

Green Power and You (Frequently Asked Questions)

1) Q: What is Green Power? A: It is electricity generated by renewable resources like solar, wind and methane gas from decomposing garbage. These resources are replenished naturally and minimize harm to the environment.

2) Q: Why is Lynch River Electric Cooperative offering the Green Power Program to its member-owners? A: Lynch River Electric Cooperative and Santee Cooper are working together on the Green Power Program in response to increased customer interest in renewable energy and concern for the environment. One of Lynch River's core values is commitment to community. We are dedicated to improving the quality of life in the communities we serve and Green Power will help us do that. By encouraging demand for renewable energy, we can help reduce reliance solely on limited generation resources while improving and preserving the environment for future generations.

3) Q: Where does the electricity for the Green Power Program come from? A: At this stage of Green Power development, the primary source of renewable energy comes from methane gas that is found in landfills across South Carolina. In addition, a small part comes from solar and wind energy located in the state as well. Please see link to Product Content Label.

4) Q: What is methane gas and how is it renewable? A: Waste put into landfills decomposes over time. Landfill gas is the product of this process, which is made up of different components. Methane is one of these and is the most valuable as a fuel. This gas is considered to be renewable because it is produced through natural decomposition of organic materials.

5) Q: How does renewable energy differ from other energy sources? A: Today, most electricity comes from limited generation resources. Renewable resources, such as decomposing garbage, solar and wind provide a regenerating fuel source for electricity. Using renewable resources to produce electricity will help reduce the need to use conventional generators powered by limited resources.

6) Q: Do Lynch River member-owners actually receive Green Power? A: Electricity is the flow of electrons. These electrons flow through power lines from both the Green Power generators and conventional fossil fuel generators into a "pool." Power lines carry these electrons from the "pool" to your home. It is impossible to guarantee that the electrons you receive at your electrical outlet came from the Green Power generators directly. However, your participation in this program is ensuring that electrons generated from renewable-resource generators are being added to this "pool" and less energy from conventional sources is being produced.

7) Q: Why does renewable energy cost more? A: Facilities that use renewable resources to generate electricity are currently expensive to build and operate. Increased customer demand by people for renewable energy will lead to further development of renewable technologies. Although the price is slightly higher, the impact of green power on the environment is less, rendering its value immeasurable.

8) Q: Where will my money go? A: All revenues from Green Power premiums will be reinvested in future development of additional renewable resources or facilities.

9) Q: How does the Green Power Program help better the environment? A: Renewable resources replace themselves naturally so they produce little or no air pollutants or waste. In using the methane emitted by decomposing garbage as fuel for generating power we can significantly reduce the amount of greenhouse gas that otherwise would go into the atmosphere. Landfill gas is the only renewable energy source that, when used, actually removes pollution from the atmosphere. A residential member-owner who invests an additional \$6.00 per month (2 blocks) for one year is equivalent to not driving for nearly three months*. (* EPA Greenhouse Gas Equivalencies Calculator using 200 kWh/month for the state of South Carolina)