

WHERE DOES OUR ELECTRICITY COME FROM?



**LARGE
HYDROELECTRIC**
35.0%



**BIOMASS
AND BIOWASTE**
10.2%



SOLAR
8.8%



**ELIGIBLE
HYDROELECTRIC**
1.4%



**UNSPECIFIED
POWER**
44.6%



100% CARBON-NEUTRAL ELECTRICITY SINCE 2013

Like a nutrition facts label that shows the ingredients in food, the Power Content Label shows the sources of electricity purchased by City of Palo Alto Utilities to power local homes and businesses.

Carbon-neutral electricity comes from a variety of sources, including renewable resources like solar, wind and small hydroelectric plants. Large hydroelectric sources are also carbon-free, but the state of California doesn't consider them renewable.

Since 2016 the City of Palo Alto Utilities has had long-term contracts with California-based renewable energy providers to provide 100% Carbon Neutral power to the community. In 2020, as the value of in-state renewable energy rose, CPAU began taking a regional approach to purchasing power, selling its high priced in-state renewable energy and buying the most cost-efficient renewable energy from outside the state. This program generates earnings (\$2.9M in 2020) which are being split between pandemic rate relief and investments in local decarbonization efforts necessary to meet our ambitious climate goals. Although the power sourced out-of-state remains carbon-neutral, it's not recognized as renewable by the state and instead is labeled as "unspecified." But CPAU retains its long-term contracts, and when this in-state / out-of-state energy exchange program ends, the Power Content Label will look like it did in 2019: 100% renewable and carbon-neutral sources.

Palo Alto is reducing greenhouse gas emissions to 80% below 1990 levels by 2030

POWER SOURCES IN 2020 CPAU power sources include five solar PV projects, two wind projects, five landfill gas-fired projects, the Calaveras hydroelectric project, and the Western Area Power Administration (Western) contract, which is sourced from Central Valley Project hydroelectric facilities. All of these resources are located in California. Power supply percentages vary annually based on the available output from our contracted generators. In 2020, CPAU's hydroelectric generation was somewhat lower than long-term average levels due to relatively dry weather conditions, so CPAU needed to purchase additional renewable generation from other utilities in the western US.



PaloAltoGreen's^a Prospective^b Product Content Label for 2021 Consists of 100% Wind Energy^c

^a PaloAltoGreen is a voluntary renewable energy program from City of Palo Alto Utilities that matches up to 100% of your estimated monthly electricity usage with Green-e[®] certified Renewable Energy Credits (RECs) from new renewable energy resources, specifically from generation facilities that first began commercial operation in the last 15 years.

^b Prospective Product Content Label: These figures reflect the renewables that we have contracted to provide. Actual figures may vary according to resource availability. We will annually report to you before October 1st of next year in the form of a Historical Product Content Label the actual resource mix of the electricity you purchased.

^c Sourced from wind energy RECs located in the western U.S. (CA, OR, WA, ID, NV, UT, AZ, MT, WY, CO, or NM) or Canada (BC or AB).

PaloAltoGreen™



PaloAltoGreen is Green-e[®] Energy certified and meets the environmental and consumer-protection standards set forth by the non-profit Center for Resource Solutions.

For more information on Green-e[®] Certified Energy, call 1-888-63-GREEN or visit green-e.org

PaloAltoGreen 2020 Historical Product Content Label (reflected in the "Palo Alto Green" column of the table on page 2): These figures reflect the power delivered to PaloAltoGreen's customers in 2020. Solar energy and wind energy sourced from California facilities.

Find more details at cityofpaloalto.org/PowerContentLabel and cityofpaloalto.org/CarbonNeutral



CITY OF
PALO ALTO
UTILITIES

Individuals with disabilities who require accommodations to access City facilities, services or programs, or who would like information on the City's compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, may contact the City's ADA Coordinator at (650) 329-2368 (voice) or email ada@cityofpaloalto.org
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2020 POWER CONTENT LABEL					
City of Palo Alto Utilities					
cityofpaloalto.org/PowerContentLabel					
Greenhouse Gas Emissions Intensity (lbs CO ₂ e/MWh)		Energy Resources	Palo Alto Green	CPAU Standard Rate	2020 CA Power Mix
Palo Alto Green	CPAU Standard Rate	Eligible Renewable ¹ Biomass & Biowaste Geothermal Eligible Hydroelectric Solar Wind Coal Large Hydroelectric Natural Gas Nuclear Other Unspecified Power ² TOTAL	100.0%	20.4%	33.1%
0	434		0.0%	10.2%	2.5%
<p>The bar chart shows three values: Palo Alto Green is 0, CPAU Standard Rate is 434, and 2020 CA Utility Average is 466. The y-axis ranges from 0 to 1000.</p>		17.2%	8.8%	13.2%	
		82.8%	0.0%	11.1%	
		0.0%	0.0%	2.7%	
		0.0%	35.0%	12.2%	
		0.0%	0.0%	37.1%	
		0.0%	0.0%	9.3%	
		0.0%	0.0%	0.2%	
		0.0%	44.6%	5.4%	
		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	
Percentage of Retail Sales Covered by Retired Unbundled RECs³:			0%	41%	
<p>¹The eligible renewable percentage above does not reflect RPS compliance, which is determined using a different methodology.</p> <p>²Unspecified power is electricity that has been purchased through open market transactions and is not traceable to a specific generation source.</p> <p>³Renewable energy credits (RECs) are tracking instruments issued for renewable generation. Unbundled renewable energy credits (RECs) represent renewable generation that was not delivered to serve retail sales. Unbundled RECs are not reflected in the power mix or GHG emissions intensities above.</p>					
<p>For specific information about this electricity portfolio, contact: City of Palo Alto Utilities (650) 329-2161</p>					
<p>For general information about the Power Content Label, visit: http://www.energy.ca.gov/pcl/</p>					
<p>For additional questions, please contact the California Energy Commission at: Toll-free in California: 844-454-2906 Outside California: 916-653-0237</p>					