

Evanston Monthly Meeting of Friends

1010 Greenleaf Street Evanston, Illinois 60202

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www.evanstonquakers.com

SUPPORT RENEWABLE WIND ENERGY FOR THE EVANSTON FRIENDS MEETING

(for a more comprehensive discussion of this issue please visit the website listed below)

<http://www.communityenergy.biz>

Community Energy www.communityenergy.biz is excited to offer all Illinois electric customers the opportunity to purchase Illinois-based NewWind Energy **Green tags**. The more customers that purchase clean, fuel-free, NewWind Energy, the more wind farms we can bring online in Illinois. That means cleaner air and a more secure energy future for everyone.

Community Energy, a developer and producer of renewable energy, in partnership with Commonwealth Edison, Eurus Energy, Midwest Wind Energy, LLC, and turbine manufacturer Vestas, has Co-developed the 54.5 MW Crescent Ridge Wind Farm in Illinois that began producing electricity in the spring 2005. Located 90 miles southwest of Chicago, the Crescent Ridge Wind Farm is situated on approximately 2,200 acres of land and will be producing up to 170 million kilowatt-hours per year of clean electrical power, enough to supply the electrical needs of approximately 20,000 average households. The pollution offsets will be equivalent to taking 10,000 cars off the road each year or planting over 10 million trees.

GREEN TAGS

Green tags, also known as Renewable Energy Credits (RECs) or Tradable Renewable Certificates (TRCs), are a market mechanism that represent the environmental benefits associated with generating electricity from renewable energy sources. Green tags function as a non-governmental subsidy on pollution-free electricity generators.

In states which have a green tag program, a green energy provider (such as a wind farm) is credited with one green tag for every 1000kWh of electricity it produces. A certifying agency gives each green tag a unique identification number to make sure it doesn't get double-counted. The green energy is then fed into the electrical grid (by mandate), and the accompanying green tag can then be sold on the open market.

Because nuclear (nuclear is not renewable) and fossil fuel power are subsidized and their full costs are not built into the price charged, they are cheaper than most renewable sources. The wholesale price for electricity is determined by non-renewable sources and is often less than the cost of producing it through cleaner renewable methods. This is due partially to government subsidies for the nonrenewable energy industry, and partially to a market structure that does not fully capture all social and environmental costs associated with conventional electricity generation (like air pollution, costs to maintain the military in oil-rich parts of the world, disposal costs for nuclear waste, health impacts of dirty generation, etc.)

A green tag or REC represents an additional payment for producing power from renewable resources, allowing the producer to create and sell electricity at the local market price and thus enabling more clean renewable energy to be made. By purchasing a Renewable Energy Certificate, you will offset a significant amount of pollutants entering the atmosphere. The average household will ensure that 12,528 pounds of CO2 does not enter the atmosphere annually, which is the equivalent of not driving a car 13,677 miles each year or 6,728 pounds of coal not being burned.

HOW IT WORKS

You will still pay your utility company to supply electricity to your home, deal with the power lines, and read your meter, so your electricity bill will not change.

Your purchase of wind power is the additional cost and added value of using wind farms to produce and replace all of the energy you use back into the electricity grid; thus, ensuring that you and your family offset the negative environmental impact of your electricity usage.

Still have questions? Take a look at our FAQs or give us a call toll free at 1-866-WIND-123

for more information check :www.newwindenergy.com ,www.illinoiswind.org/index.asp

The Illinois Interfaith Power and & Light Campaign thru Faith in Place (312 733-4640) offers this program via Community Energy

OTHER CHURCHES

Evanston Unitarian Church has participated in this green tag program thru Faith and Place for over 2 years. Alex Sprow is the contact person for the Evanston Unitarian Church.

At Evanston Friends Business Meeting on Sunday, April 15, I will ask our meeting to participate in this program to offset our own electrical energy use at the meeting house by purchasing one green tag for \$22 each month for 1000kwh. Currently, for 2006, the meetinghouse used an average of 855 kwh each month at an average cost of \$103 each month.

Please contact me if you have more questions. Hal Mead, halmead@comcast.net, 847 869-8493

For individual house holds that may use less energy another option is possible. 100% NewWind Energy are, available in "blocks" of 100 kilowatt-hours at \$2.50 per block per month