



# Green-e® References and Endorsements

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## Introduction

### References to Green-e® Certification Programs

There are many organizations that develop standards and certifications to support progress toward a clean energy future. These U.S./Canada National and International organizations and associations promote renewable energy use, energy efficiency, and/or actions that quickly and effectively reduce negative environmental impacts.

3rd party certification, as offered by CRS's Green-e® Programs, provides energy buyers with independent assurances that their purchase is making an important beneficial impact on the environment. Many standard setters, NGOs, and government agencies recommend Green-e® or "certification" in guidance, requirements, or choose it for their own purchasing.

Those organizations that reference Green-e® certification in public materials are collected in the pages that follow.

For more information about the Green-e® certification programs visit [www.green-e.org](http://www.green-e.org)

## Green-e® International Citations





# RE100

## About RE100

- RE100 is the global initiative that brings together more than 350 corporations committed to 100% renewable electricity
- Members are present in 175 different markets
- Their demand surpasses 390 TWh per year



# RE100

## RE100 Technical Criteria

- The document "RE100 Technical Criteria" defines valid purchases of renewable energy
- Criteria are established by the RE100 Technical Advisory Group, in consultation with member companies, and with the approval of the RE100 Board of Directors
- To participate in the program, an independent verification is required, and in accordance with an available Standard

- **Claims:** In order to claim the renewable attributes owned by third parties, certificates need not be consumed. Electricity is measured by meter and also retained or retired.

#### 4. Direct procurement from offsite grid

- **Definition:** In a direct procurement contract, an agreement is signed between a purchaser and a service provider, and the attributes of the generated electricity are transferred to the buyer to schedule for the delivery of electricity. Attribute certificates may be arbitrated across jurisdictions for claims outlined below. Community or shared procurement from offsite grid-connected generation is not eligible.
- **Claims:** Certificates issued by the specific project shall be retired on the company's behalf. In the case of shared procurement, the company cannot claim the attributes of the specific project unless they have been sold to another company. In countries where certificates and/or tracking systems don't exist, transfer of attributes shall be specified in a contract or via an alternative system that ensures claims are unique and there is no double counting of attributes.

#### 5. Contract with suppliers (green electricity products)

- **Definition:** In a contract for electricity procurement, the electricity produced or purchased from a variety of projects. Contracts can be structured in different ways to ensure the electricity offered to the consumer. Certain contracts may include tariffs.
- **Claims:** The supplier shall purchase and retire the attributes. In countries where no tracking system exists, the supplier shall ensure the accurate and exclusive delivery of certificates as well as an exclusive claim on the attributes (e.g. the Green-e Energy certification program for REC products the U.S. and Canada).

#### 6. Unbundled energy attribute certificates

- **Definition:** Companies can claim the environmental attributes of electricity certificates issued by renewable energy sources as the claimant. Companies may purchase Guarantees of Origin (Europe) and I-RECs (U.S.) to ensure the accurate and exclusive delivery of certificates as well as an exclusive claim on the attributes (e.g. the Green-e Energy certification program for REC products the U.S. and Canada). Where certificates are
- **Claims:** The company shall retire the certificates it purchases or the certificates shall be retired on behalf of the company. Retail products shall be certified or sales shall otherwise be verified by a third party to ensure the accurate and exclusive delivery of certificates as well as an exclusive claim on the attributes (e.g. the Green-e Energy certification program for REC products the U.S. and Canada). Where certificates are

"Retail programs or products shall be certified or sales shall otherwise be verified by a third party to ensure the exclusive ownership and accurate delivery of attributes (e.g. the **Green-e Energy** certification program for renewable electricity products the U.S. and Canada)."

"Retail products shall be certified or sales shall otherwise be verified by a third party to ensure the accurate and exclusive delivery of certificates as well as an exclusive claim on the attributes (e.g. the **Green-e Energy** certification program for REC products the U.S. and Canada)."



# RE100

## RE100 Reporting Guidance 2022

- The document "RE100 Reporting Guidance 2022" defines how companies must report their progress.
- REC certification by a third party is required

The supplier shall purchase and retire or retain certificates on behalf of the reporting company making the claims. In countries where no tracking systems are available, transfer of attributes shall be specified in a contract or via an alternative system that ensures claims are unique and there is no double counting of attributes. Retail programs or products shall be certified, or sales shall otherwise be verified by a third party to ensure the exclusive ownership and accurate delivery of attributes (e.g., the Green-e Energy certification program for renewable electricity products the U.S. and Canada).

### 3.6 Unbundled Energy Attribute Certificate (EAC) purchase

#### Definition

Companies can claim the environmental benefits of renewable energy production by acquiring electricity attribute certificates, issued by the market boundary as the claimant. Companies can claim Energy Certificates (RECs) (North American regions) separately from electricity to match their electricity sources.

#### Claims

The reporting company shall retire the certificates on behalf of the company. Retail products shall be certified, or sales shall otherwise be verified by a third party to ensure the accurate and exclusive delivery of certificates as well as an exclusive claim on the attributes (e.g., the Green-e Energy certification program for REC products the U.S. and Canada). Where certificates are purchased, exclusive claims must otherwise be verified by a third party to ensure the accurate and exclusive delivery of certificates as well as an exclusive claim on the attributes (e.g., the Green-e Energy certification program for REC products the U.S. and Canada). Where certificates are purchased, exclusive claims must otherwise be verified by a third party to ensure the accurate and exclusive delivery of certificates as well as an exclusive claim on the attributes (e.g., the Green-e Energy certification program for REC products the U.S. and Canada).

“Retail products shall be certified, or sales shall otherwise be verified by a third party to ensure the accurate and exclusive delivery of certificates as well as an exclusive claim on the attributes (e.g., the **Green-e Energy** certification program for REC products the U.S. and Canada).”

### 3.7 Default delivered renewable electricity by energy attribute certificate

#### Definition

Default delivered renewable electricity is electricity on a grid that has not been actively sourced by a specific customer. This includes renewable electricity consumption claims based on the renewable electricity that is provided by regulation and not actively sourced by specific customers.

#### Claims

RE100 members can claim renewable electricity usage from the default-delivered / standard product offering by an energy supplier *when, and only when*, the utility/supplier is retiring Energy Attribute Certificates on behalf of those customers that meet the Energy Sources and Technologies and Credible Claims criteria in Sections 3 and 4 of the [Technical Criteria](#).

An example is renewable electricity delivered via default supply in Australia by the utility/supplier where utility/supplier has retired Large-scale Generation Certificates (LGCs) under the Renewable Energy Target (RET). Consumers should verify that their supplier is actually retiring LGCs rather than using an alternative compliance mechanism such as paying a shortfall charge.

Another example is the Renewable Energy Portfolio Standards (RPS) in the USA, which require that a specified percentage of the electricity that utilities supply comes from renewable resources and that utilities/suppliers retire Renewable Energy Certificates on behalf of their customers for that percentage of electricity. In some cases, these programs allow for alternative compliance, multipliers, and other mechanisms that do not deliver renewable energy to consumers.

# RE100

## RE100 FAQ

- The FAQ of the RE100 website references the Green-e® Standard when addressing vintage limitations for certification

- REC (US and Canada)
- GOs or REGO (Europe)
- T-REC (Taiwan)
- J-Credit, NFC, GEC(Japan)
- I-REC (International)
- TIGR (International)
- GEC (China)
- NZREC (New Zealand)

### 38. How can I get RE100 to endorse a particular REC/EAC system?

We have limited resources to verify EAC systems and focus them on government systems where we have significant member demand. If you want to procure an EAC that has not been verified by RE100 please check it against the criteria in [RE100's guidance on making credible claims to use of renewable electricity](#).

### 39. Is there a vintage limitation for certificates?

Yes. To make a credible RE claim, the vintage of the energy attribute certificates must be "reasonably close" to the reporting year of the electricity consumption to which it is applied. There is however no official consensus on what is "reasonable" in this case, and it may vary between markets. RE100 does not have a specific vintage limitation.

Companies can refer to certification standards, claim verification and recognition programs, and/or GHG inventory reporting systems to ensure that the vintage of generation does not occur too far in advance or after consumption.

The Green-e® standard has a 21-month vintage requirement which RE100 recommends as a reasonable practice.

### 40. Can Energy Attribute generated consumption

In almost all cases, no. RE100 are in Scope 1 or Scope 2 of your organization, and, if off-site, whether the electricity is transferred. These factors determine if the electricity is sourced from CHP which is used.

EACs are Scope 2 instruments.

They cannot be used to decarbonize Scope 1 emissions or electricity that is not delivered through the shared electricity grid (i.e., through a direct line).

RE100 does not support decarbonizing electricity from on-site fossil fuels through any approach which does not directly or contractually reduce those fossil fuel emissions, regardless of the connection type and which Scope the emissions from the fossil fuels are in for your organization. A company with on-site CHP is choosing to have fossil fuel generation located on-site for its use, which is not a strategy that RE100 can support as a 100% renewable electricity initiative.

To decarbonize the electricity generated by an on-site CHP plant or an off-site one to which you have a direct line, regardless of which Scope the emissions are in, you must do one of the following:

- switch to a renewable energy system,

“The **Green-e®** Standard has a 21-month vintage requirement which RE100 recommends as a reasonable practice.”





## CDP

- CDP manages the global environmental reporting framework “Carbon Disclosure Project”
- More than 8,400 corporations have reported their environmental performance through CDP
- Almost a fifth of global greenhouse gas emissions are reported through CDP
- It is the richest and most complete inventory of corporate and city emissions in the world, providing transparency and accountability to investors and decision makers

## CDP Technical Note: Accounting of Scope 2 emissions

- The guide “CDP Technical Note: Accounting of Scope 2 emissions” aims to explain how to report carbon emissions associated with electricity consumption
- It highlights how certifications complement tracking systems, adding quality and certainty to market participants

### 2. Scope 2 reporting requirements and recommendations

#### 2.1 GHG Protocol recommendations for scope 2 accounting

CDP encourages its reporting companies to follow the accounting and reporting recommendations of the updated GHG Protocol Scope 2 Guidance published in January 2015. These recommendations can be summarized in three main elements, briefly explained below:

- ▼ Dual Scope 2 reporting requirements;
- ▼ Quality criteria for contractual instruments used to document Scope 2 emissions; and
- ▼ Additional disclosure recommendations.

##### Dual Scope 2 reporting requirements

The GHG Protocol Scope 2 Guidance introduces “dual reporting” in markets where contractual instruments are available. These companies report figures in two ways, using both the location-based method and the market-based method. CDP recommends that reporting companies perform dual reporting of Scope 2 climate change reporting guidance. See section 3.1 to determine which approach should be used for Scope 2 emissions reporting.

##### Quality criteria for contractual instruments

The GHG Protocol Scope 2 Guidance also specifies quality criteria used to document Scope 2 emissions. The purpose of introducing these criteria is to help companies navigate whether the information they have is usable for market-based claims.

For contractual instruments, the GHG Protocol Scope 2 quality criteria are:

1. Convey GHG information;
2. Be an exclusive claim;
3. Be retired;
4. Match up to inventory period; and
5. Be sourced from same market as the company.

**Note:** CDP does not require that companies provide verification that meet these quality criteria and this aspect has no impact on CDP scores.

##### Additional disclosure recommendations

The GHG Protocol Scope 2 Guidance recommends that companies disclose additional information in order to distinguish differences in purchases between markets, and enhance transparency. This additional information concerns instrument labels, power plant features and the policy context (for example, about whether a power generating facility has received public subsidies). Companies can provide this additional contextual information in the comment column for relevant questions, for example C6.3 and C8.2e.

When sourcing contractual instruments, CDP recommends that companies follow the Green-e standard when it comes to the vintage of certificates, as this standard is recognized as best practice. Instruments should be used within the 12 months of that calendar year, the six months before the calendar year began, or the three months after the calendar year has ended. In other words, instruments should be at most 18 months old when used.

“When sourcing contractual instruments, CDP recommends that companies follow the **Green-e** standard when it comes to the vintage of certificates, as this standard is recognized as best practice.”



- ▼ Properties should not be disaggregated, e.g. it is not allowed for one party to count for the GHG emission factor and another party to count for the fact that it is renewable in origin;
- ▼ There is an auditable chain of custody, that is, all information can be verified or audited by users in the system and the whole system is audited by external parties, guaranteeing that the link between generation, distribution and final consumption is effectively established and that there is a permanent retirement/cancellation mechanism within the system; and
- ▼ The information in the system can be used to avoid the double counting of attributes.

These systems have taken different forms to adhere to the different regulatory obstacles in each country or region where they are active. The three tracking systems described below, and their subsequent energy attribute certificates, are examples of reliable mechanisms for attribute delivery and individual consumer claims.

In addition to the issuance, tracking of properties and guarantee of the chain of custody, there can be certification schemes that will testify for the appropriate use of an instrument for a given purpose. These certification systems (or labels) can be based on appropriate tracking systems and add important assurances and quality criteria. An example of certification is the [Green-e energy](#)<sup>9</sup> program in the USA.

#### North American REC Tracking Systems

Electricity markets in the United States have a variety of geographically-defined tracking systems to meet the needs of state-level renewable energy and to facilitate electricity supply distribution in deregulated (competitive) energy market participants. All of the systems are funded by governmental or quasi-governmental regulatory compliance. North American generation certificate tracking systems (RECs). There are three systems in the US: NEPOOL GIS, NYGATS and the systems in the US track generation in most states using tracking systems with a footprint.

#### European Energy Certificate System

Guarantee of Origin certificates are a way to track energy from renewable sources to the consumer. The system implementation is embedded in the national mandate.

The necessary technical systems to ensure that the GO is a reliable energy attribute certificate. National adoption of the [European Energy Certificate System](#)<sup>12</sup> or EECS Standard by national GO issuers ensures the standardization of consumer claims and the robustness of the energy attribute certificate. EECS-adherent countries represent a large majority of the European Member States. Within EECS countries, certificates can be electronically transferred to any other EECS country for subsequent cancellation and proof of electricity consumption in that area. Most European countries, and all EECS-adherent countries, mandate that consumer electricity usage claims be verified by GO cancellation. These countries ensure electricity supplier products are

“In addition to the issuance, tracking of properties and guarantee of the chain of custody, there can be certification schemes that will testify for the appropriate use of an instrument for a given purpose. These certification systems (or labels) can be based on appropriate tracking systems and add important assurances and quality criteria. An example of certification is the **Green-e energy**<sup>9</sup> program in the USA.”

<sup>9</sup> <https://www.green-e.org/programs/energy>

<sup>10</sup> See a map of North American tracking systems here: <https://resource-solutions.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/Tracking-System-Map.pdf>

<sup>11</sup> The North American Renewables Registry is a privately developed and administered tracking system that offers certificate tracking to generators in regions where there is not a tracking system established by state agencies or a regional transmission or system operator.

<sup>12</sup> <https://www.aib-net.org/eeecs>





#### 4.2.10 Honduras

##### *International REC Standard (I-REC)*

At the time of publishing, the I-REC Standard has authorized an issuer to conduct I-REC issuance in Honduras. For more information, view the authorized issuer list [here](#).

#### 4.2.11 Mexico

##### *International REC Standard (I-REC)*

Issuance will only be authorized from production devices that do not obtain CELs (Certificados de Energía Limpia). Registrations will take place through [Normex](#). For more information, view the authorized issuer list [here](#).

#### 4.2.12 Panama

##### *International REC Standard (I-REC)*

At the time of publishing, the I-REC Standard has authorized an issuer to conduct I-REC issuance in Panama. For more information, view the authorized issuer list [here](#).

#### 4.2.13 Peru

##### *International REC Standard (I-REC)*

At the time of publishing, the I-REC Standard has authorized an issuer to conduct I-REC issuance in Peru. For more information, view the authorized issuer list [here](#).

#### 4.2.14 United States of America

##### *Grid average emission factors in the USA: the eGRID approach*

eGRID is the US EPA initiative that calculates and reports electricity grid average emission factors for the USA every few years. The most recent emission factors (eGRID2019) were calculated with data from 2019 and are available from [their website](#). The next planned release covering emissions factors for 2020 is in Q1 of 2022. The eGRID is based on NERC (North American Electric Reliability Corporation) power grid regions, but further refines them in subregions of electricity distribution grids based on (distribution subregion (and not on a geographical subregion) and not on a geographical subregion) the plant and the distribution grid. It also defines subregions between the several subregions defined.

eGRID does not consider the impact of published average emission factors of a subregion is considered small and the overall average (IEA, 2014). However, CDP is unfamiliar with this and, namely, if there are others.

##### *Energy Residual Mix Emissions Rates*

Green-e is the trusted global leader in [Residual Mix Emissions Rates \(2018\)](#) calculating the Scope 2 greenhouse gas emissions of electricity (i.e. any portion of electricity purchased).

##### *North America's (US and Canada) Renewable Energy Certificate (REC) Attribution*

Given the physical limitations of tracking renewable energy certificate (REC) attribution, Green-e is the trusted global leader in [Residual Mix Emissions Rates \(2018\)](#) calculating the Scope 2 greenhouse gas emissions of electricity (i.e. any portion of electricity purchased).

**“Green-e is the trusted global leader in clean energy and carbon offset certification. Green-e Energy Residual Mix Emissions Rates (2018) can be used by electricity users in the U.S. and Canada for calculating the Scope 2 greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions associated with unspecified sources of electricity (i.e. any portion of electricity use for which unspecified sources of electricity have not been purchased).”**

CRS publishes annual Residual Mix Emissions Data for the U.S. each Spring (for the most recent complete data year). Data is publicly available at <https://www.green-e.org/residual-mix>



## U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) LEED

- The U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) certifies over 100,000 buildings through LEED – the building design, operation, and construction certification program
- LEED is the world's leading certification for sustainable buildings

## LEED v4.1 Renewable Energy

- Green-e® Energy is referenced in LEED v4.1's "Renewable Energy" credit
- Green-e® Energy certification is required for all purchases from generators 6-15 years old, and for certain REC purchases from generators up to 5 years old.

USGBC members: USGBC Board of Directors election closes on December 6.
Vote now

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v4 - LEED v4

### Renewable energy and carbon offsets

Energy and Atmosphere

Possible 5 Points

Language Guide Addenda

#### Intent

To encourage the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and carbon mitigation projects.

#### Requirements

#### Establishment

Demonstrate one or both of the following for at least a portion of the building's total energy use.

- Total energy use is met directly with renewable energy systems.
- A minimum two-year contract is in place, with the commitment to renew on an ongoing basis, to purchase qualified resources that will be delivered at least annually. Resources must have come online after January 1, 2005.

#### Performance

Meet at least some of the building's total energy use directly with renewable energy systems, or engage in a contract to purchase green power, carbon offsets, or Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs). Green power and RECs must be Green-e Energy Certified or the equivalent. [Europe ACP: Green Power] [India ACP: Green-e Energy Equivalent] RECs can be used only to mitigate the effects of Scope 2, electricity use. Carbon offsets may be used to mitigate Scope 1 or Scope 2 emissions on a metric ton of carbon dioxide-equivalent basis and must be Green-e Climate certified, or the equivalent. For U.S. projects, the offsets must come from greenhouse gas emissions reduction projects within the U.S. Use the following equation to calculate credit, up to the 5-point limit:

“Green power and RECs must be **Green-e Energy** Certified or the equivalent...” “Carbon offsets may be used to mitigate Scope 1 or Scope 2 emissions on a metric ton of carbon dioxide-equivalent basis and must be **Green-e Climate** certified, or the equivalent.”

Help





## LEED v.4 Green Power and Carbon Offsets

- Green-e® referenced in USGBC's "Green power and carbon offsets" credit in LEED v.4
- Sourcing of Green-e® Energy certified renewable energy and Green-e® Climate certified offsets is required

LEED BD+C: New Construction · v4 - LEED v4

### Green power and carbon offsets

Energy and Atmosphere  
Possible 2 Points

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#### Intent

To encourage the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions through the use of grid-source, renewable energy technologies and carbon mitigation projects.

#### Requirements

Engage in a contract for qualified resources that have come online since January 1, 2005, for a minimum of five years, to be delivered at least annually. The contract must specify the provision of at least 50% or 100% of the project's energy from green power, carbon offsets, or renewable energy certificates (RECs). Green power and RECs must be Green-e Energy certified or the equivalent. [\[Europe ACP: Green Power\]](#) [\[South America ACP: Green Power\]](#) RECs can only be used to mitigate the effects of Scope 2, electricity use. Carbon offsets may be used to mitigate Scope 1 or Scope 2 emissions on a metric ton of carbon dioxide–equivalent basis and must be Green-e Climate certified, or the equivalent. For U.S. projects, the offsets must be from greenhouse gas emissions reduction projects within the U.S. Determine the percentage of green power or offsets based on the quantity of energy consumed, not the cost. Points are awarded based on the percentage of green power or offsets used.

**Table 1. Points for energy**

Percentage of total energy	Points
100%	2
50%	1
Less than 50%	0

Use the project's annual energy consumption to determine the percentage of green power or offsets used. If the project is pursuing a U.S. Green Power project, use the U.S. Green Power project's annual energy consumption to estimate energy use.

#### Alternative Compliance Paths (ACPs)

##### Europe ACP: Green-e Energy Equivalent

Projects in Europe may use the following approved standards in place of Green-e Energy:

- EKOenergy

[Help](#)



## World Resources Institute (WRI)

- “WRI is a global nonprofit organization that works with leaders in government, business and civil society to research, design, and carry out practical solutions that simultaneously improve people’s lives and ensure nature can thrive”
- 12 international offices
- Partners with 50 countries

## WRI FAQ on Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs)

- In response to a question about sourcing RECs from a reputable source, WRI references Green-e®

response to energy user preferences for green electricity. Retail, commercial, and industrial energy users can meet voluntary renewable energy goals and support the deployment of green power through the purchase of RECs.

**How do you ensure that RECs come from a reputable source and meet environmental, disclosure, and accounting standards?**

The best way to ensure the credibility of RECs is through a certification standard administered by an independent third party. The most common certification standard is Green-e®, which is administered by the Center for Resource Solutions. Green-e® certifies renewable electricity products to meet the program’s strict environmental and consumer protection standards, which ensure the electricity and its associated RECs are produced by the purported renewable generation facility, delivered in the amount specified, and not claimed by more than one party.

**Which technologies qualify for certification?**

Under Green-e® standards, electricity generated by the following technologies qualifies for certification:

- Solar electric
- Wind
- Biomass
- Low-impact hydropower
- Biomass
- Fuel cells using renewable fuels
- Geothermal

States with RES/RPS requirements apply their own rules regarding which technologies that produce RECs for compliance purposes.

**Are RECs and carbon offsets the same?**

No. RECs and carbon offsets are different mechanisms for addressing different goals. Carbon offsets allow companies to reduce their greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions liability by purchasing the emission reductions made by another entity. Each carbon offset purchased represents the equivalent of one ton of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions avoided. There are multiple standards that evaluate the quality of these offsets, including the Gold Standard, the Voluntary Carbon Standard, the Climate Action Reserve, and regulatory standards defined under cap-and-trade schemes. RECs allow companies to meet renewable energy goals, support renewable power projects, and demonstrate a commitment to clean,



## WRI Guide to Purchasing Green Power

- In WRI's "Guide to Purchasing Green Power", Green-e® is introduced and referenced as a certification program that identifies green power.

### Chapter 2 The Definition of Green Power

**R**enewable energy is derived from natural sources that replenish themselves over short periods of time. These resources include the sun, wind, moving water, organic plant and waste material (biomass), and the earth's heat (geothermal). This renewable energy can be used to generate electricity as well as for other applications. For example, biomass may be used as boiler fuel to generate steam heat; solar energy may be used to heat water for passive space heating; and landfill methane gas may be used for heating or cooking.

Although the environmental impacts of renewable energy are generally minimal, these power sources still do have some effect on the environment. For example, biomass residues are converted to electricity through combustion, which releases some air pollutants. Hydroelectric dams can flood the surrounding land and impede the passage of fish. Compared to conventional power, however, renewable power generation avoids, or at least significantly reduces, the adverse environmental impacts of conventional electricity generation.

The term *green power* is used in a number of different ways. In the broadest sense, green power refers to environmentally preferable energy and energy technologies, both renewable and non-renewable. This definition of green power includes measures such as solar photovoltaic systems to wind turbines to fuel for automobiles.

Although renewable resources do more than generate electricity, green power is most commonly used in a marketing sense to refer specifically to electricity from renewable resources. In the context of the *Guide to Purchasing Green Power*, the term *green power* refers to electricity products that include significant proportions of electricity generated from energy resources that are both renewable and environmentally preferable.

In the *Guide*, green power includes the following three products:

- "Renewable electricity" is generated using renewable energy resources and is delivered through the utility

To help consumers more easily identify green power products, the "**Green-e**" Renewable Energy Certification Program is working to build market-based, consensus definitions for environmentally-preferable renewable electricity and renewable energy certificates. The **Green-e** program, administered by the non-profit Center for Resource Solutions (CRS), certifies and verifies renewable electricity products in competitive power markets, as well as utility green pricing programs and in national markets for RECs. Further details about **Green-e** certification are available from the **Green-e** Web sites listed in Chapter 10.





## Greenhouse Gas Protocol

- The GHG Protocol is the **global standard for corporate CO2 emissions accounting** and mitigation measures
- Determines how to present accurate, complete, and transparent reports regarding corporate emissions
- Convened by the **World Resources Institute (WRI)**, and the **World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD)**, a coalition of 170 international companies based in Geneva
- **9 out of 10 Fortune 500 companies** that have reported to the CDP use the GHG Protocol



## Greenhouse Gas Protocol Standard

- Green-e® referenced in “Top Ten Questions about the Scope 2 Guidance”

For more information on reporting requirements, see Chapter 7 (Reporting Requirements.) For a discussion of recommended disclosure about corporate energy purchases and their policy context, see Chapter 8 (Recommending Reporting on Instruments Features and Policy Context.)

**8. Does the new Guidance require certificates to be “additional”? Do they have to “cause” new projects?**

No. The Scope 2 Guidance and corporate GHG accounting framework is based on attributional accounting, which in this context means allocating electricity emissions to end-users—but not the “impact” of a given action or activity outside of the inventory boundary. “Additionality” is a core concept of offset credits quantified using the **project-level methodology** to ensure that the offset was the decisive reason a project was implemented; but it’s not a core concept for contractual electricity supply data in scope 2. Projects may be implemented for a variety of reasons—regulatory, favorable economics, or active consumer-driven demand—but the underlying GHG emissions information from that power purchased is the same. It’s a matter of which instruments convey those emissions—and policy makers, 3rd party certification (like Green-e) can all influence this through program design and eligibility. The Guidance has for contractual instruments in the market-based 2 Quality Criteria, which aim to ensure accurate allocation and double counting between end-users.

For more reading on the concept of additionality in scope 2, see [Companies Can Drive Electricity Supply Changes with the Market](#).

**9. Right now, voluntary certificate prices are low. Will this achievement of “zero emissions” and ignore the harder of efficiency and conservation?**

Generally speaking, the location-based method total can decrease the activity data (or electricity consumption) since the emission factor is largely outside of corporate control. By design, the method is designed to highlight supply choices, including location. Purchasing and applying certificates to one year’s inventory, continuing purchases in future years in order to report annual ranges for certificates may vary each year.

Bottom line: reducing electricity consumption can reduce both totals, and the Guidance recommends separate reporting of energy consumption (in MWh, kWh, BTU, etc.) for enhanced transparency and focus on efficiency. The CDP questionnaire currently requests this information.

Read more about this in Chapter 2 (Business Goals), Chapter 4 (Scope 2 Accounting Methods) and Chapter 9 (Goal Setting).

**10. Does the Guidance distinguish between “higher impact” purchasing and “lower-impact”?**

It depends on the intended meaning of “impact.” As noted above, the Guidance adheres to an objective, attributional approach to documenting emissions from

It’s a matter of which instruments convey those emissions to which customers—and policy makers, 3rd party certification (like **Green-e**) and supplier programs can all influence this through program design and eligibility.



## The Green Restaurant Association

- The Green Restaurant Association is a non-profit that certifies the transparency of restaurants' green claims
- "GRA has made it accessible for thousands of restaurants to become more environmentally sustainable in Energy, Water, Waste, Food, Chemicals, Disposables, & Building"

## GRA Energy Standard

- Green-e® referenced in GRA's Energy Standard
- Participants can earn GRA's GreenPoints™ by sourcing from Green-e® Energy certified sellers

Energy Star solid door reach-in freezer	1
Energy Star glass door reach-in freezer	1.25
Energy Star undercounter freezer	1
<b>Refrigerators</b>	
Energy Star solid door reach-in refrigerator	1
Energy Star glass door reach-in refrigerator	1
Energy Star undercounter refrigerator	1
<b>Ice Machines</b>	
Energy Star/CEE Tier 2 qualified ice machine	1
<b>Walk-In Coolers</b>	
Walk-in cooler with an electronically commutated motor (ECM)	8
Walk-in cooler with strip curtains	3.5
Walk-in cooler with temperature or humidity control systems that mimic food and beverage temperatures	2.25
Walk-in cooler with fan motor control	3.5
Walk-in cooler with Q12, Q10 or Q8 carbon fiber fan blades	5.75
Digital scroll compressor	1.25
<b>Other</b>	
Refrigeration rack systems	1.25
Demand defrost for refrigeration units	3
Merchandise with LED lights and night curtain	
Energy Star vending machine	
<b>E6. ANNUAL MAINTENANCE</b>	
<b>Items</b>	
Cooking equipment, HVAC, refrigeration (including new gaskets)	
<b>E7. MISCELLANEOUS</b>	
<b>Hand Dryers</b>	
Hand dryers with max kilowatts/use <12.0	7.25
Hand dryers with max kilowatts/use 12.0 - 15.0	
<b>Other</b>	
Equipment timers	3
Utilize a TRSA Clean Green certified linen service	2
Energy Star room air cleaner	1
<b>E8. ON-SITE ELECTRICITY PRODUCTION</b>	
<b>Items</b>	
GreenPoints™ awarded are based on the percentage of the restaurant's electricity that is offset.	
On-site renewable electricity generation (solar, wind)	380
<b>E9. RENEWABLE ENERGY CREDITS</b>	
<b>Items</b>	
GreenPoints™ awarded are based on the percentage of the restaurant's electricity that is offset.	
Green-e Energy Certified or EKOenergy label renewable energy credits (RECs)	5

**"Green-e Energy Certified or EKOenergy label renewable energy credits (RECs)"**

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## International Living Future Institute And Their Living Building Challenge

- International Living Future Institute is a non-profit organization offering green building and infrastructure solutions with a mission to lead and support the transformation toward communities that are socially just, culturally rich, and ecologically restorative.
- The Institute administers the Living Building Challenge, a building performance standard that puts itself forward as a philosophy, an advocacy tool, and a certification program.

## International Living Future Institute Zero Carbon Certification

- Green-e® referenced in International Living Future Institute's "Zero Carbon Certification" Standard
- In purchasing carbon offsets, Green-e® Climate certification (or an equivalent program) is required

 A screenshot of the International Living Future Institute website. The header is purple with navigation links: HOME, PROGRAMS, ABOUT, EVENTS, CONTACT, and a red DONATE button. The main content area is white and titled "PURCHASING OF CARBON OFFSETS". It contains text about carbon offsets, a list of footnotes, and a section titled "HOW THE CERTIFICATION PROCESS WORKS" with sub-sections "1. REGISTRATION" and "2. DOCUMENTATION". A white callout box is overlaid on the right side of the screenshot, containing a quote.
 

**PURCHASING OF CARBON OFFSETS**

One-time carbon offsets must be secured that are equivalent to the total embodied carbon emissions associated with the project scope. Acceptable forms of carbon offsets include Certified Emission Reduction (CER) and Verified Emission Reduction (VER) carbon credits; Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) are not acceptable.

Carbon offsets must be certified by Green-e Climate ([www.green-e.org](http://www.green-e.org)), or an equivalent program. Other certification programs must be submitted to the Dialogue for approval.

Carbon offsets may also be generated anywhere in the world; offsets do not have to be local, although local or community-based solutions that provide additional socioeconomic benefits are encouraged.

**FOOTNOTES:**

1. New projects are defined as a project where the creation of the Standard: April 10th, 2018
2. Defined as a project where design development begins: April 10th, 2018
3. For large portfolio or district-based custom portfolios.
4. As established by Zero Tool ([www.zerotool.org](http://www.zerotool.org)) database is US-based; alternate databases for teams. Project teams may also propose alternate geographies and/or details.
5. New projects may connect to combustion-phase-out plan for transitioning the district

**HOW THE CERTIFICATION PROCESS WORKS**

**1. REGISTRATION**

Registering your project signals your intent to build and certify your project as Zero Carbon. Projects are encouraged to register as early in the development/occupancy process as possible. When you register your building, you'll gain access to a variety of support resources, along with the opportunity to connect with industry leaders from around the world. Visit our [PROJECT REGISTRATION DETAILS](#) page to learn more about the program fees, service benefits, and registration process.

**2. DOCUMENTATION**

"Carbon offsets must be certified by **Green-e Climate** ([www.green-e.org](http://www.green-e.org)), or an equivalent program. Other certification programs must be submitted to the Dialogue for approval."



## International Living Future Institute Example of Building Certification

- Green-e® referenced in International Living Future Institute's building certification of the NRDC's San Francisco office
- NRDC purchased Green-e® Climate certified carbon offsets

**11. EMBODIED CARBON FOOTPRINT IMPERATIVE**

From as early as program design, the team strategized ways to reduce the project's embodied carbon. Because the project is a retrofit, the concept of reusing existing materials and finding salvaged products was embraced. This reduced the number of new products that needed to be created for the project, reducing the carbon footprint. The reuse of materials on-site resulted in fewer transportation related emissions.

While the team aimed to reuse what was already in place, which helped in reducing the embodied carbon, the team also lessened the need to create new products.

When new materials were needed, the team prioritized materials that were recycled or salvaged. More than 50% of the construction materials were recycled or salvaged, resulting in materials that had a lower carbon footprint.

EMBODIED CARBON FOOTPRINT – 49.6 TCO<sub>2</sub>e  
 AMOUNT OFFSET – 58 tonnes of **Green-e** Climate Certified Carbon Offsets  
 PROJECT – **Green-e** Climate Landfill Gas Carbon Offset  
 PROVIDER – Renewable Choice Energy  
 WEBSITE – <http://www.renewablechoice.com/>  
 CARBON CALCULATOR – Environment Agency Carbon Calculator for Construction Activities

**12. RESPONSIBLE INDUSTRY**

Materials met high standards of sustainability and support not only the goals of this project but also the millshops the wood and steel resource extraction when they developed a third party extraction standards organizations, encouraging them to develop standards that the project were based in the US, which guaranteed a higher level of labor protection.

**WOOD SOURCES** Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) Certified

**NOTABLE MANUFACTURERS**

Manufacturer	Product
Concalico Ceiling Tiles	Tectum, OH
Pyro-Guard	Hogover, OH

**13. LIVING ECONOMY SOURCING IMPERATIVE**





## The Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education's Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System (AASHE STARS)

- A project of the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE), STARS is intended to engage and recognize the full spectrum of colleges and universities—from community colleges to research universities, and from institutions just starting their sustainability programs to long-time campus sustainability leaders
- Institutions that are pursuing a STARS Bronze, Silver, Gold or Platinum rating earn points for purchased RECs that are Green-e® Energy certified

### AASHE STARS OP 2: Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions

- Green-e® Energy and Green-e® Climate are referenced in points awarded for measuring and reducing Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions (OP 2) in the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System (STARS) v2.2

electricity produced. The electricity that was split from the REC is no longer considered "renewable" and cannot be counted as renewable or zero-emissions by whoever buys it.

RECs contain specific information about the renewable energy generated, including where, when, at what facility, and with what type of generation. Purchasers of RECs are buying the renewable attributes of those specific units of renewable energy, which helps offset conventional electricity generation in the region where the renewable generator is located.

**Scope 1 and Scope 2 GHG Emissions**  
 Scope 1 GHG emissions are direct GHG emissions occurring from sources that are owned or controlled by the institution. Scope 1 emission sources include:

- Combustion of fuels to produce electricity, steam, heat, or power using equipment in a fixed location such as boilers, burners, heaters, furnaces,
- Combustion fuels by institution-owned cars, tractors

Scope 2 GHG emissions are indirect GHG emissions that are within the organizational boundaries of the institution, but that are generated by another entity. Scope 2 emission sources include purchased electricity, cooling, and purchased steam.

**Third-party verified, purchased carbon offsets**  
 Third-party verified carbon offsets are purchased from outside the institution and the Gold Standard are two organizations that provide purchased offsets. These standards provide assurance that offsets are beyond business-as-usual GHG emission reductions. Green-e® certification for carbon offsets that requires use of high-quality offsets in the retail market.

**Verified emission reduction**  
 Verified emission reductions (VERs) are carbon offsets created outside of the Kyoto Protocol and exchanged in the voluntary carbon market.

**Weighted campus user**  
 Weighted campus user is a measurement of an institution's how intensively certain community members use the campus. Weighted campus user is calculated using campus energy consumption and environmental impact figures in order to allocate impacts to population groups. For example, an institution where a high percentage of the campus population is housed in otherwise comparable non-residential institution since students' residential impacts and consumption would be included in the institution's totals.

STARS calculates the figure according to the following formula. Please note that users will not have to calculate this figure themselves; the result will be calculated automatically when the data are entered into the online Reporting Tool.

$$\text{Weighted campus users} = (A + B + C) + 0.75 [(D - A) + (E - B) - F]$$

A = Number of students resident on-site

STARS® 2.2 Technical Manual OP-02 p.9

**“Green-e Climate** is a retail standard and certification for carbon offsets that requires use of high-quality offset project standards like VCS and Gold Standard and also provide assurances related to the accurate and exclusive sale and delivery of carbon offsets in the retail market.”



## AASHE STARS OP 6: Clean and Renewable Energy

- Green-e® Energy and Green-e® Climate are referenced in points awarded for generating, using, and/or purchasing Clean and Renewable Energy (OP 6) in the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System (STARS) v2.2

### OP 6: Clean and Renewable Energy

4 points available

#### Rationale

This credit recognizes institutions that support the development and use of energy from clean and renewable sources.

#### Applicability

This credit applies to institutions.

#### Criteria

Institution supports the development and use of *clean and renewable energy sources*, using any one or combination of the following options:

Clean and renewable electric

1. Purchasing or otherwise generating electricity from clean and renewable sources. This includes utility-provided renewable energy (PPAs) for electricity generated with the right to claim its environmental attributes.
2. Generating electricity from clean and renewable sources on-site to its renewable energy. This includes generating electricity from *Certificates (RECs)* or the institution can claim such energy here maintained by another party with environmental attributes.

“Purchasing RECs, Guarantees of Origin (GOs), International RECs (I-RECs), or equivalent unbundled renewable energy products certified by a third party (e.g., **Green-e** or EKOenergy).”

Clean and renewable thermal energy

3. Using clean and renewable stationary fuels on-site to generate thermal energy, e.g., using certain types of biomass for heating (see Standards and Terms).
4. Purchasing or otherwise importing steam, hot water, and/or chilled water from certified/verified clean and renewable sources (e.g., a municipal geothermal facility).

Unbundled renewable energy products

5. Purchasing RECs, *Guarantees of Origin (GOs)*, *International RECs (I-RECs)*, or equivalent unbundled renewable energy products certified by a third party (e.g., *Green-e* or *EKOenergy*).

Energy on the grid is indistinguishable by source. Therefore, neither the electric grid mix for the region in which the institution is located, nor the grid mix reported by the electric utility that serves the institution (i.e., the utility's standard or default product) count for this credit in the absence of RECs, GOs, I-RECs, or

## Clean and renewable energy sources

- Solar photovoltaics
- Geothermal
- Low-impact
- Ocean-based technologies
- Wind

And solid, liquid, &

- Energy cr
- not displa
- Agricultur
- Animal wa
- Landfill ga
- Untreated
- Other org

To qualify, a biofuel must fully meet Green-e criteria, for example by addressing potential social and environmental impacts. Bio diesel (B100), biomethane, biogas, bioethanol, green diesel, and sugarcane may qualify if produced using technologies that meet the criteria listed above. See the Center for Resource Solutions [Framework for Renewable Energy Certification](#) for more information.”

**EKOenergy**

EKOenergy is an international ecolabel for electricity. In addition to being 100 percent renewable, the energy sold with the EKOenergy label fulfills additional environmental criteria and raises funds for new renewable energy.

## Green-e

Green-e, a program for renewable energy. Climate is a voluntary environmental-integrity market. Green-e

**“Green-e**, a program of the Center for Resource Solutions, is an independent certification and verification program for renewable energy and greenhouse gas emission reductions in the retail market. **Green-e Climate** is a voluntary certification program launched in 2008 that sets consumer-protection and environmental-integrity standards for greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reductions sold in the voluntary market. **Green-e Energy** is an independent certification and verification program for renewable energy.”

### Guarantees of o

A Guarantee of C  
was produced from

Imported electric

Imported electricity

STARS® 2.2 Techni



## B Corporation

- Certified B Corporations meet comprehensive and transparent social and environmental standards and legally expand their corporate responsibilities to include consideration of interests of all stakeholders, including employees, suppliers, community and the environment
- By becoming a B Corporation, companies leverage their leadership to influence the market beyond the success of their individual company, helping to build a new sector of the economy which harnesses the power of private enterprise for public benefit
- Over the long term, the growing B Corporation community builds constituency for the creation of mission-aligned capital markets and tax, investment, and purchasing incentives for B Corporations

## B Impact Assessment

- Green-e® explained and referenced in the Explanation tab of the question “What percentage of energy use is produced from low-impact renewable sources?”
- In order to access this reference, an account must be created

## What percentage of energy use is produced from low-impact renewable sources?

Explanations

Examples

Implementations

Definitions: Low Impact Renewable Energy: Energy sources that are from natural processes that are replenished constantly that do not have a material environmental impact. For the purposes of the B Impact Assessment, Green E definitions qualify: [http://www.green-e.org/getcert\\_restan.shtml](http://www.green-e.org/getcert_restan.shtml) To qualify, please note that hydropower has to meet the following criteria: a) the hydropower facility is certified by the Low Impact Hydropower Institute (LIHI); b) for Canadian hydropower facilities only, the facility is EcoLogo certified; or c) the hydropower facility consists of a turbine in a pipeline or a turbine in an irrigation canal. For facilities falling under a) or b) above, only output generated during the period of LIHI certification or EcoLogo certification is eligible for Green-e Energy certified sale. Please note that Renewables from new impoundments of water are not eligible.

This question is directly related to SDG targets 7.2, 7.3, 9.4, 12.2, and 13.1, and may be indirectly related to SDG target 8.4. For more information on these targets, please visit the link below:  
<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/topics/sustainabledevelopmentgoals>

This may help companies understand how much of their energy, and biomass purchased is covered by Green-e Certified Renewable Energy and heat generated from renewable resources. Source: Global Reporting Initiative (GRI)

For the purposes of the B Impact Assessment,  
**Green-e** definitions qualify...





## Energy Efficient Codes Coalition (EECC)

- Dynamic efficiency gains in the nation's model energy code can mean billions of dollars in utility bill savings for home and commercial building owners/occupants, more stable electricity grids, reduced reliance on energy imports and fewer greenhouse gas emissions. After uniting leaders in the policy, business, construction, utility, low-income advocacy and environmental arenas to win a 30% efficiency boost in America's model energy code, the 2012 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC), the Energy Efficient Codes Coalition is now campaigning to put future IECCs on a path of continued progress

## Energy Efficient Codes Coalition 2024 International Energy Conservation Code

- Green-e® referenced in EECC's 2024 IECC section C405.15.4 Renewable energy certificate purchase

TABLE C405.15.2  
Annual Off-site Renewable Energy Requirement

Climate Zone	Annual Off-site Renewable Electrical Energy (kWh/W)
1A, 2B, 3B, 3C, 4B, and 5B	1.75 kWh/W
0A, 0B, 1B, 2A, 3A, and 6B	1.55 kWh/W
4A, 4C, 5A, 5C, 6A, and 7	1.35 kWh/W

### C405.15.2.1 Off-site procurement

**C405.15.2.1 Off-site procurement** The building owner as defined in the *International Building Code* shall procure and be credited for the purchase of off-site renewable electrical energy, not less than required by Table C405.15.2, by one or more of the following:

1. A physical renewable energy power purchase agreement.
2. A financial renewable energy power purchase agreement.
3. A community renewable energy system.
4. Off-site renewable energy system.

### C405.15.2.2 Off-site contract

**C405.15.2.2 Off-site contract** The renewable energy contract for the building site under an energy contract shall be structured to survive the building's ownership. The total required off-site renewable energy shall be met by installments over the duration of the contract.

### C405.15.3 Renewable energy certificate

**C405.15.3 Renewable energy certificate** The authorized agent shall demonstrate that the building owner has purchased and off-site renewable energy production (RECs) and EACs that meet one or more of the following criteria for RECs and EACs:

1. Are retained and retired by or on behalf of the building owner within less than 15 years or the duration of the contract.
2. Are created within a 12-month period.
3. Are from a generating asset constructed after the date of the building's certificate of occupancy.

### C405.15.4 Renewable energy certificate

**C405.15.4 Renewable energy certificate purchase.** A building that qualifies for one or more of the exceptions to Section C405.15.1 and where it can be demonstrated to the code official that the requirements of Section C405.15.2 cannot be met, the building owner shall contract for renewable electricity products complying with the **Green-e** Energy National Standard for Renewable Electricity products equivalent to five times the amount of total off-site renewable

“A building that qualifies for one or more of the exceptions to Section C405.15.1 and where it can be demonstrated to the code official that the requirements of Section C405.15.2 cannot be met, the building owner shall contract for renewable electricity products complying with the **Green-e** Energy National Standard for Renewable Electricity products equivalent to five times the amount of total off-site renewable.”

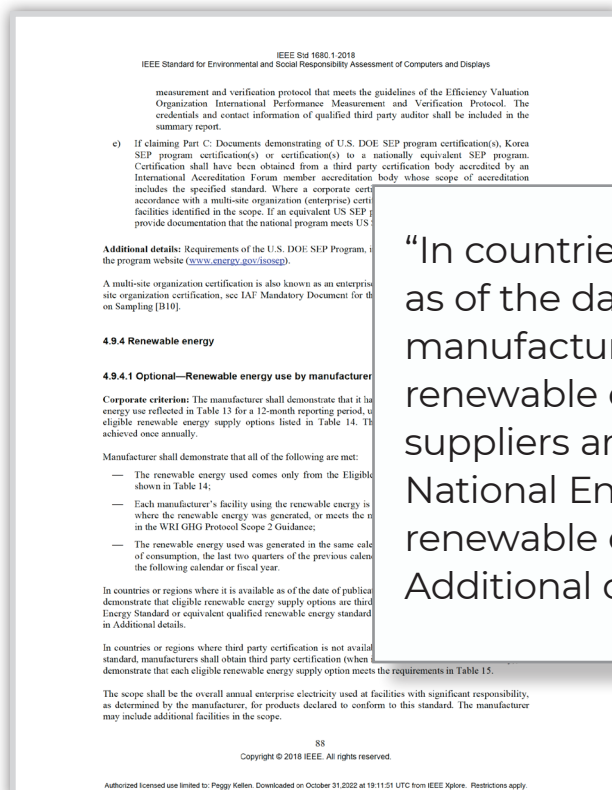


## Global Electronics Council

- The Global Electronics Council (GEC) is a nonprofit on a mission to increase the sustainability of how IT products are designed, manufactured and purchased
- Its EPEAT program, the leading global ecolabel for IT products, establishes leadership criteria that address a broad range of sustainability impacts, including climate change, and provides independent verification of manufacturers' claims

## IEEE Standard for Environmental and Social Responsibility Assessment of Computers and Displays

- The EPEAT online Registry helps private and public large-scale purchasers around the world find more sustainable IT products
- EPEAT's Computers and Displays Category criteria requires manufacturers to demonstrate their renewable energy supply is third party certified to the Green-e® Renewable Energy Standard for Canada and the United States, or equivalent where not available





## International Code Council (ICC)

- International Code Council (ICC) is a member-focused association dedicated to developing model codes and standards used in the design, build and compliance process to construct safe, sustainable, affordable and resilient structures
- Many U.S. communities and global markets choose the ICC-published International Codes® (I-Codes®) as their adopted codes, or work with ICC on a custom version of the codes

## 2021 International Green Construction Code

- The 2021 International Green Construction Code references the Green-e® Energy Standard

**2021 International Green Construction Code (IgCC)** (BASIC) Second Version: Apr 2022

**CHAPTER 7 ENERGY EFFICIENCY**

**701.4.1.1 (7.4.1.1) Renewable energy systems.**  
The adjusted renewable energy provided to the project shall be equal to or greater than the gross conditioned and semiheated floor area of the building. For allocated renewable energy, the total of gross conditioned and semiheated floor area shall be equal to or greater than the gross conditioned and semiheated floor area of the building.

**Building projects that demonstrate to the AHJ that they cannot comply with Section 7.4.1.1 shall contract for renewable electricity products complying with the **Green-e Energy** National Standard for Renewable Electricity products of not less than 1.2 MWh/ft<sup>2</sup> (12.6 MWh/m<sup>2</sup>) of gross floor area of conditioned spaces and semiheated spaces, or an amount equal to 100% of the modeled annual energy use multiplied by 20 years, whichever is less.**

**TABLE 701.4.1.1 (TABLE 7.4.1.1) RENEWABLE ENERGY REQUIREMENT**

BUILDING TYPE	STANDARD RENEWABLES APPROACH		ALTERNATE RENEWABLES APPROACH	
	kBtu/ft <sup>2</sup> · y	kWh/m <sup>2</sup> · y	kBtu/ft <sup>2</sup> · y	kWh/m <sup>2</sup> · y
Office	14	44	13	40
Retail	24	74	21	67
School	19	61	17	55
Health care	40	126	36	113
Restaurant	40	126	36	113



## Sustainability Accounting Standards Board (SASB)

- "SASB Standards guide the disclosure of financially material sustainability information by companies to their investors. Available for 77 industries, the Standards identify the subset of environmental, social, and governance issues most relevant to financial performance in each industry"

## Telecommunication Services Sustainability Accounting Standard

- Green-e® is referenced under Accounting Metrics in the Environmental Footprint of Operations section of the Telecommunication Services standard.

3.1 Renewable energy is defined as energy from sources that are replenished at a rate greater than or equal to their rate of depletion, such as geothermal, wind, solar, hydro, and biomass.

3.2 The percentage shall be calculated as renewable energy consumption divided by total energy consumption.

3.3 The scope of renewable energy includes renewable energy directly produced, and renewable energy that is purchased under a purchase agreement (PPA) that explicitly includes (GOs), a Green-e Energy Certified utility or source, include RECs or GOs, or for which Green-e

3.3.1 For any renewable electricity generated, retired or cancelled on behalf of the

3.3.2 For renewable PPAs and green power, RECs and GOs be retained or replaced by the entity to claim them as renewable energy

3.3.3 The renewable portion of the electricity is excluded from the scope of renewable energy

3.4 For the purposes of this disclosure, the scope of the following:

3.4.1 Energy from hydro sources is limited to those that are eligible for a state Renewable Energy Standard

3.4.2 Energy from biomass sources is limited to those that are certified to the Green-e Framework for Renewable Energy Certification, or American Tree Farm System, or to the Green-e Framework for Renewable Energy standards, and/or materials that are

4 The entity shall apply conversion factors consistent with the HHVs for fuel usage (including biofuels) and conversion factors for electricity from solar or wind energy).

5 The entity may disclose the trailing twelve-month (TTM) weighted average power usage effectiveness (PUE) for its data centers.

5.1 PUE is defined as the ratio of the total amount of power used by a computer data center facility to the amount of power delivered to computing equipment.

“Energy from biomass sources is limited to materials certified to a third-party standard (e.g., Forest Stewardship Council, Sustainable Forest Initiative, Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification, or American Tree Farm System), materials considered eligible sources of supply according to the **Green-e Framework for Renewable Energy Certification**, Version 1.0 (2017) or **Green-e** regional standards, and/or materials that are eligible for an applicable state renewable portfolio standard.”





## BSR

- "BSR™ is a sustainable business network and consultancy focused on creating a world in which all people can thrive on a healthy planet. With offices in Asia, Europe, and North America, BSR™ provides its 300+ member companies with insight, advice, and collaborative initiatives to help them see a changing world more clearly, create long-term value, and scale impact"

## Documentation Requirements for Supplier-Procured Renewable Energy

- Green-e® recommended by BSR for certain renewable energy procurement types

BSR | Future of Internet Power: Documentation Requirements for Supplier-Procured Renewable Energy

Renewable Energy Procurement Type	Unbundled RECs	Off-Site Generation			On-Site Generation	
		PPA / Sleeved PPA	Virtual PPA	Green Power Tariff	RECs Generated	No RECs Generated
Procurement Information	Documentation Type					
<b>REC/GO Ownership by Colo</b>	Document from REC provider	PPA contract terms	vPPA contract terms	Electricity supplier contract terms; invoice	Tracking system; Green-e certification	N/A
<b>Allocation of RE/ REC/ GO to client if &lt;100% (and if different than % coverage stated above)</b> <i>Requires that client has specifically contracted with colo to procure renewable energy. Allocation ≠ transfer.</i>	Attestation from colo vendor about allocation of RECs (ideally stipulated in a contract clause)	Attestation from colo vendor about allocation of RECs (ideally stipulated in a contract clause); tracking system retirement on behalf of client	Attestation from colo vendor about allocation of RECs (ideally stipulated in a contract clause); tracking system retirement on behalf of client	Attestation from colo vendor about allocation of RECs (ideally stipulated in a contract clause)	Attestation from colo vendor about allocation of RECs (ideally stipulated in a contract clause)	Likely not allowed; RE should be reflected in facility's effective CEF based on behind-the-meter generation and consumption versus grid consumption
<b>Generation (REC / GO) Vintage</b>	Document from REC provider	Tracking system ledger	Tracking system ledger	Not required	Tracking system ledger; Green-e certification	
<b>REC / GO Serial Number(s)</b>	Document from REC supplier/broker (not required if documentation states % coverage)	Tracking system	Tracking system	Not required	Tracking system; Green-e certification	N/A
<b>Evidence of Retirement / Cancellation</b>	Document from REC supplier/broker	Tracking system; Green-e certification	Tracking system; Green-e certification	Not required	Tracking system; Green-e certification	N/A

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BSR®

BSR | Future of Internet Power: Documentation Requirements for Supplier-Procured Renewable Energy

among the facility's data center operations and colo clients' IT operations, e.g., everyone gets 40%, this documentation could be in the form of an attestation such as discussed in item 8 above. Contractual agreements with colo clients to procure renewable energy on their behalf may mean that those colo clients get a higher percentage of the renewable energy than other colo clients. For example, 100% of the renewable energy procured is allocated to colo clients with a contractual obligation, and 0% to those colo clients without a contractual obligation.

#### CONTRACTUAL CLAUSES FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY PROCUREMENT

These items address situations where the electricity supplier, or a

» It is recommended that renewable energy will be procured to the extent possible in accordance with the documentation that includes, but not limited to, proof of REC ownership and retirement.

» An unbundled REC contract that would likely be sufficient if it includes the following: 1) receiving facility, 2) specific MWh amount (# of RECs), 3) vintage, 4) coverage period, 5) renewable energy source/type 6) region (e.g., PJM, national), 7) **Green-e** certification or similar (proof of quality), 8) percent coverage and 9) proof of retirement.

“An unbundled REC contract generally comes with documentation from the REC supplier or broker that would likely be sufficient if it includes the following: 1) receiving facility, 2) specific MWh amount (# of RECs), 3) vintage, 4) coverage period, 5) renewable energy source/type 6) region (e.g., PJM, national), 7) **Green-e** certification or similar (proof of quality), 8) percent coverage and 9) proof of retirement.”

#### PROOF OF RETIREMENT

Until RECs are retired, to prevent resale, a zero CEF cannot be applied. In the absence of a contractual agreement described in items 10 and 11 above, the following documentation about proof of retirement would be required.

» The colo vendor should provide proof of retirement of RECs (or equivalent). In addition, for a facility with less than 100% coverage, there may be a need for the colo vendor to show that RECs have been retired on behalf of specific colo clients, even if the renewable energy is evenly shared among the data center and all the colo clients.

Tracking systems provide a mechanism to show chain of custody and disposition of RECs. Demonstration of the final ownership and disposition (i.e., retired) of the RECs may be necessary.

8



## GHG Emission Accounting, Renewable Energy Purchases, and Zero-Carbon Reporting: Issues and Considerations for the Colocation Data Center Industry

BSR | GHG Emission Accounting, Renewable Energy Purchases, and Zero-Carbon Reporting

5



### Scenario 4:

- Vendor accounts all emissions related to both the Data Center Equipment and the client's IT Equipment as scope 2
- Client also accounts all emissions related to their IT Equipment as scope 2



### Scenario 5:

- Client accounts all emissions related to both their IT Equipment and the Data Center Equipment as scope 2
- Vendor also accounts all emissions related to the Data Center Equipment as scope 2



### Scenario 6:

- Vendor accounts all emissions related to both the Data Center Equipment and the client's IT Equipment as scope 2
- Client also accounts all emissions related to both their IT Equipment and the Data Center Equipment as scope 2

Aside from these six accounting scenarios, there is also the possibility of under-counting scope 2 or double-counting of scope 3. This would occur if neither party counts the emissions as its scope 2, and/or both count the emissions as their scope 2. Under GHGP, either of these scenarios should be also avoided.

Current scope accounting interpretations of the GHGP throughout the colocation industry under the current GHGP, under the 3 emissions.

### B. THE IMPLICATIONS

Not only is double-counting of renewable energy purchases by multiple companies accounting for the same emissions as scope 2 is addressed by the North America CRS Green-e Program.<sup>7</sup> CRS states in its Summary of WRI Scope 2 Guidance that "Green-e Energy specifically restricts double claims on renewable energy certificates (RECs)."

Additionally, double-counting of renewable energy purchases by multiple companies accounting for the same emissions as scope 2 is addressed by the North America CRS Green-e Program.<sup>7</sup> CRS states in its Summary of WRI Scope 2 Guidance that "Green-e Energy specifically restricts double claims on

<sup>6</sup> GHGP Corporate Standard Accounting, p33.

<sup>8</sup> Scope 2 Guidance, p40.

<sup>7</sup> CRS Green-E Program, <https://resource-solutions.org/programs/green-e/>.

## Green-e® U.S./Canada Citations







## U.S. Department of Energy Guide to Purchasing Green Power

- In U.S. Department of Energy's "Guide to Purchasing Green Power", Green-e® is introduced and referenced as a certification program that identifies green power.

"The **Green-e** program, administered by the nonprofit Center for Resource Solutions, uses its stakeholder-driven eligibility criteria to certify and verify renewable energy products."

# Guide to Purchasing Green Power

## Renewable Electricity, Renewable Energy Certificates and On-Site Renewable Generation

"**Green-e** has coordinated the development of market-based, consensus definitions for environmentally preferable renewable electricity and RECs."

U.S. Department of Energy  
Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy  
Federal Energy Management Program

EPA  
**GREEN POWER**  
PARTNERSHIP

World Resources Institute  
Sustainable Enterprise Program

Center for Resource Solutions  
Green-e Renewable Energy  
Certification Program



**CAGBC** | Canada Green Building Council

## Canada Green Building Council (CAGBC)

- "The Canada Green Building Council supports the building sector's transition to buildings that are better for people and the planet"
- CAGBC comprises of 1,100 corporate members and over 14,000 individual members
- "CAGBC provides the products and services the building sector needs to construct and manage buildings that are easier on resources, healthier for people, and more cost-effective"

## Canada Green Building Council's Zero Building Design Standard

- Green-e® referenced in CAGBC's June 2022 Issue of Zero Carbon Building Design Standard

29 CAGBC | Zero Carbon Building – Design Standard Version 3 | June 2022

Onsite power generation s  
generation equipment to t

**OFFSITE**

Offsite renewable energy  
metering is an arrange  
net-metered against (dedu  
systems installed on adjac

**GREEN POWER PRO**

Green power products in  
kilowatt-hour of procure  
of the zero-carbon balanc

To qualify under the ZCB-Design Standard green power products can be generated anywhere in Canada, however project teams are encouraged to consider local options first. Green power products must be generated from:

- Solar energy;
- Wind;
- Water (including low-)
- Qualifying biogas (see
- Qualifying biomass (s
- Geothermal energy.

Green power products p  
ZCB-Design program's re  
offset their operational en  
requirements of the ZCB-t

Not all forms of green po  
procurement of green po  
have been installed. The f  
available and can explore the highest quality options first.

1. Power Purchase Agree  
environmental attrib  
for at least fifteen yea  
used at the company  
Canada. All PPAs mu  
II - Requirements for  
from green power fa
2. Utility Green Power: U  
associated environm  
green power purchas

"All PPAs must be certified by either ECOLOGO or **Green-e®** Energy, or meet the requirements outlined in Appendix II - Requirements for Bundled Green Power Products that are not ECOLOGO or **Green-e®** Energy Certified. All power must be from green power facilities in Canada."

"All utility green power must be certified by either ECOLOGO or **Green-e®** Energy, or meet the requirements outlined in Appendix II - Requirements for Bundled Green Power Products that are not ECOLOGO or **Green-e®** Energy Certified."

"All RECs must be certified by ECOLOGO or **Green-e®** Energy and generated from green power facilities located in Canada."



## United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA)

- The US EPA's main mission is to "protect human health and the environment"
- They have developed and enforced national standards and help those who cannot follow or comply with those regulations

## Green Power Purchases at EPA

- Green-e® certification is referenced on the EPA's webpage about Green Power Purchases
- The EPA also recommends certification and verification in their "RECs: Making Green Power Possible" video.

An official website of the United States government [Here's how you know](#)

United States Environmental Protection Agency

[Environmental Topics](#) [Laws & Regulations](#) [Report a Violation](#) [About EPA](#)

**Greening EPA** [CONTACT US](#)

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[EPA Sustainability Progress](#)  
[Federal Requirements](#)  
[Energy and Emissions](#)  
     [Energy Efficiency](#)  
     [Greenhouse Gases](#)  
     [Renewable Energy](#)  
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     [Existing Buildings](#)  
     [Facility Resiliency](#)  
[Water Management](#)  
     [Landscaping](#)  
     [Stormwater Management](#)  
     [Water Conservation](#)  
[Green Practices](#)

### Green Power Purchases at EPA

EPA purchases much of its green power in the form of renewable energy certificates (RECs). Each REC represents a specific amount of electricity produced and delivered to the power grid by a renewable resource such as wind or solar power. RECs allow a purchaser to claim that its electricity comes from renewable sources with low or zero greenhouse gas emissions. Learn more about RECs on EPA's Green Power Partnership page or view the video at right.

[Watch the video: RECs: Making Green Power Possible. on YouTube](#)

**E** EPA obtained 7.377 million kilowatt-hours (kWh) of **Green-e** certified RECs to supplement onsite renewable generation in FY 2021.

**D** Green power can also be purchased from an on-site provider (such as a utility company) that is connected to the same regional power pool as the purchaser. The Pacific Ecological Systems Division Laboratory in Corvallis, Oregon, for example, purchases delivered wind power through Pacific Power's Blue Sky program.



## EPA's Annual Energy Management Report: Fiscal Year 2020

- Green-e® referenced in the EPA's Energy Management Report in 2020
- The EPA procured 7 million kWh of Green-e® certified renewable electricity

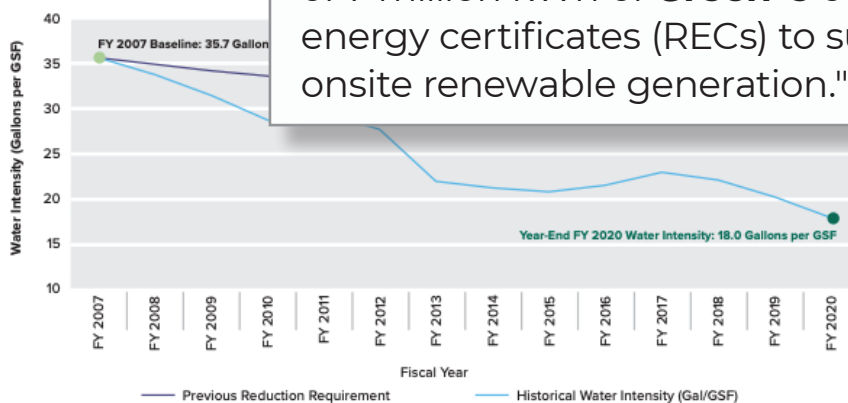
EPA's FY 2020 energy intensity was 41.0 percent lower than the agency's FY 2003 energy intensity of 399,616 Btu per GSF. In absolute terms, EPA's FY 2020 energy consumption was 836.3 billion Btu. In FY 2020, energy intensity decreased because of teleworking during the COVID-19 pandemic and consolidation efforts at EPA facilities. Ventilation requirements in EPA laboratories could also change over time based on evolving air quality needs, which could impact the agency's future energy intensity.

### Renewable Energy

EPA generates onsite renewable energy at facilities where practical and cost-effective. In FY 2020, onsite installations at nine EPA facilities generating wind, solar and geothermal power supplied EPA with 4.7 billion Btu, equivalent to 0.5 percent of the agency's energy use. EPA also purchased 360,000 kilowatt-hours (kWh) of renewable energy through one facility-level green power contract in FY 2020.

EPA initiated a procurement through the General Services Administration (GSA) for a total of 7 million kWh of Green-e certified renewable energy certificates (RECs) to supplement its onsite renewable generation. The RECs were generated between April 1, 2019 and December 31, 2020. Onsite renewable energy use and green power purchases covered 8.7 percent of the agency's FY 2020 total electricity use, met its EPAAct renewable energy requirement and 7.5 percent of agencywide electricity use by other sources.

Figure 2. EPA's Annual Water



### Water Conservation

In FY 2020, EPA's reported water intensity was 18.0 gallons per GSF, which is 11.3 percent lower than the agency's FY 2019 water intensity of 20.3 gallons per GSF and 49.7 percent lower than the agency's FY 2007 water intensity of 35.7 gallons per GSF (see Figure 2). In absolute terms, EPA's FY 2020 water consumption was 63.7 million gallons, compared to its FY 2007 water consumption of 136.5 million gallons. In FY 2020, EPA water consumption decreased due to teleworking during the COVID-19 pandemic and the consolidation of EPA's Golden, Colorado, facility into a nearby facility in the state in FY 2019, which historically had high water intensity.

#### In FY 2020, EPA's water intensity performance was:

- 11.3 percent lower than FY 2019
- 49.7 percent lower than the FY 2007 baseline

### Fleet Efficiency

In FY 2020, fuel consumption by EPA's non-fleet and other equipment decreased 98.9 percent compared to FY 2019. This decrease is due to reduced vehicle use required in FY 2020 as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

"EPA initiated a procurement through the General Services Administration (GSA) for a total of 7 million kWh of **Green-e** certified renewable energy certificates (RECs) to supplement its onsite renewable generation."



## EPA's Guide to Purchasing Green Power

- Green-e® referenced throughout the EPA's Guide to Purchasing Green Power

### Introduction to the Voluntary Market

The voluntary market provides consumer choices, particularly the ability to choose green power. States can set their own renewable energy goals and may mandate that utilities supply a specified percentage of their electricity to customers from renewable energy resources. Utility customers in these markets purchase and receive renewable energy as part of their standard electricity service without any proactive measures on their part. This buying and selling of renewable electricity that simply meets a mandate and occurs because of mandated utility purchases is known as the "compliance market." In contrast, consumers who choose to purchase renewable electricity above and beyond any minimum amounts that their state requires, as well as above and beyond what is available through their standard electricity service in states that do not have renewable energy mandates, participate in what is known as the "voluntary market."

When consumers choose to purchase green power above and beyond what is required or otherwise available, they do so because they want to make a difference that goes beyond what would have otherwise occurred through a mandate or as part of business as usual. These voluntary actions help increase the aggregate demand for renewable electricity, and over time influence the way electricity is generated.

In the United States, RECs are the instrument for delivering renewable energy in compliance with state mandates. Voluntary purchasers are using green power to meet state mandates. Voluntary and energy. Renewable energy generation should not also be claimed as a voluntary renewable electricity.

### Certification and Verification

The voluntary green power market is growing. As a result, one major concern is ensuring that the green power is not claimed by more than one customer. This concern is addressed by the quality and character of the green power that consumers to purchase green power.

Third-party certification programs serve to provide credibility and confirmation of the product's environmental value. Certification allows customers to confidently state that the purchased green power product has met the specific environmental and consumer protection standards adopted by the certifying organization. A key aspect of certification is verification. Verification helps ensure that there is a traceable pathway back to a known generator and that no other consumers can lay claim to the attributes from the same megawatt-hour of generation. The verification process includes an audit to ensure that claims regarding environmental and non-energy benefits associated with the purchase are accurate.

### Helping Consumers Identify Green Power

Case Study: The Green-e program, administered by the nonprofit Center for Resource Solutions, uses its stakeholder-driven eligibility criteria to certify and verify renewable energy products. Green-e has coordinated the development of market-based, consensus definitions for environmentally preferable renewable electricity and RECs. Further details about third-party certification are available in Chapter 10.

"The **Green-e** program, administered by the nonprofit Center for Resource Solutions, uses its stakeholder-driven eligibility criteria to certify and verify renewable energy products. **Green-e** has coordinated the development of market-based, consensus definitions for environmentally preferable renewable electricity and RECs."





## National Resources Defense Council (NRDC)

- “NRDC works to safeguard the earth—its people, its plants and animals, and the natural systems on which all life depends”
- Currently has 6 programs
- More than 3 million members and 700 scientists, lawyers, and policy advocates with NRDC
- “Fighting polluters since 1970”

## NRDC Article References

- Green-e® Climate referenced in article, “Should You Buy Carbon Offsets” written by Brian Palmer

Both individuals and corporations buy carbon offsets. Big companies have the resources to research the legitimacy of an offset themselves. Google, for example, employs people to [investigate the quality](#) of the company’s carbon offset outlays. You probably don’t have the time or money to fly to Ecuador and poke around a forested plot, to inspect a methane capture system, or to visit an urban forestry project. Fortunately, a quality assurance system has developed to verify the quality of your offsets. At the top level are standard-setting groups, such as the [Climate Action Reserve](#), which establish rules and protocols for offset projects. Below them are retail certification programs, like [Green-e Climate](#), which help individuals identify reliable carbon offset sellers.

The best carbon offset programs are transparent. If you have concerns, you should contact the seller to find out exactly what you’re buying. Many will allow you to direct your money to specific projects or away from others. You may, for example, prefer not to invest in a factory far from your home, or you may wish to look for projects that create jobs, such as employment in low-

### What about the e

In addition to the practical argument about carbon

to support carbon-fighting projects, critics say they are merely [a license to pollute](#).

When you buy an offset, you are paying someone to cut her emissions so *you don’t have to*.

That’s why your first move should always be to [reduce your own emissions](#). Drive fewer miles, fly less, don’t overheat or over-cool your home. And as you continue to find new ways of treading more lightly on the planet we call home, know that high-quality carbon offsets are available to eliminate the last traces of your carbon footprint.



“Below them are retail certification programs, like **Green-e Climate**, which help individuals identify reliable carbon offset sellers.”



## NRDC Article References

- Green-e® certified RECs referenced in article, “NRDC’s Commitment to Green Starts with Its Offices” written by Melissa Denchak

...including solar and wind.

### Chicago



NRDC's [Chicago office](#) was designed to

“The office offset renovation-generated carbon emissions with carbon credits and purchases of green power, in the form of **Green-e** certified Renewable Energy Credits.”

designs. Also LEED-certified, the office is located near train and bus lines, and its open floor plan, which reduced the amount

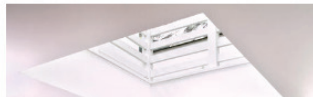
use, carbon footprint. The office also features recycled, sustainable materials like philodendrons that purify the air, which is to connect nature to the office productivity. Energy-efficient

“Carbon credits offset emissions caused by the renovation, and the office offsets its regular electricity consumption with **Green-e** certified Renewable Energy Credits.”

electronics, lighting systems that adjust automatically to daylight conditions, and smart plug sensors that automatically power down electronics. The office offset renovation-generated carbon emissions with carbon credits and purchases of green power, in the form of Green-e certified Renewable Energy Credits.

### Santa Monica

NRDC's LEED-certified office in Southern California is at the forefront of green building design. Centrally located in a





## MeetGreen®

- MeetGreen® works with progressive global organizations to integrate sustainable practices and produce conferences and events rooted in sustainability
- With nearly 30 years of direct assessment experience in the built environment, MeetGreen assembled and refined one of the largest repositories of data on the planet regarding the convening of people, nuances of their choices and supply chains, as well as their associated wide-ranging environmental impacts

## MeetGreen® Event Calculator

- In the MeetGreen® Event Calculator, Green-e® is referenced as an example of an acceptable third-party certification required for any carbon offset procured

MeetGreen Calculator 2.0 FOR SUSTAINABLE EVENTS

Score: 1.00/694.25

My Events ▾ Help ▾ About ▾ Eric Wallinger ▾ Log off

### Carbon Offsets

a. Additional ⓘ	Yes No
b. Permanent ⓘ	Yes No
d. Certified ⓘ	Yes No

Must be third-party certified, through a program such as Green-e.

Next →

"Must be third-party certified, through a program such as **Green-e**"



## Sustainable Purchasing Leadership Council (SPLC)

- **Sustainable Purchasing Leadership Council** is a nonprofit organization with the mission to support and recognize purchasing leadership that accelerates the transition to a prosperous and sustainable future

## SPLC Guidance for Leadership in Sustainable Purchasing

- SPLC's Guidance for Leadership in Sustainable Purchasing recommends purchasing Green-e Energy certified renewable energy for businesses that want to reduce the environmental impact of their electricity use
- It includes a section on reducing the impact of electricity use and recommends both implementing energy conservation measures and buying Green-e® Energy certified renewable energy

**Tools You Can Use**

Check out these free tools you can use to accomplish your goals and/or track your progress!

Tool:	Use it to:	Provided by:
<a href="#">Better Buildings Energy Data Management Toolkit</a>	Resources to overcome lack of data availability in energy management, and an introduction to Energy Management Information Systems (EMIS)	<a href="#">US Department of Energy</a>
<a href="#">Better Buildings Energy Savings Performance Contracting (ESPC) Toolkit</a>	Resources that will enable state and local communities to learn and benefit from the work of the Better Buildings ESPC Accelerator	<a href="#">US Department of Energy</a>
<a href="#">Buy Local, Buy Healthy: Energy Efficient Retrofit Guide</a>	Find Domestic Manufactured Products	
<a href="#">Cash Flow Opportunity Calculator</a>	Inform strategic decisions	
<a href="#">Energy Star Product Finder</a>	Find energy efficient products	
<a href="#">Portfolio Manager</a>	Measure and track energy emissions of one or multiple buildings	
<b>Renewable Energy</b>		
<a href="#">Better Buildings Renewables Toolkit</a>	Access guides and case studies for exploring the financial and practical feasibility of implementing renewables on your building(s)	<a href="#">US Department of Energy</a>
<a href="#">Database of State Incentives for Renewables &amp; Efficiency</a>	Find policies and incentives by state (US)	<a href="#">DSIRE (funded by the US Department of Energy)</a>
<a href="#">GHG Emissions Calculator</a>	Quick calculator to find CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fuel, waste or other reductions	
<a href="#">Green-e Certified Carbon Offset Locator Tool</a>	Search for certified Green-e Certified Carbon Offset options when local electricity markets have no renewable energy is not practical	
<a href="#">Green-e Certified Renewables Locator Tool</a>	Search for certified Green-E power options	<a href="#">green-e.org</a>

“Search for certified **Green-E** offset options when local electricity markets have no renewable energy options and onsite renewable energy is not practical”

“Search for certified **Green-E** power options”



## SPLC Guidance for Leadership in Sustainable Purchasing

- SPLC references CRS trainings, energy buyer educational support materials throughout
- It includes a section on reducing the impact of electricity use and recommends both implementing energy conservation measures and buying Green-e® Energy certified renewable energy

### SPLC Community Resources

Leverage our members' individual experiences for more knowledge and ideas! Then, find a team currently working on what you are to collectively develop your plan to achieve leadership.

#### Case Studies

- [Beyond Guaranteed Savings: Additional Cost Savings Associated With ESPC Projects](#) (2015-DOE)
- [RE100 Biz Cases for Renewables](#) (Ongoing – The Climate Group)
- [Carbon Neutrality: How Philips' Pro](#)
- [Click here to search for "Renewable](#)
- [Click here to search the EU's Green](#)

“Key Considerations for Renewable Energy Procurement (CRS)”

#### Webinars and Training

- [Buying Renewables: How Leaders Are Shifting Energy From a Cost Center to an Asset](#) (University of California, Schneider Electric, CRS)
- [Key Considerations for Renewable Energy Procurement](#) (CRS)
- [Carbon Neutrality: A Multi-Pronged Approach to Climate Leadership](#) (Schneider)
- [A Portfolio Approach to Buying Clean Tech](#) (Renewable Choice, Digital Realty)
- [Click here to search for "Renewables" and more in SPLC's Webinars Library](#)

### Industry and Organizational Resources

#### Non-Government Organizations (NGOs)

- [Alliance to Save Energy](#)
- [American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy](#) (ACEEE)
- [American Council on Renewable Energy](#)
- [Better Buildings](#)
- [Blue Green Alliance](#)
- [Business Renewables Center](#) (RMI)
- [Carbon Disclosure Project](#) (CDP)
- [Center for Resource Solutions](#)
- [The Climate Registry](#)
- [Energy Services Coalition](#)
- [European Business Council for Sustainable Energy](#) (E5)
- [Center for Resource Solutions \(CRS\)\\*](#)
- [International Carbon Reduction and Offset Alliance](#) (ICROA)

#### Certifications, Registries and Ecolabels

- [Green-E Certification](#)
- [Green Power Partnership](#) (EPA)
- [RE100](#) (The Climate Group)

“Center for Resource Solutions (CRS)”





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