

100% Renewable Electricity Challenge

For our houses of worship & homes by 2016

Friendly Households is a project of the The Eco-Justice Collaborative

The Eco-Justice Collaborative is a collective effort of area Friends and Friends Meetings to honor our testimonies of environmental and economic stewardship as we respond to the challenge of climate change. We seek to improve the resilience and health of our places of worship and create communities of simplicity and fellowship

For more information or to volunteer in your Quarter contact:

nextgenconference@gmail.com

The Climate Challenge is an invitation to Friends to unite to take actions that will have immediate positive impacts on the commonwealth of life.

Switching your Meeting and home to a 100% renewable electricity is the first challenge!

If we want to combat climate change, we need to profoundly change the way we use and generate energy, minimizing our greenhouse gas emissions. Of the total energy consumed in America, about 40% is used to generate electricity. Unfortunately, most of the electricity in the United States is still generated from fossil fuels such as coal. By choosing clean energy such as wind or solar power for our houses of worship and our homes, we indicate which direction our energy policy should be taking and drive demand for more renewable energy.

Sign-Up!

Signing your household up for 100% renewable electricity is the equivalent of taking your car off the road for nine months — that's how much CO2 you will save!

The difference we can make together.

As Friends, we will:

- · Clean the air we breathe and save thousands of lives
- Power our local grid with domestically produced wind and solar, use fewer fossil fuels.
- Create local jobs and new revenue for local schools.
- Save millions of gallons of water wasted by oil and gas extraction.
- · Support the local renewable energy industry
- Battle global climate change, every day.
- Lead our states to a goal of 35% renewable energy use by 2020.

100% of our Friends' Meetings for 100% Renewable Energy

In just 15 minutes, your Monthly Meeting could be 100% powered by renewable electricity! What a potent example we set by committing to 100% renewable energy for our Meetings and households. Thanks to recent deregulation in the energy market, the electricity you purchase in your monthly electricity bill could be supplied by wind turbines, solar plants, or hydroelectric dams, while remaining affordable. By switching your electricity provider, you can slash your meeting's carbon footprint and do your part to prevent climate change. You may not be able to install your own solar panels, but now every Meeting has the potential to be powered by renewable electricity for roughly the same amount of money as your current monthly electric bill.

Just 4 steps to clean electricity:

- **I.** Identify your current provider and research options (see below)
- **2.** Review options for 100% renewable electricity. **3.** Switch! **4.** Let us know when you switch. Our goal is 100% of PYM Meetings with 100% renewable electricity. Then spread the word! Encourage members and attenders to switch too.

NJ Options: There are two 100% renewable suppliers in southern NJ - Community Energy and Sterling Planet particulars,: www.communityenergyinc.com and www.sterlingplanet.com (For Sterling, go to Enroll and select Utility Programs and then select your distributor.)

PA Options: go to PA Powerswitch at www.papowerswitch.com.

PA & DE Options:

Pennsylvania Interfaith Power & Light (www.paipl.us/2014/01/15/divest-at-the-outlet) helps you pool your purchasing with other houses of worship and individuals committed to a clean energy transition. Their partner, Groundswell negotiates with power companies to get our electricity from 100% renewable sources and strengthens our budget to accomplish the things that matter most. Participating organizations are able to purchase 100% renewable electricity for less than the standard offer, saving between 3-20% on electricity bills. Contracts typically guarantee a fixed rate for 2 to 3 years and provide effective consumer protection. Gwynedd, York, Kennett and other Monthly Meetings have already made the switch!

Whichever provider you choose, you still pay bills to the same distributor, who pays the generating company. You still call the distributor if your power goes out or you have other problems. Same reliable service, same billing. Contact us and let us share your good actions (write us at nextgenconference@gmail.com)

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