



Mercer Island CAP – New Callout Box: Green Power (Draft)

GREEN POWER CALLOUT BOX

- **Location in CAP:** Buildings & energy action matrix (p.27)

How does the green power program affect emissions?

Residents enrolled in the PSE Green Power Program pay a premium on their energy bill that is then invested in local renewable energy projects that generate clean power sourced by PSE and other regional utilities. Increasing the portion of renewable energy in its energy mix reduces the overall carbon intensity of PSE's electricity for everyone, thereby reducing the emissions generated from powering Mercer Island homes and businesses. The PSE program is monitored and certified by a third party, Green-e, which certifies similar programs nationally. Green-e audits the PSE program annually to ensure that ratepayers' dollars are being invested appropriately.

The individual paying the premium does not receive more electrons of renewable energy than their neighbor. Instead, they are sending a market signal— by paying slightly more now, they are adding more renewable energy in the future to the Pacific Northwest power-supply grid for the benefit of all.