

Green



Seattle City Light
Green Power

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A NEWSLETTER FROM *Seattle City Light's* GREEN POWER PROGRAM

VOL. 1
NO. 1

PROGRAM off to a great start

The Green Power fund grows - showing your investment in clean energy

Seattle City Light's Green Power program began a year ago. Its goal was to enroll one percent of the utility's customers the first year. That goal was surpassed in October 2002. More than 3,500 customers have contributed \$138,000 through recurring bill payments or separate contributions.

The Seattle Green Power fund represents how much our community values local clean energy.

system produces enough electricity to individually power many household appliances and provides a wonderful learning opportunity for students and the community.

MORE SYSTEMS UNDERWAY

In December, the Seattle School District began installing a 1.1-kilowatt system at Orca Elementary School that will allow lessons on solar energy to augment activities at the greenhouse and school gardens.

A third system is planned for Washington Middle School.

The new Carkeek Park Environmental Education Center in Northwest Seattle will include a 3.6-kilowatt solar PV system. Parks Department staff are committed to incorporating solar information in programs and tours to be conducted at the center when it opens later this year.

FUTURE PLANS

City Light continues to pursue solar projects with other public institutions including Woodland Park Zoo, University of Washington, and the Highline School District.

Also on the horizon are Seattle Green Power regional partnerships, including waste-to-energy projects and potential small-scale wind projects.

From the Superintendent:

Launching our Green Power program has been a real success.



Environmental stewardship has always been a hallmark at Seattle City Light. This program is yet another indication of our community's willingness to help better our environment.

I'm pleased that so many of you choose to contribute to the Seattle Green Power program. With the support of our residential and business customers we've been able to start the projects featured here. Thank you for your commitment and financial support for this program.



Taking advantage of solar is kid's stuff: these youngsters are assembling a solar array.

FIRST PROJECT COMPLETE

In October, Seattle Green Power's first solar project was completed at Greenwood Elementary School. The 1.1-kilowatt solar photovoltaic (PV)

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For more information, please call our customer service center at 206-684-3000. Or sign up online by visiting our Web site at www.seattle.gov/light/green/greenpower/. You may prefer to contact us by mail at Seattle Green Power, Attention: Jack Brautigam, Seattle City Light, 700 Fifth Avenue, Suite 3300, Seattle, Washington 98104-5031.

SOLAR demand heats up

The demand for solar power continues to rise, thanks to our Seattle Green Power program and others in the Northwest. Surprisingly, even the cloudiest parts of the Northwest can generate over half as much solar energy as the Southwest U.S. In the last three years, nearly 200 grid-connected solar electric systems have been installed in Washington. Worldwide demand is

photovoltaic (PV) cells that convert sunlight into electricity using semi-conductors made of silicon or other materials. Direct current generated by solar panels, called modules, is then converted to alternating current with a power inverter.

RUN THE METER BACKWARD

To encourage solar electricity installations, City Light and other utilities offer "net metering" programs that make it easier and more cost-effective to install solar electric systems. With net metering, customers are credited for any solar power generated in excess of their needs during a billing cycle. The customer's meter literally runs backward when power is fed from the solar system into the grid. Then it runs forward again when power is drawn from the electrical grid. The utility charges for the net amount of electricity consumed.

Federal and state tax incentives, government and utility technical assistance, no-interest loans, rebates and other cash incentives all contribute to the solar revolution. But locally, its success depends on people like you who commit to renewable energy.

For more information on solar power, visit

www.westernsun.org/

fueling a solar revolution which encourages new technology. This decreases reliance on traditional power supplies, like coal and oil, which are some of the nation's largest sources of air pollution.

City Light is a proud leader in the transformation to a cleaner energy future. Generous contributions from you, our customer-owners, help us fund solar projects to educate a wider audience about solar power's potential.

PHOTOVOLTAIC

Solar electric systems rely on pho-



Mayor Greg Nickels congratulates Anne Stevens for helping the Seattle Green Power program.

LUCKY GREEN SUPPORTERS

Six City Light Green Power customers were invited to see the Seattle Mariners play the New York Yankees at a Seattle Green Power appreciation event in late September. Their names were drawn from the Seattle Green Power participant list. They joined Seattle Mayor Greg Nickels and City Councilmember Heidi Wills in KIRO radio's hospitality suite at Safeco Field. KIRO Sports Radio hosted the event. Seattle's Green Power winners were treated to certificates of appreciation and a game they'll surely remember.



Pathfinder School's solar installation provides a wonderful learning opportunity.



BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT:

Uptown Espresso

Uptown Espresso, now one of Seattle Green Power supporters, has locations in Seattle's Queen Anne, West Seattle, Downtown, and Belltown neighborhoods. Each offers a unique coffee-house environment where high quality products are made and served. This reflects company President Dow Lucurell's commitment to run the businesses in a way that improves life in each community.



BUSINESS SUPPORT CRUCIAL

Business community support is crucial to the growth and success of Seattle Green Power.

We salute Uptown Espresso for helping to develop a new generation of renewable resources.

Other supporting businesses we thank include:

Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center

Smith & Lowney Attorneys

Gordon Fleener Architects

Episcopal Bookstore

Holzer-Ames Furniture

Fremont Fine Arts Foundry

Mithun Architects + Designers + Planners

Style Masters

Artwood Studios

Goetzinger Family Properties

Velocipede Architects

COMMITMENT SUPPORTS SOCIAL MISSION

Uptown Espresso's financial commitment to Seattle City Light's Green Power program is right in line with this premium coffee provider's social mission.

"We are happy to be part of a program where 100 percent of our contribution goes directly to installing solar panels on schools and public building and to purchasing sources of renewable energy," says Dow Lucurell.

GREEN POWER HELPS US ALL

Already known for its investments in conservation and renewable resources such as wind power, Seattle City Light takes its commitment to green power even further. The Seattle Green Power program offers customers a way to transform the energy market here in our city. Your contributions are generating electricity from environmentally responsible sources, right where we live.



Heidi Wills

The Seattle Green Power program has funded solar projects at several public schools and parks, with more on the way. Everyday, these projects will educate our future leaders about opportunities to fuel the renewable energy revolution. Our collective investments will spur the market for renewable resources and eventually lower the costs of renewable technologies for all consumers.

Together, we are improving our air quality, protecting our climate from greenhouse gas emissions, investing in self-sufficiency and independence from foreign oil, and locating energy sources where we utilize the electricity. Called distributed energy, these smaller scale energy sources also save transmission costs, improve energy efficiency, and enhance public safety.

As Seattle Green Power grows, we will explore new applications, such as landfill gas, methane recovery, and geothermal resources.

Thank you for truly making Seattle the Emerald City.



Heidi Wills

Seattle City Councilmember

Chair, Energy and Environmental Policy Committee

www.seattle.gov/council/wills

SOLAR TERMS

Photovoltaic (PV)

Photovoltaic, meaning solar electricity, refers to the process of converting the sun's energy into electrical energy. PV cells are typically made from wafer-thin layers of crystalline silicon that, when struck by sunlight, produce an electrical reaction.

Module

Interconnected solar

cells, which convert sunlight directly into electricity, form a solar panel or module.

Array

Several solar modules connected together form an array.

Inverter

A solar power inverter converts the direct current (DC) electricity produced by the modules into alternating current (AC) electricity for powering lights, appliances, and other needs.

WEB SITE LINKS

Seattle Green Power program

www.seattle.gov/light/green/greenpower/

Seattle City Light Net Metering

<http://www.seattle.gov/light/solar/>

Western SUN

<http://www.westernsun.org/>

Solar Washington

www.solarwashington.org

Northwest SEED (Sustainable Energy for Economic Development)

www.nwseed.org

Renewable Northwest Project

<http://www.rnp.org/>

U.S. DOE Green Power Network

<http://www.eren.doe.gov/greenpower/>

U.S. DOE National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL)

www.nrel.gov

U.S. DOE Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy

www.eren.doe.gov



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