

## LPEA Green Power Program and certification

### SUMMARY

**LPEA purchases renewable resources from Tri-State each month. For 2008 Tri-State is acquiring renewable resources from Rocky Mountain Power, which is Green-e – certified. Tri-State’s renewable resources have always been Green-e – equivalent even if not certified. Certified or equivalent renewable resources are eligible for State RPS compliance and meet building standards, such as LEED. Tri-State’s Renewable resources include both energy and the associated REC.**

### BACKGROUND

Monthly, LPEA purchases renewable power from Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc., for itself and for those LPEA customers who have volunteered to purchase “green power.”

Tri-State purchases renewable energy from various sources, either in actual energy, or is what is termed “Renewable Energy Certificate” (REC). Both are reported by Tri-State on its monthly and year-to-date United States of Agriculture – Rural Utilities Service (RUS) form 12c – Sources of Distribution of Energy. LPEA reviews that report each month and obtains confirmation of its portion. Tri-State provides each Member with a year-end accounting of the renewable resource acquisitions for the prior year. Tri-State and LPEA recoup no administrative cost for the program.

State renewable portfolio standards and building standards, such as LEED, have criteria for renewable resources. In the case of LEED building certification, off-site renewable energy sources are defined by the Center for Resource Solutions (CRS) Green-e products certification requirements, or the equivalent. Green power may be procured from a Green-e-certified power marketer or a Green-e-accredited utility program, or through Green-e- certified tradable renewable energy certificates (RECs), or the equivalent. If the green power is not Green-e certified, equivalence must exist for both major Green-e program components: 1) current green power performance standards, and 2) independent, third-party verification that those standards are being met by the green power supplier over time.

Tri-State has always held that the renewable resources in LPEA’s voluntary renewable program are Green-e- equivalent even if not Green-e- certified. These resources meet the renewable standard and are subject to independent, third-party verification over time. Tri-State has also required attestations from the supplier relative to green marketing, no double sales, etc.

For the 2008 voluntary program Tri-State’s product specification resulted in acquiring renewable resources from Rocky Mountain Power (RMP) from its wind resources. RMP has significant wind resources in Wyoming. RMP recently received Green-e- certification for its renewable resources. RMP provides Tri-State marketing attestation, which provides, in part:

“This Bill of Sale may be disclosed by the Parties to others, including any applicable Green Tag certification body, to substantiate and verify the accuracy of a Party’s advertising or other public communication.”

Accordingly, the renewable resources Tri-State procures meets the State RPS requirements and building standards, such as LEED. The resources are procured from a Green-e-certified provider and all power requirements for the voluntary renewable program are provided through this arrangement. The renewable resources include the energy produced and the associated REC, where if an LPEA member/customer were to buy from anyone else, all they would be buying is RECs.