

Franklin County is now purchasing Renewable Energy Certificates for County Facilities

In March 2016, the Franklin County Board of Commissioners entered into a 26-month contract with AEP Energy to purchase Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) equal to 25.6 million kWh per year. The certificates equate to 100% of the energy currently supplied by AEP to the County's forty-seven (47) facilities.

The cost of electricity provided to the forty-seven Franklin County-owned facilities by AEP is projected to increase dramatically. The increase is estimated at \$242,000 over the 26-month period. The option to purchase nearly 55.5 million kilowatt hours of green power RECs over the same period was determined to present a savings opportunity to the County of approximately \$121,000.

The contract with AEP Energy is the first of its kind in Ohio. No other Ohio County has made a commitment to support development of renewable energy generation resources by purchasing RECs that equal 100% of the energy provided to all of their facilities by an electric supplier. The wind-generated energy purchased by this contract will reduce CO₂e emissions by 45,735 metric tons over the life of the contract. That is equivalent to taking approximately 6,291 homes off the electricity grid for one year.

The contract is another action in support of the County Commissioners' commitment to improve the County's impact on the environment through the use of sustainable and renewable policies and programs.