

## ESTES PARK OFFERS A RENEWABLE ENERGY OPTION

Since early 2000, Estes Park's Light & Power Department customers have been able to participate in the Renewable Energy Purchase Program.

Ten wind turbines are in operation at a site located near Medicine Bow, Wyoming, supplying residential and commercial customers in Platte River Power Authority's four owner cities of Longmont, Fort Collins, Loveland and Estes Park, as well as other utilities and towns.

**WHY WIND POWER?** Did you know that buying one 100-kilowatt hour block of wind energy has the same environmental benefits as not driving 2,400 miles or planting a half-acre of trees? (Based upon information from the EPA's Green Lights Program.)



Vestas turbines under construction at the Medicine Bow site.

**AHEAD OF ITS TIME:** *Platte River Power Authority was the second utility provider in the United States to offer wind-generated electricity; and the first to do so in Colorado.*

## BACKGROUND ON MEDICINE BOW

In early 1998, Platte River became the owner and operator of the wind generation site located approximately 150 miles northwest of its Fort Collins headquarters.

The Medicine Bow site was originally developed by the Bureau of Reclamation, with project support and turbine design provided by the U.S. Department of Energy.

At the time of its acquisition by PRPA, the site already offered significant infrastructure to support wind energy development including access roads, transmission lines, transformers, control buildings, and meteorological towers.

This location is recognized as one of the premium wind sites in the United States, and is the oldest developed wind site in the region.

While the location has excellent wind speed characteristics, it also has low turbulence intensity, allowing a longer, more reliable life for the turbines installed there.

**MORE THAN WIND:** *Platte River Power Authority's "Nature's Energy" mix includes more than wind-generated power to meet the growing customer demand for renewable energy. Every bit of renewable energy sold through EPL&P is certified at Platte River as readily available and meeting stringent environmental standards.*

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

### **What other renewable power sources are included in the portfolio?**

To meet the growing demand for renewable energy, Platte River Power Authority purchases Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) from other wind and renewable power sources – such as reclamation of landfill gas.

The purchase of RECs supports development of renewable energy and allows renewable energy generators to sell higher-cost renewable energy at a rate that is competitive with fossil-fuel powered generation.

### **How can I be sure what I purchase through this program is really renewable energy?**

All of the energy purchased through Estes Park Light & Power – including renewable energy – is purchased from Platte River Power Authority. Platte River has certification from one of the nation's leading independent renewable energy certification and verification programs. This non-profit organization is committed to supporting the increased supply and use of renewable energy.

This certification assures consumers that the renewable energy they may purchase meets stringent environmental and consumer protection standards and that organizations supplying this certified energy can demonstrate, on an annual basis, that they have generated or purchased enough renewable energy to meet customer demand.

For more information on Platte River's certification, please visit <http://prpa.org/environment/renewables.htm>

**YES!** I want to purchase renewable energy and make a minimum one-year commitment to the program.

Renewable Energy charges are in addition to my regular electricity rates and will be added to my monthly utility bill beginning one month after signing up for the program.

I am applying for a (please select one):

\_\_\_\_\_ **Commercial Property** (minimum 500 kWh per month required for participation)

\_\_\_\_\_ **Residential Property** (a typical residential home uses 600 kWh per month)

- 1 block, or 100 kWh (\$1.30 per month)
- 2 blocks, or 200 kWh (\$2.60 per month)
- 3 blocks, or 300 kWh (\$3.90 per month)
- 4 blocks, or 400 kWh (\$5.20 per month)
- 5 blocks, or 500 kWh (\$6.50 per month)
- 6 blocks, or 600 kWh (\$7.80 per month)
- 7 blocks, or 700 kWh (\$9.10 per month)
- 8 blocks, or 800 kWh (\$10.40 per month)
- 9 blocks, or 900 kWh (\$11.70 per month)
- 10 blocks, or 1000 kWh (\$13.00 per month)
- 15 blocks, or 1500 kWh (\$19.50 per month)
- 20 blocks, or 2000 kWh (\$26.00 per month)
- 25 blocks, or 2500 kWh (\$32.50 per month)

**I would like ALL of my energy to come from renewable sources** (calculated by using an average of kWh consumption over a period of 12 months and rounding to the nearest 100 kWh block. Recalculation of the average of consumption will be made upon request and only once per year per customer. This option is only available to owner-occupied residential or commercial properties).

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Company Name \_\_\_\_\_

Property Address \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Utility Account # \_\_\_\_\_

By completing this form and returning it to the Estes Park Light & Power Department, you are making a one-year commitment to purchase wind energy. The Finance Office will begin charging your Town of Estes Park utility bill one month after your commitment to subscribe.

Please drop off, mail or FAX this form to:



**TOWN OF ESTES PARK**  
Light & Power Department  
170 MacGregor Ave. PO Box 1200  
Estes Park, CO 80517  
970-577-3581; Fax: 970-586-6909



**Estes Park Light & Power  
Platte River Power Authority**

## RENEWABLE ENERGY PURCHASE PROGRAM



Photos by Richard Matzke

Visitors inspect turbine blades at the Medicine Bow Wind Project in Wyoming. The site is operated by Platte River Power Authority – the power supplier owned by the Town of Estes Park and three other regional municipalities. Wind generated at the Medicine Bow site, along with Certified Renewable Energy Certificates, comprise the renewable energy portfolio offered to EPL&P customers.