

Purchase Clean Energy and Join the Revolution

Greater Washington Interfaith Power and Light
Frequently Asked Questions

How does it work?

When you pay your electric bill, you are paying for the electrons you used from the grid in our region. When you buy clean energy you are helping to put clean electrons into the grid. Clean electrons displace dirty ones so you are helping to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and making the air cleaner. For varying reasons, clean energy is more expensive than dirty energy. We offer clean energy from two different sources:

- **Wind:** is popular and fastest growing renewable energy source. Wind is plentiful, clean, domestic and safe. While the wind is free, the technology costs more than dirty energy. The extra cost is two and a half cents per kWh for local wind (WV, PA) or a mere half-cent per kWh for national wind.
- **Landfill gas:** is produced when trash rots in garbage dumps. Bacteria turn the trash into a gas that can be burned to make electricity. The cost is scarcely higher than for conventional power just half a cent per kiloWatt-hour more.

How do green tags help to stop global climate change?

The DC area currently receives only 2% of its energy from clean sources. By buying clean energy, you, as a person of faith, are helping to change the energy mix, displacing dirty energy like coal and gas for clean sources like wind.

Whom I am buying it from?

Greater Washington Interfaith Power and Light provides three different clean energy options. All are certified by Green-E.

- Local landfill gas is provided by Sterling Planet. It produces electrons which are placed into our grid. Price: \$.005 / kWh
- Local wind product is provided by WindCurrent. It produces electrons which are placed into our grid: Price: \$.025 / kWh
- National wind product is provided by Carbonfund.org, a local non-profit organization. Price: \$.005 / kWh

Purchase Clean Energy for Your Congregation/ Institution



We agree to purchase electricity that comes from sources that do not harm God’s creation, with clean, renewable energy through Greater Washington Interfaith Power and Light (GWIPL). We understand that we will continue to pay our regular electric bills, in addition to this purchase of clean energy. We understand that GWIPL will arrange for a company to provide the amount of clean energy into the grid that we are purchasing today.

Leader’s Name and Signature: _____

Congregation/Institution: _____

1. Contact Person’s Information (Please Print):

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Sign me up for the monthly GWIPL newsletter – email: _____

2. Clean Energy Options: Local Wind, National Wind or Local Landfill Gas

a) Use your electric utility bills to calculate your actual usage. On your bill from Pepco, Dominion Virginia Power, etc., there will be a chart showing your Usage History (usually on the back of the bill). Find the row labeled KWH (kilowatt-hours), and add up the KWH you have used in the last year.

12 Month Total Usage = _____ KWH

b) Compare costs for three options. Write the KWH figure in the line below and multiply by the amounts listed next to the choices of local wind, local landfill gas, and national wind.

| | | |
|-----------|---|---|
| _____ KWH | X | .025 for local wind = \$ _____ .005 for local landfill gas = \$ _____ .005 for national wind = \$ _____ |
|-----------|---|---|

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c) Determine the percentage of clean energy your congregation or institution would like to purchase. You congregation/institution can buy all or some of its electricity from clean sources. If you wish to start with less than 100%, simply decide the percentage and multiply by your choice of local wind, local landfill gas, or national wind.

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| _____ KWH <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | .025 for local wind = \$ _____ .005 for local landfill gas = \$ _____ .005 for national wind = \$ _____ | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> _____ % = \$ _____ |
|---|---|--|

3. 100% of the above will go directly to buying clean energy.
 We would like to add a contribution to support GWIPL's work: \$ _____

4. Total: Energy Purchase \$ _____ + Donation \$ _____ = \$ _____

5. Please send this form and a check made payable to **GWIPL** to:
 Greater Washington Interfaith Power and Light
 c/o Churches' Center for Theology and Public Policy
 4500 Massachusetts Avenue, NW • Washington, DC 20016

6. Celebrate the steps you have taken to help protect God's creation and make the world safer! You will receive a certificate in the mail celebrating your purchase of clean energy. We invite you to announce and celebrate this purchase in worship, in an administrative meeting, in your newsletter or other means.

Questions? Call us at 202-885-8684 or email us at gwipl@gwipl.org