

What is the value of this deal?

The electricity agreement provides The City with a long-term supply of renewable electricity to meet its expected demand at a contracted price. The agreement provides The City with electricity operating budget certainty, and mitigates The Corporation's exposure to market volatility and future greenhouse gas legislation.

How much electricity does The City use annually?

The City is expected to use approximately 428,000 megawatt-hours of electricity in 2009. It's anticipated that electricity use will increase by about 44 per cent to 556,000 megawatt-hours of electricity by 2026.

Who gets the credit for the renewable energy – The City or ENMAX Energy?

Any renewable attributes associated with the electricity purchased will flow through to The City of Calgary.

Renewable technology is expanding world-wide. Doesn't the agreement with ENMAX Energy limit who The City can partner with?

ENMAX Energy is The City's sole retailer for electricity and natural gas. However, The City can proceed with an energy supply project on its own should ENMAX Energy choose not to participate. The fact is, through the Energy Management Office both ENMAX Energy and The City of Calgary are actively pursuing and exploring renewable energy technologies.

2009-07-09



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The City of Calgary will become:



The largest major municipal user of renewable electricity in Canada.



The number one user – by percentage – of renewable electricity among major local municipalities in North America.



The third largest user – by volume – among major municipalities in North America.

How we got here

On Jan. 26, 2009, City Council unanimously approved a motion to amend the Electricity Retail Contract between The City of Calgary and ENMAX Energy.

In July 2005, The City and ENMAX Energy executed the electricity service supply agreement so that, effective Jan. 1, 2007, a full 75 per cent of the The City of Calgary's electricity supply each year would come from renewable sources.

In March 2005, Council approved LAS2005-29 recommending a staged approach towards a target of at least 75 per cent green electricity in 2007 and greater than 90 per cent green electricity by 2012, subject to meeting acceptable pricing arrangements and relevant Council policy direction.

In May 2004, Council approved The City of Calgary Corporate Climate Change Action Plan Target Minus 50, and directed Administration to pursue 100 per cent green electricity supply with ENMAX Energy when the existing electricity contracts expire.

In November 2002, The City's first renewable energy project was Calgary Transit's Ride the Wind program, which saw Calgary's Light Rail Transit (LRT) powered 100 per cent by renewable energy.

This initiative made Calgary's the first wind-powered public transit system in North America, and reduced greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) by 26,000 tonnes annually.

Why is The City choosing to purchase renewable ("green") electricity?

The City of Calgary has made a commitment to reduce its impact on the environment. Reducing its greenhouse gas emissions is part of that commitment. In Alberta, the production of electricity is a significant source of greenhouse gas emissions due to the province's power generators' heavy reliance on fossil fuels, especially coal. Through our supply agreement with ENMAX Energy, The City is fulfilling a long-term goal of meeting its electricity needs through renewable energy sources and renewable energy certificates (REC).

In addition, production of other pollutants from fossil fuel-based electricity, such as volatile organic compounds, nitrogen oxides, sulphur, mercury and particulate emissions will also be avoided as a result of this project. As The City reduces its CO2 emissions, these pollutants will also be reduced.

What impact will purchasing renewable electricity have on The City?

In 2012, The City of Calgary will be the only large municipal government in North America to have reduced its corporate greenhouse gas emissions to below 50 per cent of 1990 levels.

Over the life of the agreement, the avoided GHG emissions are expected to be about seven million tonnes or equal to about 32,000 rail cars full of coal that won't be needed to power City operations. That's equivalent to a train over 500 kilometres long stretching roughly the distance between Calgary and Saskatoon.

The agreement also supports The City's Climate Change Action Plan Target Minus 50 to reduce corporate greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions to 50 per cent of 1990 levels by 2012. By 2012, emissions from City-owned facilities and equipment

are projected to be about 170,000 tonnes per year, compared to approximately 460,000 tonnes in 1990, a reduction of 63 per cent.

What does the City-ENMAX agreement entail?

To meet forecasted energy growth, The City of Calgary will amend the existing long-term electricity supply agreement with ENMAX Energy to purchase additional renewable electricity. The City will purchase at least 75 per cent of its electricity from renewable electricity sources between 2009 and 2011, and increase its renewable electricity purchases to 100 per cent of its electricity needs for the remainder of the agreement term by 2012.