



Renewable ENERGY

Renewable energy is an important part of the power supply portfolio for Hoosier Energy and its 18 member cooperatives. A diverse mix of traditional and renewable energy sources is necessary to meet electric power needs in today's changing world.

Hoosier Energy has established a renewable energy policy and implemented a number of initiatives to meet its goals through projects that offer a competitively priced, reliable source of power.

The power supply cooperative's renewable energy resources include landfill methane facilities, hydropower and wind generation. In addition, construction has begun on a coal bed methane power plant and plans are being developed for additional landfill methane facilities. Completion of those projects would increase renewable capacity to about 90 megawatts by 2015.

A 4-megawatt landfill methane generation (LMG) plant began operating in 2007 at the Clark-Floyd Landfill. LMG resources were expanded in 2012 with purchase of the 15-megawatt Livingston Landfill facility near Pontiac, Illinois.

LMG facilities take advantage of an otherwise unused resource to economically produce electricity. Created by decaying organic material, landfill biogas is recognized as a renewable energy resource that offsets the use of fossil fuels. In addition to lowering methane emissions, LMG facilities reduce emissions of sulfur dioxide, particulate matter and nitrogen oxide.

A 20-year power purchase agreement was finalized in 2012 for electricity produced by a 4-megawatt hydroelectric facility near Dayton, Illinois. The plant produces about 18,000 megawatt-hours annually, enough to power about 1,500 homes. A 600-foot-long dam on the Fox River regulates water flow that is directed to a side canal. Electricity is produced by water pressure with virtually no emissions.


In 2008, 25 megawatts of wind power was added to Hoosier Energy's renewable energy portfolio through a purchase power agreement for electricity from a wind generation project in Story County, Iowa.

The power supplier is a charter member of the National Renewables Cooperative Organization, a consortium of co-ops working together to cost-effectively pursue clean energy opportunities.

Development of a coal bed methane renewable energy project is underway in Sullivan County. The plant will tap underground coal bed methane reserves to directly produce electric power. That process makes it unique since most coal bed projects collect methane, clean and refine the gas, and put it in pipelines. The 13-megawatt first phase of the plant is set for full operation in 2013.

Renewable energy objectives include creating diversity of power supply resources, providing member co-ops with renewable power

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to support consumer programs, strengthening environmental stewardship, and improving rural economies. The power supply cooperative supports resource development that includes hydro, wind, solar, landfill methane, coal bed methane and others.

Hoosier Energy also provides support to member cooperatives when they work with consumers on small-scale renewable energy projects. Five renewable energy facilities are in operation to evaluate the long-term feasibility of residential- and commercial-scale wind and solar generation in southern Indiana.

Retail consumers can support renewable energy efforts by purchasing power through the EnviroWatts® program offered by Hoosier Energy member cooperatives.

More than 80 percent of the 900 electric cooperatives in the U.S. provide electricity from renewable sources. While the number of projects is increasing, renewable resources cannot begin to provide the amount of electricity required to meet the nation's power needs. In a world of changing energy requirements, Hoosier Energy pursues competitively priced, reliable renewable power resources as part of its commitment to electric cooperatives and the environment.

