



# CLEAN ENERGY **CHOICE** FOR **BUSINESS**

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

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### **How Much Does Clean Energy Choice for Business Cost?**

- An incremental charge of \$0.002 per kilowatt-hour (kWh) above regular retail rates. The charge is applied to all kWh in excess of the Minnesota Renewable Energy Standard (currently 20% of all electric sales).
- As an example, a customer with usage of 10,000 kWh per month would pay a monthly program surcharge of \$16.00. [ $10,000 \times (100\% - 20\%) \times \$0.002$ ]

### **What Is Renewable Energy?**

Renewable energy is generated by resources that naturally replenish. Examples of renewable energy resources are wind, solar, bioenergy, and hydro.

### **Where Does the Renewable Energy for the Clean Energy Choice for Business Program Come From?**

The renewable energy for the Clean Energy Choice for Business program comes either from the Minnesota Municipal Power Agency's (MMPA) renewable resources or MMPA's purchases from other utilities. For more information on MMPA's renewable energy resources, please visit <http://www.mmpa.org/sustainable-energy/overview/>.

### **Am I Committing to a Certain Contract Term by Subscribing to the Clean Energy Choice for Business Program?**

Yes - participation in the Clean Energy Choice for Business program is on a calendar year basis. In return, the per-kWh surcharge is fixed for the same period. You will be informed of any change in the per-kWh surcharge for the upcoming year by November 1, and you have until December 1 to let us know if you want to unsubscribe for the coming year.

### **What Are Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs)?**

Every kWh of renewable energy created is assigned a unique renewable energy certificate (REC) number to ensure that each unit of renewable energy is accurately tracked and only counted once. RECs are also known as "green certificates" or "renewable energy credits." The State of Minnesota uses RECs to track renewable energy generation and use.

### **How are RECs verified?**

An independent third party selected by the State of Minnesota tracks the creation and retirement of RECs. Generation is metered to ensure the correct number of RECs are allocated to each renewable generation facility.

### **How Do I Support Renewable Energy by Participating in the Clean Energy Choice for Business Program?**

RECs are retired (permanently set aside) for each Clean Energy Choice for Business program participant. These RECs are over and above the amount retired to meet Minnesota's renewable energy standard, which is currently at 20% of all electricity sales.

### **Is Renewable Energy Provided Directly to My Business?**

Electricity flows along the path of least resistance through the transmission and distribution system. It is impossible to know where the electricity supplying your business was generated. By participating in Clean Energy Choice for Business program, renewable energy is being provided by MMPA equal to your business's energy usage.