

For Immediate Release
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Landmark Program Gives North Carolinians the Power to Choose Cleaner Energy

NC GreenPower officially launches the nation's first statewide and multi-utility initiative to encourage the development of renewable energy sources

RALEIGH, N.C. - Today, NC GreenPower will take a major step in encouraging the development of cleaner energy for North Carolina.

NC GreenPower will launch a landmark program to power North Carolina's homes, businesses and communities. The program is the first statewide plan supported by all the state's electric utilities. Individual utility companies in 31 other states have developed similar programs, but North Carolina's program is a collaborative effort supported by all of the state's utility companies and is administered by a nonprofit organization.

The program will tap into technology that transforms renewable energy sources such as wind, solar and biomass sources into safe and environmentally sustainable power, giving North Carolinians cleaner options for their energy sources.

"We are giving the state's businesses and residents the opportunity to do what's right today to ensure the quality of life for future generations," said Carl Wilkins, program manager for NC GreenPower. "This program is voluntary and is an easy and affordable way for everyone in North Carolina to increase the use of renewable energy. We have such an abundant supply of these resources, it's only natural to invest in them to help protect our environment and improve air quality."

The N.C. Utilities Commission approved the NC GreenPower program plan in January 2003. NC GreenPower is an independent nonprofit organization administered by Advanced Energy, a Raleigh-based nonprofit corporation that helps utility, industrial and residential customers improve the return on their energy investment.

Residential and business customers may voluntarily contribute funds that NC GreenPower will use to encourage the development of power from renewable energy sources in the state. A typical residential customer would contribute a minimum of \$4 per month. That \$4 will add a block of 100 kilowatt-hours of renewable energy to North Carolina's power supply.

Businesses and large-volume power users can volunteer to support NC GreenPower. They may contribute toward 100 or more blocks of green power at \$2.50 per block. Those blocks of green power will also be added to North Carolina's power supply.

Customers may sign up for the program by contacting their electric utilities, including Dominion North Carolina Power, Duke Power and Progress Energy, or members of the N.C. Electricities and North Carolina's electric cooperatives. All contributions are tax-deductible and will be used for NC GreenPower; no funds will be used by the utilities.

For additional information about NC GreenPower visit www.ncgreenpower.org.

NC GreenPower, an independent nonprofit organization, was approved by the N.C. Utilities Commission to provide North Carolinians with cleaner options for their energy sources. NC GreenPower is committed to environmental protection by increasing renewable energy sources in North Carolina.

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