



MAINE GREEN POWER CONNECTION
GENERATING CHOICE

A project of the Maine Energy
Investment Corporation

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IMPROVE THE AIR YOU BREATHE: BUY GREEN POWER

Introducing The Maine Green Power Connection

Maine has an air quality challenge. Consider the following, each of which suggest implications for our economy and our health as well as our environment:

- Over 120,000 adults and 28,000 children in Maine suffer from asthma-- a condition exacerbated by ozone.¹
- Ozone results from pollutants emitted by cars and other fossil fuel combustion sources, notably the generation of electricity from fossil-fuel fired plants.²
- Starting in 1998, Maine saw steady, steep declines in emissions of sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxide from power plants in the state each year; the trend reversed dramatically with emissions rates for these acid rain-producing gases nearly doubled from 2002 to 2003.³
- 40% of Maine's current electricity supply comes from fossil fuels.⁴

Green power helps. It is not necessary to pollute in order to generate electricity. You can change the way electricity is generated by choosing to buy from generators that emit little or no air emissions. Green power provides you with many ways to make this switch.

- **Through green supply** – In Maine, customers of all sizes can now choose to have their electricity provided by in-state renewable energy facilities such as small hydro dams and wood-fired electricity facilities. See the Maine Green Power Menu for more details.
- **Through green tags** – Green tags are certificates that allow you to purchase the environmental benefits of renewable electricity generators,



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no matter where those generators are located. Through green tags you can support new wind turbines, solar electricity and new renewable energy facilities throughout New England and the U.S.

Who is buying green power? These Maine institutions have already voted with their electricity bills to make a difference in Maine's air quality:

- **American Lung Association of Maine** has bought green supply for their headquarters facilities in Augusta.
- **The Chewonki Foundation** has bought both green tags for their Center on Environmental Education and green supply for other accounts on their campus in Wiscasset.



Coal-fired power plant in Dunkirk, NY, producing electricity—and pollution—on the shores of Lake Erie in June 2002. Coal-fired plants produce 9-10% of Maine's electricity today.

Photo by Erika Morgan



MeGPC Supporter Endless Energy Corp. owns and operates this 50-kW turbine, located at G. M. Allen & Son blueberry processors in Orland, ME. Renewable energy credits from this turbine are available through the Maine Green Power Connection.

Photo by Jason Huckaby

THE MAINE GREEN POWER CONNECTION

CHARTER MEMBERS

American Lung Association of Maine
Chewonki Foundation
Interface Fabrics Group
Maine Interfaith Power and Light, Inc.
National Environmental Trust

ADVISORY MEMBERS

Ed Holt & Associates, Inc.
Energetic Management Associates
Environment Northeast
Independent Energy Producers of Maine

SUPPORTING MEMBERS

Colby College
College of the Atlantic
Endless Energy Corporation
Evergreen Wind LLC
The Green Store
Maine Businesses for Social Responsibility
Maine Energy Investment Corporation
Maine Renewable Energy LLC
Maple Hill Farm B&B, Inn & Conf. Center
Sparhawk Mill/Shard Pottery
Taggart Construction, Inc.
Unity College
Urquhart & Spritz
York Hospital

PARTICIPATING MEMBERS

Coastal Enterprises, Inc.
Damariscotta River Association
Environment Maine
Habitat for Humanity, Bath-Brunswick
Maine Audubon
Maine Council of Churches
Maine Organic Farmers & Gardeners Assn
Maine Public Health Association
Peace Action Maine
Physicians for Social Responsibility, ME
Sierra Club, Maine Chapter

- **Interface Fabrics Group** has purchased 2.5 million kWhs of green tags, enough to power a new line of Green-e certified fabric for its premium customers.
- A growing list of small businesses, like **Women of Substance**, a retail dress shop in Damariscotta and **Russell French Photographers**, Portland.
- Many churches and houses of worship, including **Grace Episcopal** in Bath, **Mid-Coast Friends** in Damariscotta and **First Church of Christ, Scientist**, Cape Elizabeth.
- From 2003 to the present, the **the State of Maine** has purchased green supply for 758 small accounts, including the Blaine House and many small office buildings.
- Sales by **Maine Interfaith Power and Light** already represent over 18 million kWhs sold since January 23, 2003. That's over 3,000 individual homes and small businesses, each making a difference.

Who is the Maine Green Power Connection? MeGPC was launched March 17, 2003, by Governor John Baldacci and 35 leading organizations. MeGPC welcomes the participation of additional entities—both private, for-profit and public, non-profit entities—at any time.

What you can do. Buying clean, environmentally beneficial green electricity is simple. There are product and payment options to fit within almost any budget. Every green power purchase helps improve our air and environment. There are several ways to take action today:

- **Learn more.** Visit www.MaineGreenPower.org, Maine Green Power Connection's website. Explore background on renewable energy and details on the green electricity products available now in Maine.
- **Invite a speaker.** If you represent an organization, MeGPC will provide a presentation on how the available green power options might apply to you. Please call us (207) 729-9665.
- **Sign up for green power.** Review MeGPC's Maine Green Power Menu. Compare all current green power products. Through the Menu, you can purchase the green electricity product(s) that make the most sense to you.

Start today to make a difference in Maine's air quality.



For more information, please visit our web site at MaineGreenPower.org

¹ The New England Asthma Regional Council, and discussion with Norm Anderson, American Lung Association of Maine.

² "Energy for Maine's Future", NRCM, page 8. The 40-year old Brayton Point Power Plant in Somerset, MA, is "the largest source of air pollution in New England". It "burns nearly 8,000 tons of coal every day, sending pollution...downwind to New Hampshire and Maine." Page 4.

³ "SO₂ and NO_x Emission Trends from Power Plants in the Acid Rain Program for Each New England State" (graphs). U. S. Environmental Protection Agency, October 2004. <http://www.epa.gov/ne/eco/acidrain/so2noxnetrends.html#me>.

⁴ Maine Renewable Energy green supply disclosure label.