

One of these things is not like the others...



...one of these things just doesn't belong.

Garbage is NOT Renewable Energy

Problem

GREENHOUSE GASES AREN'T "GREEN" ENERGY

Landfill and incineration industries have lobbied to have the greenhouse gas emissions from their facilities considered "green energy," worthy of tax credits similar to the ones given to solar and wind energy projects. In fact, "garbage-to-energy" is now being legally classified in numerous states as a "renewable" energy source. This is in direct opposition to the Zero Waste Movement – our goal is to eliminate waste, not enshrine it as a renewable resource!

Giving tax credits and subsidies to the garbage industry competes against wind, solar and recycling projects, and creates a financial reward for producing garbage and destroying natural resources.

YOU MAY BE UNWITTINGLY SUPPORTING GREENHOUSE GAS ENERGY

You, the well-meaning public and businesses leaders working to offset your carbon emissions, may be inadvertently spending money on renewable energy credits (RECs) that support the destruction of natural resources and the polluting practices of burning and burying garbage.

Solutions: Yes... there are three things you can do.

Buy only "real green" RECs.

Fortunately there are many good options. Before you buy renewable energy certificates (REC) or carbon offsets, ask where the energy comes from and make sure you're supporting new wind and solar projects, not supporting resource destruction and garbage generation. Find a list of garbage-free renewable energy retailers at www.grrn.org/landfill/notrenewableenergy.

Start composting and stop greenhouse gas production.

Rotting stuff in the landfill creates the greenhouse gas methane in huge amounts! Learn more about backyard composting and vermicomposting and support the development of municipal composting programs in your area by visiting www.grrn.org/landfill/notrenewableenergy.

Support politics mandating that landfill gas capture from existing landfills is a cost of doing business.

A regulated schedule to reduce the amount of landfill gas generated in the first place should be immediately implemented. Germany is doing this now, and it is our turn here in America!



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Garbage-free Retailers of Renewable Energy Certificates and Carbon Offsets

This list provides a selection of renewable energy certificate (REC) and carbon offset retailers who do not use landfill gas or waste incinerators in their energy mix as of September 2007. As companies may change their policies, be sure to ask your provider about their energy mix when purchasing RECs or carbon offsets. Ask specific questions about what projects are included, how often this changes, and whether your provider supports energy generated from landfill gas or waste incineration. Choose providers that support new projects that would not have happened without REC funding, and look for providers who are independently verified to ensure your RECs and offsets are not double-counted or resold.

GRRN does not endorse specific companies or products. This list will not be maintained and may not include all available options.

Company name	Website	Power source
Basin Electric Power Cooperative	www.basinelectric.com	100% wind
Bonneville Environmental Foundation	www.b-e-f.org	100% wind; 100% solar; and 90% wind/10% solar*
Calpine Corporation	www.calpine.com	100% geothermal
Choose Renewables	www.chooserenewables.com	CleanWatts: 100% wind
Clean and Green	www.cleanandgreen.us/map.php	100% wind
Community Energy Inc.	www.newwindenergy.com	100% wind
Conservation Services Group	www.climatesave.com/	ClimateSave: 100% wind and solar**
Maine Interfaith Power & Light	www.meipl.org/index.html	Wind Watts: wind projects in Maine
Massachusetts Energy Consumers Alliance	www.newenglandwind.org/wind/home.php	Wind projects in New England
MidAmerican Energy	www.midamericanenergy.com/wind	Wind projects in Iowa***
NativeEnergy	www.nativeenergy.com	Wind, solar, and wastewater and animal waste methane
PPM Energy	www.ppmenergy.com	100% wind power blocks
Premier Energy	www.premierenergyonline.com	100% wind
Renewable Choice Energy	www.renewablechoice.com	100% wind
SKY energy, Inc.	www.sky-energy.com	100% wind
Vision Quest	www.visionquestwind.com	Wind projects in Canada
Waverly Light and Power	http://wlp.waverlyia.com	Wind projects in Iowa
WindCurrent	www.windcurrent.com	WindPower 10R: wind projects from the Mid-Atlantic region
WindQwest Energy	www.windquestenergy.com	100% wind

*small percentage farm methane projects

**previous offerings of Greener Watts New England did include landfill gas

***future projects will be determined by customer interest and participation