

# 9  
CB 117242

**ORDINANCE \_\_\_\_\_**

AN ORDINANCE relating to the City Light Department; completion of the Voluntary Green Power Program, and amending Seattle Municipal Code chapter 21.49.

WHEREAS, RCW Chapter 19.29A requires that electric utilities offer retail electricity customers a voluntary option to purchase qualified alternative energy resources beginning January 1, 2002; and

WHEREAS, the City Light Department ("City Light") has complied with RCW Chapter 19.29A by offering two voluntary programs beginning with the Green Power Program in 2002 and additionally, the Green Up Program since 2005; and

WHEREAS, the Green Power Program has funded 31 solar demonstration projects and the stated goals of the Green Power Program established in SMC 21.49.083 have been achieved; and

WHEREAS, the Green Up Program established in SMC 21.49.084 continues to offer City Light customers the opportunity to voluntarily support new renewable energy resources; and

WHEREAS, customer marketing, education and outreach are critical to the success of voluntary green power programs; NOW, THEREFORE,

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF SEATTLE AS FOLLOWS:**

Section 1. Seattle Municipal Code, Chapter 21.49 is amended to delete section 21.49.083.

Section 2. Seattle Municipal Code, Chapter 21.49.084, Section C is amended in its entirety as follows:

21.49.084 Voluntary Green Power, Green Up Program

C. The voluntary Green-up Program payments, less the costs ~~((of administering the program ("Net Green-up Revenue"), will be used to purchase qualified alternative energy resources including renewable resources from Northwest wind, biomass, and landfill gas projects.))~~ of program administration, marketing, and renewable energy education, ("Net Green-



Up Revenue”), will be used to purchase qualified alternative energy resources. Subject to the provisions of the ordinances authorizing issuance of the City's municipal light and power revenue obligations, the Department shall make available from its budgeted funds, for the purchase or development of new qualified alternative energy resources, an amount equal to the Net Green-up Revenue allocated to existing Department qualified alternative energy resources.

Section 3. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force 30 days after its approval by the Mayor, but if not approved and returned by the Mayor within ten days after presentation, it shall take effect as provided by Seattle Municipal Code Section 1.04.020.

Passed by the City Council the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2011, and signed by me in open session in authentication of its passage this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2011.

\_\_\_\_\_  
President \_\_\_\_\_ of the City Council

Approved by me this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2011.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael McGinn, Mayor

Filed by me this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2011.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Monica Martinez Simmons, City Clerk

(Seal)



**FISCAL NOTE FOR NON-CAPITAL PROJECTS**

<b>Department:</b>	<b>Contact Person/Phone:</b>	<b>CBO Analyst/Phone:</b>
Seattle City Light	Jack Brautigam/684-3954	Calvin Chow/684-4652

**Legislation Title:**

AN ORDINANCE relating to the City Light Department; completion of the Voluntary Green Power Program, and amending Seattle Municipal Code chapter 21.49.

**Summary of the Legislation:**

The proposed Council Bill acknowledges the completion of the voluntary Green Power Program and authorizes Seattle City Light to discontinue this program and provides clarification regarding the use to revenues associated with the remaining Green-up Program.

The Voluntary Green Power program's goals have been met so this renewable energy program is now complete. SMC 21.49 would be amended to delete section 21.49.083 and to amend section 21.49.084. City Light will continue to offer the voluntary Green Up Program established in SMC 21.49.084, to remain in compliance with RCW 19.29A.

**Background:**

RCW 19.29A requires qualifying utilities (including Seattle City Light) to offer customers a voluntary option to purchase green power.

Seattle City Light currently offers two programs that comply with this requirement:

- SMC 21.49.083. The Green Power Program established in 2002 was designed to support the development of smaller-scale, local renewable energy projects (primarily solar) not included in City Light's power portfolio. Program goals were to create awareness, improve operating experience, and create market demand through technology demonstration and education.
- SMC 21.49.084. The Green Up Program established in 2005 was designed to support the development of larger-scale, regional renewable energy projects (often wind, geothermal and biomass, but not solar) which are in addition to utility portfolio requirements. This program acquires renewable energy credits and is certified by the independent Center for Resource Solutions, Green-e Energy Program.

**Green Power Program goals met.**

The Green Power Program has funded 31 solar projects since 2002 and stated program goals established in 21.49.083 have been met. Fifteen (15) of these projects are located on schools with curriculum and training provided to teachers and administrators. The local market for solar has been transformed over the last decade with 166 customer projects installed in 2009-10 and several large-scale commercial projects recently announced. We view the local solar market



moving away from demonstration phase to an early commercialization phase.

As of 12/31/2010 customers participating in voluntary Green Power Programs were as follows:

- Green Power only: 1,993
- Green Up only: 10,495
- Both Green Power and Green Up: 863

Plans for the future.

City Light plans to increasingly engage and research customers on their preferences for green power products and services, and to increase participation in Green Up. Green Power customers will be contacted and thanked for their strong commitment to local solar development and encouraged to support Green Up (if not already). Through more direct and consistent marketing, City Light would like to eventually compete with Puget Sound Energy (ranked #1 in Washington) and Portland General Electric (ranked #1 in the U.S.) for number of green power customers.

Please check one of the following:

**This legislation does not have any financial implications.**  
(Stop here and delete the remainder of this document prior to saving and printing.)

**This legislation has financial implications.** (Please complete all relevant sections that follow.)





City of Seattle  
Office of the Mayor

July 19, 2011

Honorable Richard Conlin  
President  
Seattle City Council  
City Hall, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

Dear Council President Conlin:

I am pleased to transmit the attached proposed Council Bill acknowledging Seattle City Light's successful completion of the voluntary Green Power Program and documenting the uses of revenues received under the voluntary Green Up Program.

The voluntary Green Power Program was established in 2002 to create renewable energy awareness through the support of smaller-scale, local renewable, energy projects (primarily solar) that provide the public with technology demonstration and education. The program has met its goals by funding the creation of 31 solar demonstration projects in the Seattle City Light service territory. Projects have been installed at schools, parks, and other visible public sites including the Aquarium and Woodland Park Zoo.

Although Green Power is ending, City Light continues to meet its commitment to renewable energy through the voluntary Green Up Program, which is consistent with RCW 19.29A's requirement that electric utilities offers customers a voluntary option to purchase renewable energy credits (RECs) to support green energy generation. After the cost of program administration, marketing, and renewable energy education, revenues from the Green-Up program will be used to purchase these qualified alternative energy resources.

Thank you for your consideration of this legislation. Should you have questions, please contact Glenn Atwood, Director, Conservation Resources Division at 683-3763.

Sincerely,

Michael McGinn  
Mayor of Seattle

cc: Honorable Members of the Seattle City Council