



Time-Based and Time-Matched Products

The Green-e® Energy program is launching two new hourly renewable energy product types for certification: time-based products and time-matched products

“Hourly matching”, often called 24/7 matching, refers to the practice of aligning clean energy purchases with electricity use over shorter time intervals—such as hourly—rather than on an annual basis. Since 2020, an increasing number of corporations have been working toward meeting their net zero goals by matching some or all of their electricity consumption to renewable electricity generation occurring in the same hour. Individual utilities have also recently begun offering varied hourly-matched product options to their customers, providing diverse options ranging from subscription-only to sleeved tariffs.

There is a wide range of benefits to both Time-Based and Time-Matched products, along with the traditional benefits of Green-e® Energy certification (e.g. consumer protection and disclosure; newer, more sustainable renewables; generation that is surplus to regulations; and seller accountability). In the **Time-Based** offering, providers and customers alike can have access to verified clean electricity data about the time of production to be used in corporate GHG reports. Customers can then match this information to their own energy load, but this matching will not be third-party verified by the Green-e® program. In the **Time-Matched** offering, customers and load serving entities (LSEs) can make an hourly-matched use claim that has been third-party verified through the Green-e® Energy program, which reduces risk and builds trust in this more nascent form of renewable electricity procurement.

By sharpening demand signals for clean energy during periods of scarcity (e.g., nighttime or winter months), hourly matching can drive investments in new renewable generation and storage solutions. Matching at a more granular level enables claims that are more precise, increasing confidence among stakeholders.

To find out more, contact
partnerships@green-e.org or (415) 561-2100



Center for Resource Solutions
1012 Torney Ave., 2nd Floor
San Francisco, CA 94129
www.resource-solutions.org

Time-Based

Definition: Verification is done at the hourly level, and hours of generation are audited. Customers can then match their purchase to their own usage data, without matching being verified.

Availability: Currently available

Potential Use Case: A project developer has a PPA with a customer and wants to verify their generation on an hourly basis, but does not intend to match this generation to a customer's precise load. Used for transparency and informational purposes.

Time-Matched

Definition: Verification is done at the hourly level, and matching of generation and consumption hours is specifically audited.

Availability: Projected for late 2025

Potential Use Cases:

1. A utility wants to verify their generation on an hourly basis and match it to their customer's hourly load (either one individual customer or a customer class).
2. A customer wants to verify the procurement of hourly EACs (generation) matched to their hourly consumption (load).