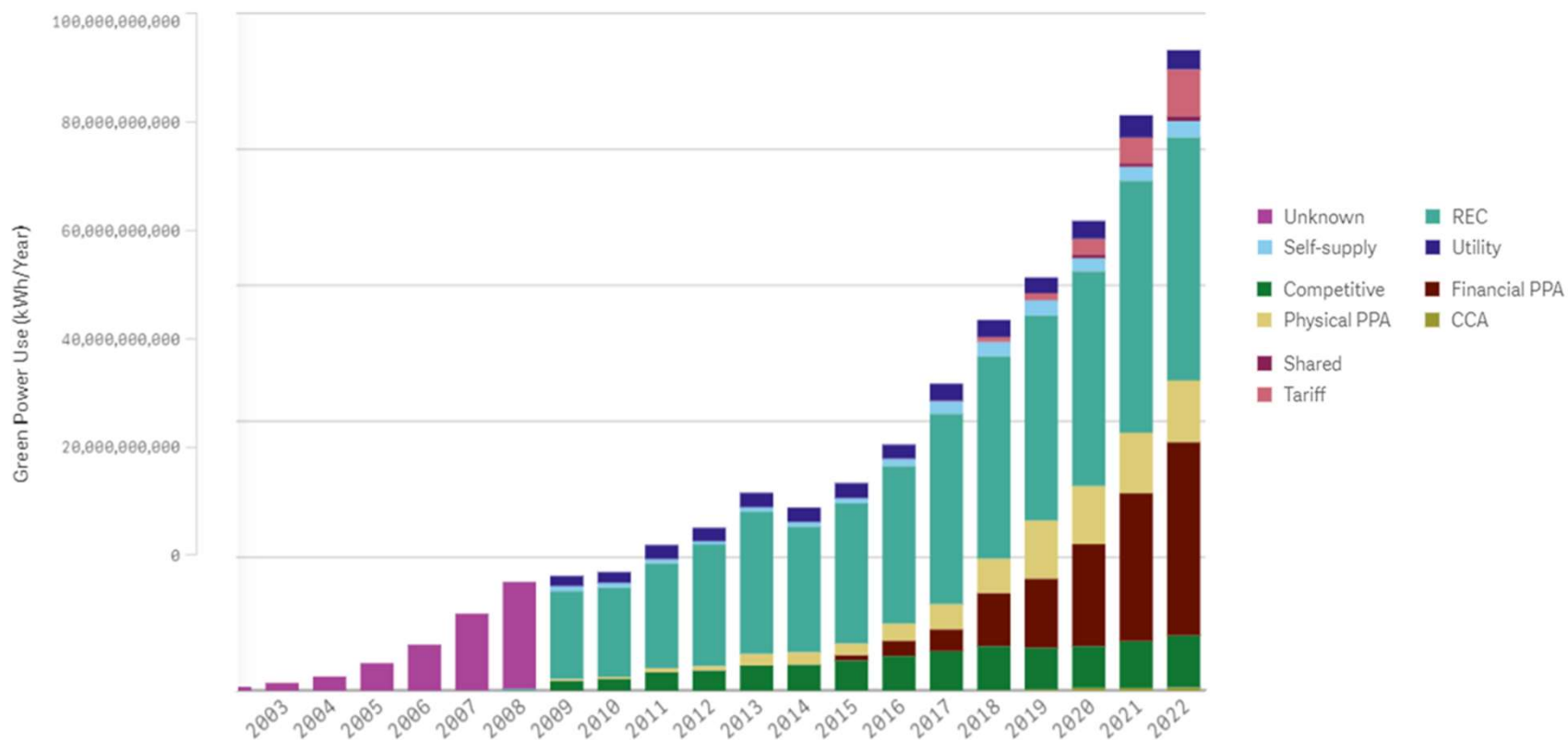
- Community Choice Aggregation

## Project Specific

- Self-supply
- Physical PPAs
- Shared Renewables
- Utility Green Tariffs
- Financial/virtual PPAs

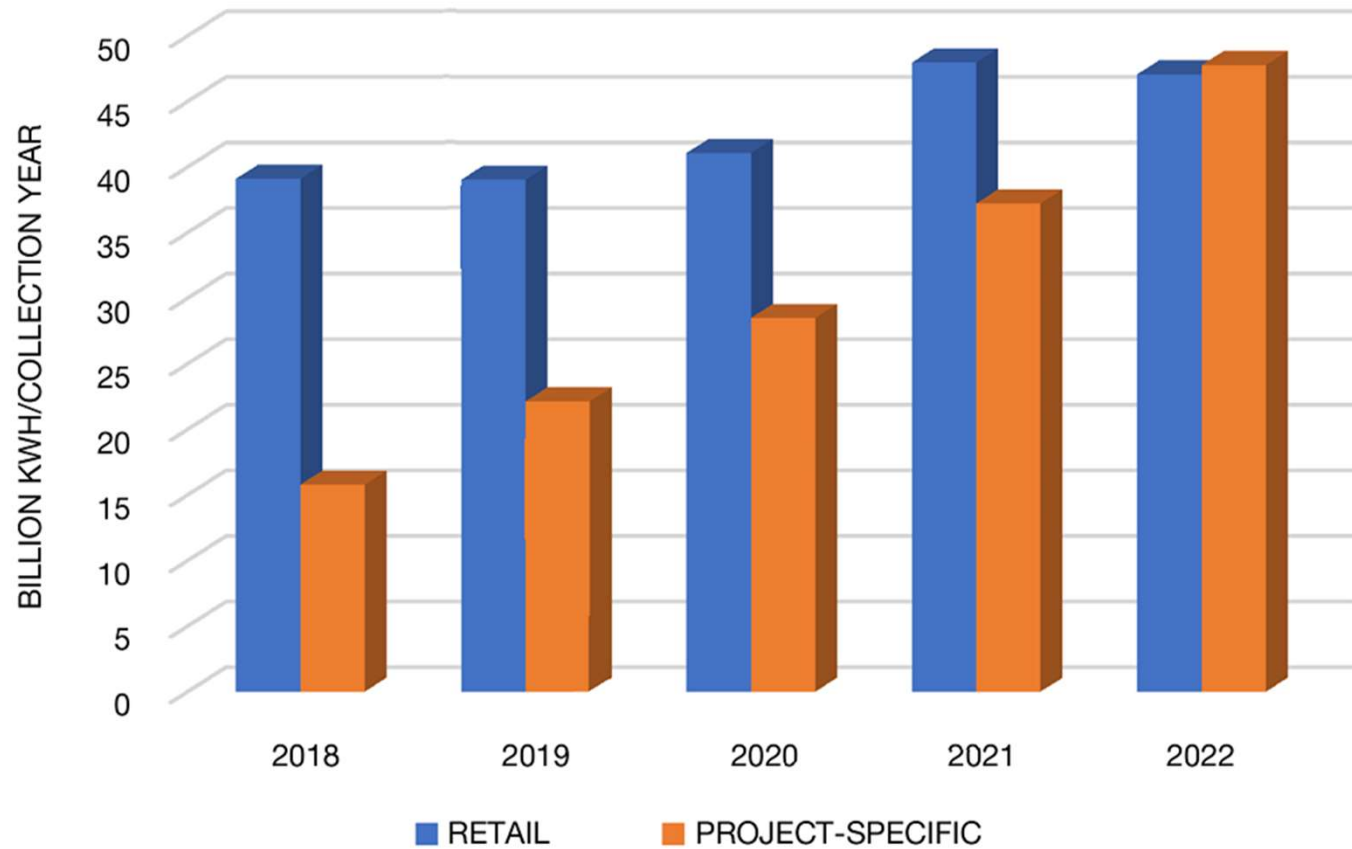


## Partner Green Power Use by Supply Options





## Partner Green Power by Supply Type







**Emphasis on impact**

**Procurement granularity**

**Data management and transparency**

**Evolution of reporting**

**International trade policies**

**Updates to GHG accounting**

**Scope 3/value chain engagement**

# **Emerging Market Trends**



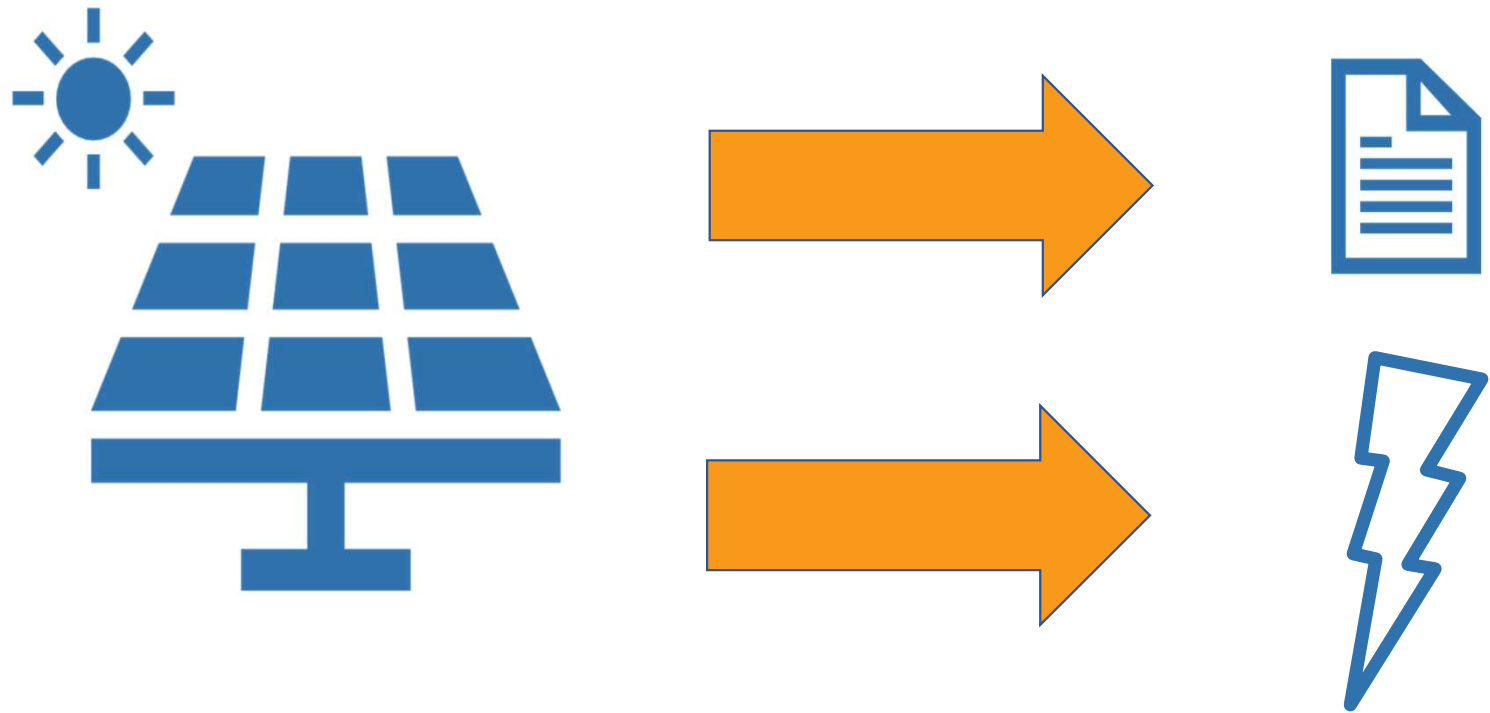


# CLAIMS 101





# Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs)



## Why Are RECs Important?

- Currency of renewable energy markets
  - Both compliance and voluntary
- Backed by metering and mutual trust
- Inherent in all green power procurements
- Different from offsets
  - Different instruments, applications, claims



## Determining REC Ownership

- Contracts determine ownership
  - Power Purchase Agreements
  - Interconnection agreements
  - State and utility incentives
  - Other green power contracts
- Solar Energy Industries Association Solar Business Code
  - Guiding Principles
    - 5.14: Many Consumers are unfamiliar with RECs and their characteristics.... The Company must take steps to educate its Consumer about RECs, including providing ...: Guidelines for Renewable Energy Claims: Guidance for Consumers and Electricity Providers, Center for Resource Solutions (Feb. 26, 2015)

# Determining REC Ownership

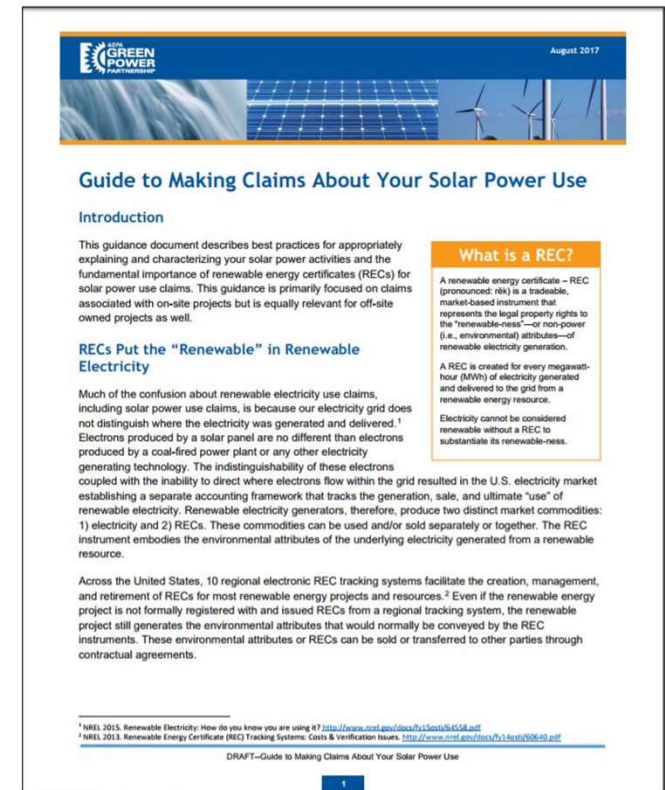
## Environmental Attributes and Environmental Incentives.

Unless otherwise specified on Exhibit 1, Seller is the owner of all Environmental Attributes and Environmental Incentives and is entitled to the benefit of all Tax Credits, and Purchaser's purchase of electricity under this Agreement does not include Environmental Attributes, Environmental Incentives or the right to Tax Credits or any other attributes of ownership and operation of the System, all of which shall be retained by Seller. Purchaser shall cooperate with Seller in obtaining, securing and transferring all Environmental Attributes and Environmental Incentives and the benefit of all Tax Credits, including by using the electric energy generated by the System in a manner necessary to qualify for such available Environmental Attributes, Environmental Incentives and Tax Credits. Purchaser shall not be obligated to incur any out-of-pocket costs or expenses in connection with such actions unless reimbursed by Seller. If any Environmental Incentives are paid directly to Purchaser, Purchaser shall immediately pay such amounts over to Seller. To avoid any conflicts with fair trade rules regarding claims of solar or renewable energy use, Purchaser, if engaged in commerce and/or trade, shall submit to Seller for approval any press releases regarding Purchaser's use of solar or renewable energy and shall not submit for publication any such releases without the written approval of Seller. Approval shall not be unreasonably withheld, and Seller's review and approval shall be made in a timely manner to permit Purchaser's timely publication.

"Environmental Attributes" means any and all credits, benefits, emissions reductions, offsets, and allowances, howsoever entitled, attributable to the System, the production of electrical energy from the System and its displacement of conventional energy generation, including (a) any avoided emissions of pollutants to the air, soil or water such as sulfur oxides (SO<sub>x</sub>), nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>), carbon monoxide (CO) and other pollutants; (b) any avoided emissions of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), methane (CH<sub>4</sub>), nitrous oxide, hydrofluorocarbons, perfluorocarbons, sulfur hexafluoride and other greenhouse gases (GHGs) that have been determined by the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, or otherwise by law, to contribute to the actual or potential threat of altering the Earth's climate by trapping heat in the atmosphere; and (c) the reporting rights related to these avoided emissions, such as Green Tag Reporting Rights and Renewable Energy Credits. Green Tag Reporting Rights are the right of a party to report the ownership of accumulated Green Tags in compliance with federal or state law, if applicable, and to a federal or state agency or any other party, and include Green Tag Reporting Rights accruing under Section 1605(b) of The Energy Policy Act of 1992 and any present or future federal, state, or local law, regulation or bill, and international or foreign emissions trading program. Environmental Attributes do not include Environmental Incentives and Tax Credits. Purchaser and Seller shall file all tax returns in a manner consistent with this Section 5. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, Environmental Attributes include carbon trading credits, renewable energy credits or certificates, emissions reduction credits, emissions allowances, green tags tradable renewable credits and Green-e® products.

# Making Environmental Claims

- Big driver of green power procurement
- Messaging should be transparent and tangible
  - EPA's Equivalency Calculator
- Simple, safe claims
  - I use renewable electricity from a zero emissions resource
  - Precise amounts and equivalencies
- Don't Confuse "RECs" and "Offsets"



## Direct or Express Claims

- FTC Example: A toy manufacturer places solar panels on the roof of its plant to generate power and advertises that its plant is “100% solar-powered.” The manufacturer, however, sells renewable energy certificates based on the renewable attributes of all the power it generates. Even if the manufacturer uses the electricity generated by the solar panels, it has, by selling renewable energy certificates, transferred the right to characterize that electricity as renewable.



## Direct or Express Claims

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- **The manufacturer’s claim is deceptive.**

## Implied Claims

- A toy manufacturer places solar panels on the roof of its plant to generate power and advertises that it “hosts” a renewable power facility.





## Implied Claims

- A toy manufacturer places solar panels on the roof of its plant to generate power and advertises that it “hosts” a renewable power facility.
- **It also would be deceptive for this manufacturer to advertise that it “hosts” a renewable power facility because reasonable consumers likely interpret this claim to mean that the manufacturer uses renewable energy.**



## Implied Claims, continued

- A university issues a press release about its recent power purchase agreement for a on-campus, 1 MW solar array
- Press release highlights:
  - University's goal of achieving carbon neutrality by 2030
  - University's new purchase of fixed price electricity from the on-campus solar facility.



## Implied Claims, continued

- A university issues a press release about its recent power purchase agreement for a on-campus, 1 MW solar array
- Press release highlights:
  - University's goal of achieving carbon neutrality by 2030
  - University's new purchase of fixed price electricity from the on-campus solar facility.
- **Both claims are technically accurate.**
- **However, reasonable consumer would interpret as the university is using solar to reduce its carbon footprint.**





## Potential Consequences of Deceptive Claims

- **Legal:** Federal Trade Commission and state attorney general offices
- **Contractual & Financial:** Breach of contract
- **Brand & Reputation:** Issuance of clarifying statement
- **Renewable Energy Market:** Double “use” claim on the same renewable electricity
- **GHG Accounting:** Double accounting for same zero emission resource



## Market Standards & Guidance

- **U.S. FTC's Green Guides for the Use of Environmental Marketing Claims**
- **U.S. EPA**
  - Green Power Partnership minimum purchase requirements
- **World Resources Institutes's GHG accounting standards**
- **Third-party certification/verification**
  - Certification is a best practice
  - Standards set expectations for both the compliance and voluntary REC markets



# CLAIMS WORKSHOP



# Interactive Claims Workshop

Instructions:

1. Break up into small groups
2. Introduce yourselves to your group
3. Select a spokesperson
4. Select all appropriate answers for your scenario
5. Prepare to report back on which are the correct claims and why

## Scenario 1

Scenario 1: Company A has onsite solar system and owns associated RECs. What claims can this company make about their use and generation of renewable electricity and associated greenhouse gas emissions? Select all that apply.

- We are using solar power
- Our solar panels are reducing our carbon footprint
- Our solar panels are helping to reduce our energy costs and generate revenue through the sale of the RECs
- Apply the zero-emissions rate conveyed by the REC to our purchased electricity consumption under Scope 2
- Apply grid average emissions rate or grid residual mix



## Scenario 1

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- **Our solar panels are reducing our carbon footprint**
- Our solar panels are helping to reduce our energy costs and generate revenue through the sale of the RECs
- **Apply the zero-emissions rate conveyed by the REC to our purchased electricity consumption**
- Apply grid average emissions rate or grid residual mix



## Scenario 2

Scenario 2: Company B has onsite solar system but does not own associated RECs. What claims can this company claim about their use and generation of renewable energy and associated greenhouse gas emissions? Select all that apply.

- We are using solar power
- We are not using solar power, but our solar system is helping to green the grid
- Our solar panels are helping to reduce our energy costs and generate revenue through the sale of the RECs
- Apply the zero-emissions rate conveyed by the REC to your purchased electricity consumption
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- Apply the zero-emissions rate conveyed by the REC to your purchased electricity consumption
- **Apply grid average emissions rate or grid residual mix**

## Scenario 3

Scenario 3: Company C has onsite solar and does not own associated Solar RECs, but purchases wind RECs equal to 100% of power needs. What claims can this company claim about their use and generation of renewable energy and associated greenhouse gas emissions? Select all that apply.

- We are not using solar power, but our solar system is helping to green the grid
- Our solar panels are reducing our carbon footprint
- Our solar panels are helping to reduce our energy costs and generate revenue through the sale of the RECs
- Apply grid average emissions rate or grid residual mix
- Apply zero-emissions rate from the replacement wind RECs but not claim it to be of solar origin

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Scenario 3: Company C has onsite solar and does not own associated Solar RECs, but purchases wind RECs equal to 100% of power needs. What claims can this company claim about their use and generation of renewable energy and associated greenhouse gas emissions? Select all that apply.

- **We are not using solar power, but our solar system is helping to green the grid**
- Our solar panels are reducing our carbon footprint
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- Apply grid average emissions rate or grid residual mix
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## Scenario 4

Scenario 4: University D signs a physical PPA to offtake production from 10 MW of wind power (and associated RECs) with a yet-to-be developed off-site 100 MW system. Nine other institutions have similar 10 MW PPA agreements and because of this PPA, the project is now being built. What claims can this company claim about their use and generation of renewable energy and associated greenhouse gas emissions? Select all that apply.

- We are using wind power
- We helped develop new renewable energy supply
- We are not using wind power, but our wind turbine system is helping to green the grid
- Apply the zero-emissions rate conveyed by the REC to your purchased electricity consumption
- Apply grid average emissions rate or grid residual mix



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- **We helped develop new renewable energy supply**
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## Scenario 5

Scenario 5: Company E signs a 20-year physical PPA with a new off-site solar system, but per agreement the developer owns RECs for the first 5 years and company will purchase replacement nationally sourced wind RECs. For years 5-20 the company will own RECs. What claims can this company claim about their use and generation of renewable energy and associated greenhouse gas emissions for years 1-5 AND years 5-20? Select all that apply.

- We are using solar power/powered by solar energy
- We are not using solar power, but our solar system is helping to green the grid
- Our solar panels reduce our carbon footprint
- Apply zero emissions rate from the replacement wind RECs but not claim it to be of solar origin
- Apply the zero-emissions rate conveyed by the solar RECs to your purchased electricity consumption

## Scenario 5 – Years 1-5

Scenario 5: Company E signs a 20-year physical PPA with a new off-site solar system, but per agreement the developer owns RECs for the first 5 years and company will purchase replacement nationally sourced wind RECs. For years 5-20 the company will own RECs. What claims can this company claim about their use and generation of renewable energy and associated greenhouse gas emissions for years 1-5 AND years 5-20? Select all that apply.

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## Scenario 5 – Years 5-20

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  - **We are using solar power/powered by solar energy**
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  - Apply zero emissions rate from the replacement wind RECs but not claim it to be of solar origin
  - **Apply the zero emissions rate conveyed by the solar RECs to your purchased electricity consumption**



## Claims: Additional Resources

- Visit Green Power Partnerships' Green Power Market Claims web page:
  - <https://www.epa.gov/green-power-markets/environmental-claims>
- Center for Resource Solutions (CRS) REC claims and ownership
  - <http://resource-solutions.org/learn/rec-claims-and-ownership>
- National Association of Attorneys General (NAAG) *Environmental Marketing Guidelines for Electricity*
  - [http://apps3.eere.energy.gov/greenpower/buying/pdfs/naag\\_0100.pdf](http://apps3.eere.energy.gov/greenpower/buying/pdfs/naag_0100.pdf)
- Vermont Attorney General's Office *Guidance for Third-Party Solar Projects*
  - <https://ago.vermont.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/Guidance-on-Solar-Marketing.pdf>
- RE100 *Making credible renewable energy usage claims*
  - <https://www.there100.org/sites/re100/files/2020-09/RE100%20Making%20Credible%20Claims.pdf>



# Review Quiz



## Question #1

What is a REC?

1. Something, like a vehicle or a building, that is badly damaged
2. A solid collection of mineral grains that have cemented together
3. A tradeable, market-based instrument that represents the legal property rights to the “renewable-ness”—or non-power (i.e., environmental) attributes—of renewable electricity generation.



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3. **A tradeable, market-based instrument that represents the legal property rights to the “renewable-ness”—or non-power (i.e., environmental) attributes—of renewable electricity generation.**



## Question #2

What is a good definition of the voluntary green power market? Select all that apply.

- The voluntary or “green power” market is that in which consumers and organizations voluntarily purchase renewable energy to match all or part of their electricity needs.
- Voluntary power requires obligated electric service providers to have a minimum amount of renewable energy in their electricity supply.
- The compliance market, as a natural floor to the market, represents what is the basic minimum percentage of renewable electricity provided to users. The voluntary market represents an unlimited opportunity above the market floor that is only constrained by voluntary demand and capped by total demand for electricity.



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## Question #3

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- Speed at which records are played
- Renewable portfolio standard - a requirement that a specific percentage of electricity the utility sells comes from renewable resources
- A genre of video games





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## Question #4

What consumer best-practice ensures that the RECs purchased meet industry standards?

- Purchasing Green-e certified products
- That they are purchased via cryptocurrency
- That they are the prettiest REC in the market

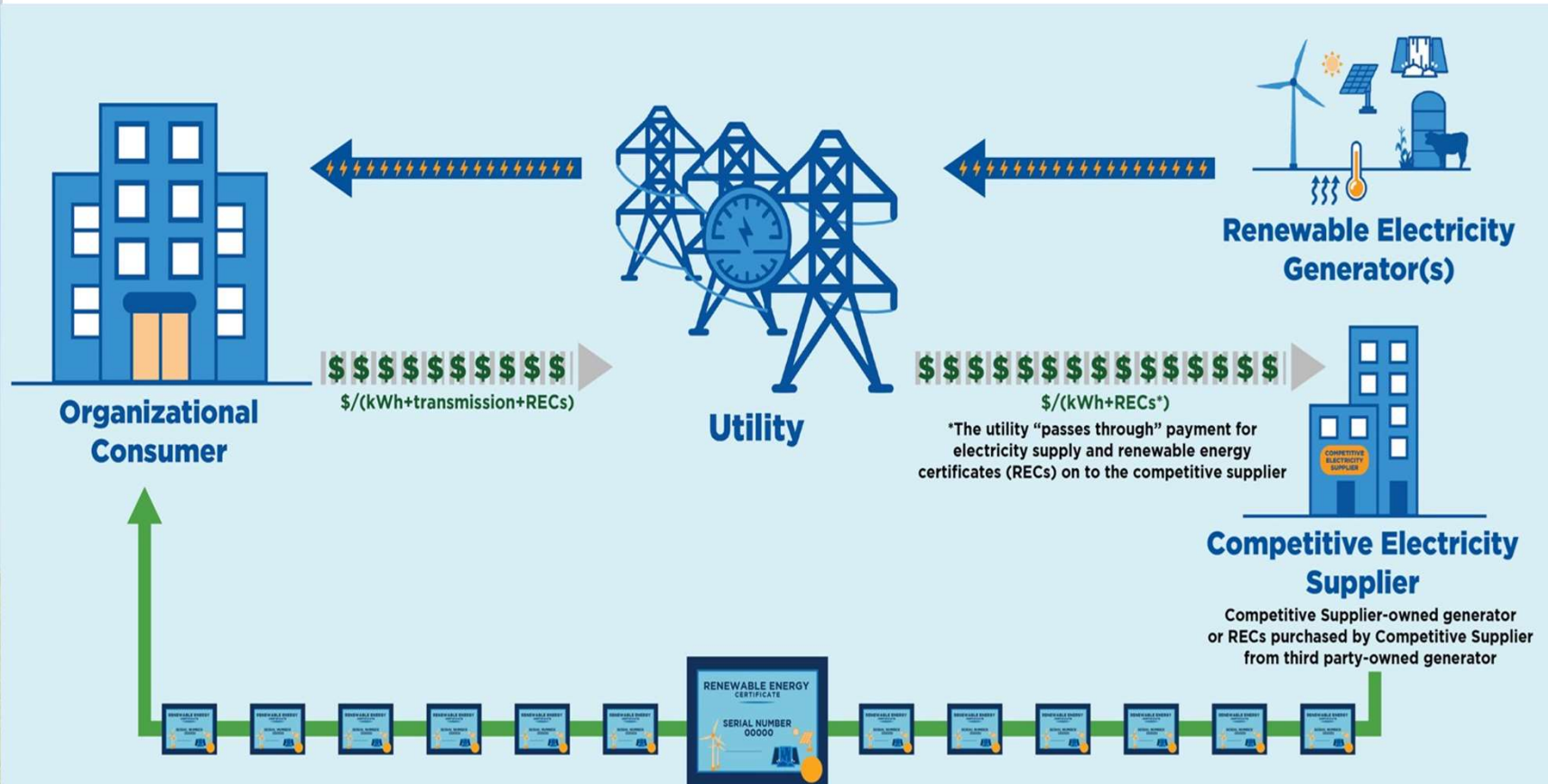


## Question #4

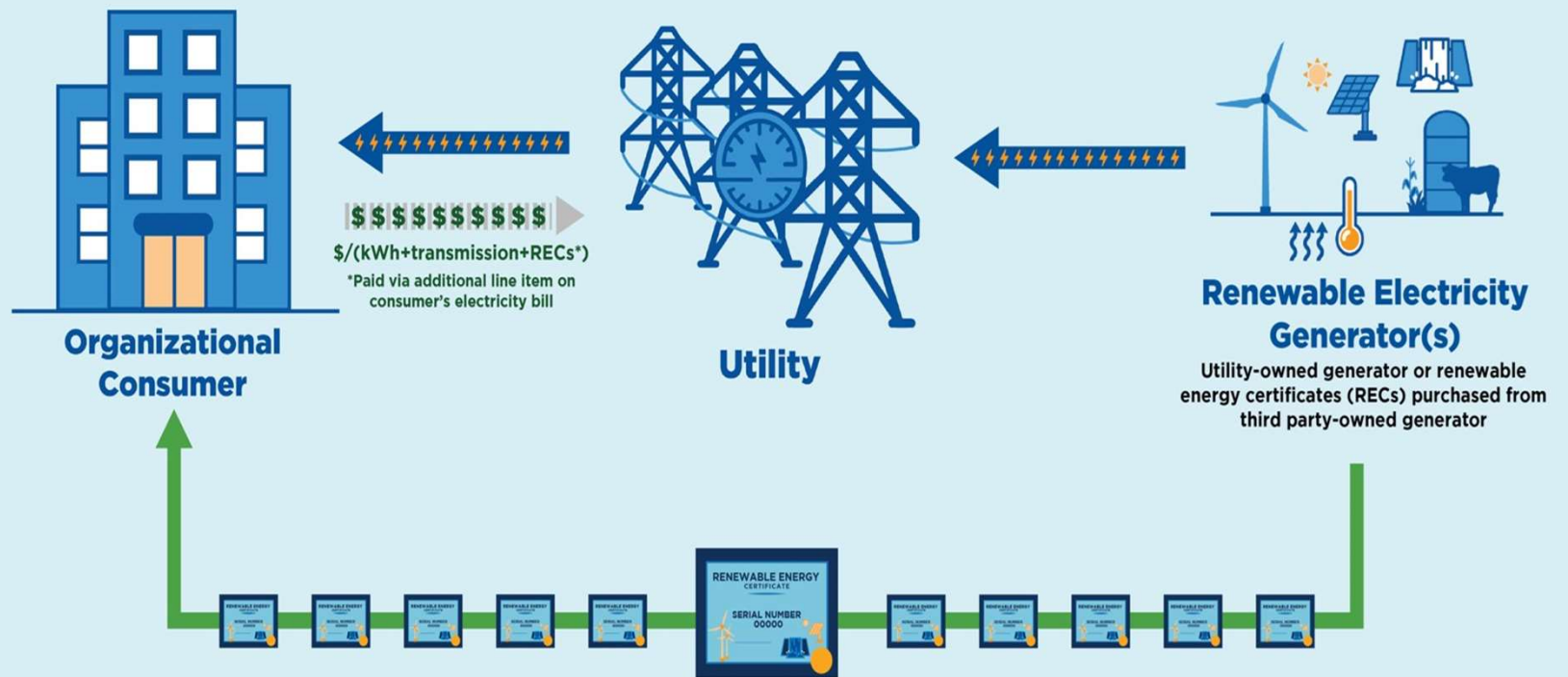
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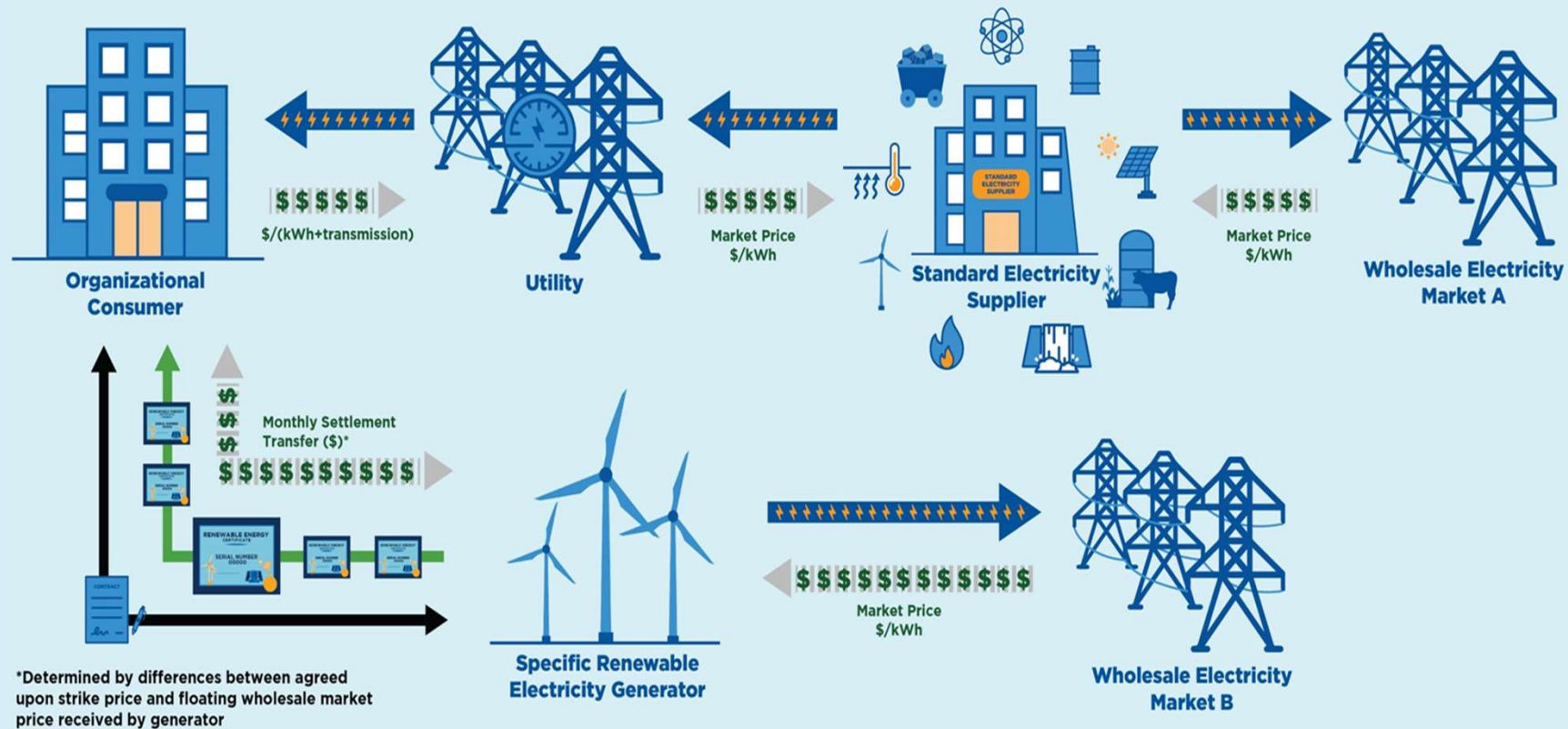
## Question #5



## Question #6



# Extra Credit







# Q and A



## Contact Information

Michelle Verlinksy  
Center for Resource Solutions  
[michelle.verlinsky@resource-solutions.org](mailto:michelle.verlinsky@resource-solutions.org)

Matt Altieri  
Center for Resource Solutions  
[matt.altieri@resource-solutions.org](mailto:matt.altieri@resource-solutions.org)

Sushmita Jena  
National Renewable Energy Laboratory  
[sushmita.jena@nrel.gov](mailto:sushmita.jena@nrel.gov)

Bailey Rosen  
US EPA – Green Power Partnership  
[rosen.bailey@epa.gov](mailto:rosen.bailey@epa.gov)