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Green Pricing and Net Metering Programs 2008

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Preface

The U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) reports detailed historical data on green pricing and net metering in its report, the *Renewable Energy Annual*. This report, *Green Pricing and Net Metering Programs 2008*, provides an overview and tables with state level historical data for 2007 and 2008. These tables correspond to similar tables to be presented in chapter 5 of the *Renewable Energy Annual 2008* and are numbered accordingly.

Definitions for terms used in this report can be found in EIA's Energy Glossary: <http://www.eia.gov/glossary/index.html>. General information about all the EIA surveys with data related to renewable energy and referenced in this report can be found here: <http://www.eia.gov/oss/forms.html>.

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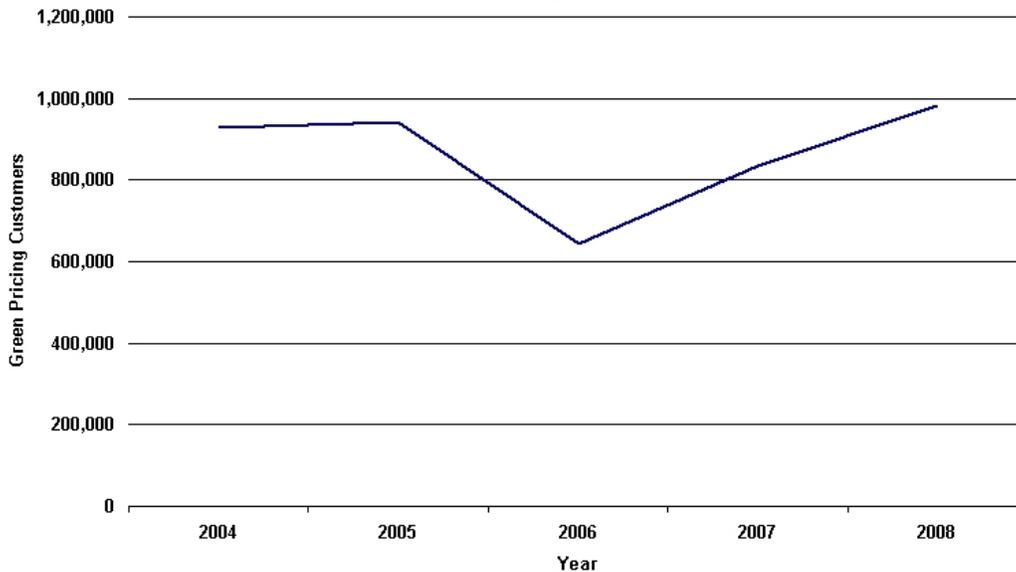
Green Pricing and Net Metering Programs 2008

2008 Year in Review

Green Pricing Programs

The number of electric industry participants reporting customers in green pricing programs increased from 537 to 643 between 2007 and 2008 (Table 5.1).¹ The number of customers in green pricing programs reached 982,995 out of a nationwide customer base of 143,275,635.² That is the highest number of green pricing customers reported since the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) began collecting data in 2002 (Figure 5.1). Texas reported having the most at 205,725 customers in 2008, followed by Oregon with 113,098 and California with 83,610, but every state except Hawaii serves some green pricing customers. The net increase in customers for the year was 147,344 led by large increases in Texas and California. Ninety-three percent of green pricing customers nationwide were residential, significantly more than the share of residential customers in total (87 percent).

Figure 5.1 U.S. Green Pricing Customers, 2004-2008



Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA), Form EIA-861, “Annual Electric Power Industry Report.”

In addition to the increases in the green pricing customer base noted above, there were some individual states (such as Hawaii and New Mexico) with sharp decreases between

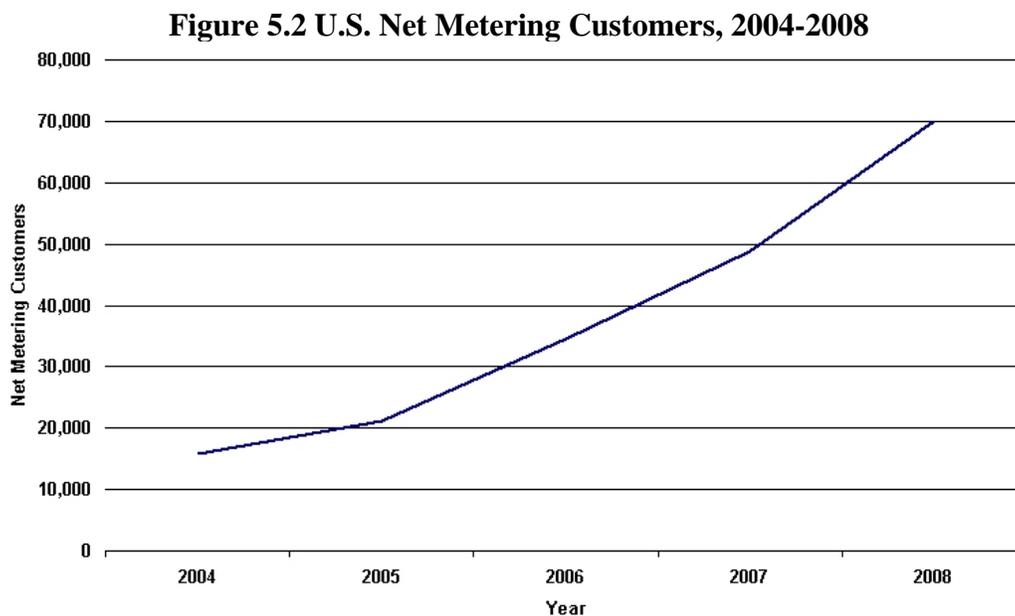
¹ “Electric industry participants” include electric utilities, wholesale power marketers, energy service providers, and electric power producers. All participants except independent power producers and qualifying facilities are required to report information on their green pricing and net metering programs. For 2007, see U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA), *Renewable Energy Annual 2007* (Washington, D.C. May 2009), table 5.1.

² See also EIA, *Electric Power Annual 2008* (Washington, DC January 2010), table 7.1.

2007 and 2008. Some electric industry participants, who are the respondents to the Form EIA-861, reported that the recession took a large toll on their green pricing customer base, and that customers were dropping out of the programs, because of their unwillingness to pay the premium for green power during the economic downturn. But the EIA also found some electric industry participants reported having green pricing programs that did not meet the EIA definition.³ In some cases they reported information on their Renewable Energy Certificates (RECS) programs. EIA eliminated the information, which was reported in error, from its 2008 database. No revisions were made to any earlier years, so some decreases between the two years are attributed to the reporting correction.

Net Metering Programs

At the end of 2008, 420 electric industry participants reported net metering customers in every state except Tennessee (Table 5.2). Total net metering customers were up by 21,180 to 70,009 between 2007 and 2008 (Figure 5.2). California had, by far, the largest number of net metering customers with 45,719 or 65 percent of the U.S. total. California also accounted for just over half of the increase in 2008. Net metering programs included 64,400 residential customers or 92 percent of total U.S. net metering customers.



Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA), Form EIA-861, “Annual Electric Power Industry Report.”

³ Green pricing programs allow customers to purchase power generated from renewable resources and to pay for renewable energy development.

Table 5.1 Estimated U.S. Green Pricing Customers by State and Customer Class, 2007 and 2008

State	Electric Industry Participants 2008 ¹	Participating Customers			
		2008			2007
		Residential	Non-Residential	Total	Total
Alabama	25	1,786	30	1,816	585
Alaska	1	440	20	460	530
Arizona	6	4,222	123	4,345	9,285
Arkansas	2	25	-	25	-
California	13	80,178	3,432	83,610	58,676
Colorado	26	56,270	1,966	58,236	57,501
Connecticut	3	122	24	146	96
Delaware	9	11,193	1,260	12,453	8,914
District of Columbia	3	1,590	3,925	5,515	4,854
Florida	5	38,099	385	38,484	37,833
Georgia	24	9,170	186	9,356	8,308
Hawaii	-	-	-	-	4,738
Idaho	6	4,935	192	5,127	4,817
Illinois	4	4,225	40	4,265	3,892
Indiana	14	6,111	97	6,208	4,299
Iowa	40	8,522	743	9,265	9,193
Kansas	1	1	-	1	1
Kentucky	24	3,026	32	3,058	1,338
Louisiana	2	357	38	395	-
Maine	2	2,003	218	2,221	2,494
Maryland	4	42,690	16,337	59,027	55,954
Massachusetts	8	9,738	474	10,212	6,155
Michigan	11	27,843	285	28,128	13,196
Minnesota	98	43,879	554	44,433	44,034
Mississippi	12	249	9	258	3
Missouri	20	4,283	55	4,338	1,439
Montana	11	538	26	564	995
Nebraska	4	7,585	61	7,646	6,891
Nevada	2	30	1	31	514
New Hampshire	1	-	1	1	1
New Jersey	4	1,945	323	2,268	441
New Mexico	11	3,129	300	3,429	21,273
New York	9	27,310	1,225	28,535	21,857
North Carolina	23	13,936	287	14,223	12,386
North Dakota	7	3,095	14	3,109	5,086
Ohio	13	3,625	130	3,755	1,789
Oklahoma	8	9,882	539	10,421	11,287
Oregon	24	109,656	3,442	113,098	100,595
Pennsylvania	5	36,742	812	37,554	39,099
Rhode Island	2	5,086	120	5,206	4,887
South Carolina	21	9,895	485	10,380	4,766
South Dakota	7	596	16	612	632
Tennessee	64	11,712	987	12,699	-
Texas	18	184,994	20,731	205,725	142,334
Utah	8	25,291	607	25,898	23,406
Vermont	2	4,535	257	4,792	4,517
Virginia	2	1,062	-	1,062	1,306
Washington	25	46,516	1,391	47,907	43,885
West Virginia	2	72	2	74	-
Wisconsin	60	45,889	2,229	48,118	36,344
Wyoming	8	4,206	300	4,506	13,225
U.S. Total	643	918,284	64,711	982,995	835,651

¹Includes entities with green pricing programs in more than one state.

- = No data reported.

Notes: Totals may not equal the sum of the components due to independent rounding.

Non-residential may include some customers for whom no customer class is specified.

Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration, Form EIA-861, "Annual Electric Power Industry Report."

Table 5.2 Estimated U.S. Net Metering Customers by State and Customer Class, 2007 and 2008

State	Electric Industry Participants 2008 ¹	Participating Customers			
		2008			2007
		Residential	Non-Residential	Total	Total
Alabama	1	2	-	2	-
Alaska	1	20	6	26	1
Arizona	7	1,877	74	1,951	1,146
Arkansas	8	29	2	31	19
California	25	42,753	2,966	45,719	34,910
Colorado	25	3,422	365	3,787	279
Connecticut	2	753	42	795	364
Delaware	2	276	53	329	141
District of Columbia	2	28	3	31	13
Florida	18	441	68	509	185
Georgia	4	32	11	43	20
Hawaii	4	735	127	862	414
Idaho	4	108	19	127	60
Illinois	8	232	22	254	9
Indiana	8	39	24	63	42
Iowa	12	40	9	49	29
Kansas	3	11	-	11	10
Kentucky	8	18	5	23	12
Louisiana	6	74	4	78	10
Maine	1	8	6	14	10
Maryland	7	222	33	255	107
Massachusetts	8	1,362	239	1,601	980
Michigan	10	60	7	67	15
Minnesota	36	521	67	588	349
Mississippi	1	1	-	1	-
Missouri	11	35	7	42	10
Montana	6	355	114	469	409
Nebraska	3	1	4	5	1
Nevada	3	364	45	409	344
New Hampshire	4	177	47	224	144
New Jersey	7	3,035	451	3,486	3,215
New Mexico	12	412	34	446	257
New York	4	2,274	46	2,320	1,815
North Carolina	12	36	16	52	20
North Dakota	5	6	1	7	4
Ohio	13	159	56	215	142
Oklahoma	2	19	1	20	10
Oregon	22	961	145	1,106	714
Pennsylvania	7	270	70	340	269
Rhode Island	2	110	15	125	106
South Carolina	6	9	5	14	4
South Dakota	3	18	1	19	2
Tennessee	-	-	-	-	-
Texas	16	934	57	991	599
Utah	6	317	34	351	143
Vermont	9	400	64	464	344
Virginia	13	179	15	194	113
Washington	23	824	114	938	634
West Virginia	5	22	3	25	8
Wisconsin	33	319	97	416	343
Wyoming	9	100	15	115	54
U.S. Total	420	64,400	5,609	70,009	48,829

¹Includes entities with net metering programs in more than one state.

- = No data reported.

Notes: Totals may not equal the sum of the components due to independent rounding.

Non-residential may include some customers for whom no customer class is specified.

Data for 2007 was revised slightly.

Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration, Form EIA-861, "Annual Electric Power Industry Report."