



REC PURCHASE AGREEMENT

I would like to offset my carbon footprint and support renewable energy. I agree to purchase the following level of RECs:

- Silver – 25% of my annual usage
- Gold – 50% of my annual usage
- Platinum – 75% of my annual usage
- Diamond – 100% of my annual usage

Please charge my utility bill:

- Monthly
- One-Time

Name

Address

City/State/Zip

RPU Account #

Daytime Phone

E-mail

Complete this form and return it with your bill payment, or mail it to:

Rochester Public Utilities
4000 East River Road NE
Rochester, MN 55906-2813

Congratulations on your REC "ownership" and thank you for supporting renewable energy!

FOR MORE RPU PROGRAMS & SERVICES

Visit our web site to learn about the programs and services RPU offers our customers to help manage, protect, or conserve energy and water.



OFFSET YOUR CARBON FOOTPRINT.

SUPPORT RENEWABLE ENERGY.



4000 East River Road NE
Rochester, Minnesota 55906-2813
(507) 280-1500 • (800) 778-3421

www.rpu.org



CONSERVE & \$AVE

YOUR CARBON FOOTPRINT

Gases that trap heat in the atmosphere are commonly called greenhouse gases. Carbon dioxide (CO₂) is just one kind of greenhouse gas. It is emitted to the atmosphere through natural processes as well as through human activities such as burning fossil fuels for electricity generation, industrial uses, and transportation. The amount of CO₂ and other greenhouse gases we emit as individuals is called our “carbon footprint”.

REDUCE YOUR FOOTPRINT

Carbon-based sources are an integral part of our current energy production, but as we move toward a “greener” lifestyle, you may be working to reduce your carbon footprint. Perhaps you already use CFL bulbs, have installed ENERGY STAR® appliances, properly insulated your home, and recycle. Maybe you'd like to do more...

Renewable energy is a popular solution for reducing our reliance on fossil fuels. Unlike fossil fuels, energy harnessed from natural resources such as the sun, wind, and water will always be available and inexhaustible. We're not all able to install solar panels on our homes or build a personal wind turbine, but you can support renewable energy by purchasing carbon offsets from Rochester Public Utilities (RPU).

A carbon offset is a reduction in carbon emissions or greenhouse gases that is made to compensate for, or offset, an emission made elsewhere. When RPU produces energy from a renewable resource, we track the production in the form of a renewable energy credit (REC, pronounced “rek”) via the Midwest Renewable Energy Tracking System (M-RETS).

RENEWABLE ENERGY CREDIT

A REC is a serialized credit that is attached to a megawatt of energy from a qualifying source. The State of Minnesota defines qualifying resources – in our case the Lake Zumbro hydro plant. The average annual output of our hydro plant is approximately 13,000 megawatt-hours. For each megawatt we generate, RPU receives one REC.

YOU CAN HELP

With RECs available, RPU is offering our customers an opportunity to buy them. By purchasing RECs, you will be supporting RPU's generation of renewable energy while offsetting your carbon footprint.

One REC equals one megawatt-hour (1,000 kWh) of renewable energy. The purchase of one REC equals the offset of one metric ton of carbon dioxide.

At \$4 per REC, we offer four levels of participation for households and businesses: Silver 25%, Gold 50%, Platinum 75%, and Diamond 100%. The amount you choose to offset will be determined by your previous year's electric energy usage. For example, an average home uses 7,800 kWh/year. To participate at the Gold level (50%) take $7,800 \times .50 = 3,900$. Then $3,900 \div 1,000 = 3.9$ which is your quantity of RECs. RECs are purchased in whole numbers so your purchase would be 4 RECs \times \$4 = \$16 per year. You have the option of choosing either a monthly or one-time charge on your utility bill. Don't know your annual energy usage? Contact customer service at 280-1500.

To purchase RECs, simply fill out and return the attached REC PURCHASE AGREEMENT form. You will receive an official certificate listing your participation level, date period (each REC is valid for a 12-month period), and your RECs serial numbers.

RPU must maintain a reserve balance of RECs, therefore this program is available on a first come, first served basis. Because RECs expire in 12 months, you will automatically be re-enrolled unless we receive a notice of cancellation. For additional information, please visit www.rpu.org or call customer service at 280-1500.

