



Registered Charity No. 1159816
www.strettonclimatecare.org.uk

Is your energy supplier really that green?

The U.K. is now often producing more power from clean energy than from fossil fuels. Carbon free electricity includes that generated from nuclear and renewables. Renewables includes electricity from wind, wave, hydro, solar and biomass.

Many energy companies now offer a “green tariff” which means that some or all of the electricity is **matched** by purchases of renewable energy. However some “green tariffs” are not as green as they may appear.

For every 1 MWh of renewable electricity from a truly renewable source the energy regulator (OFGEM) issues a certificate known as a REGO [Renewable Energy Guarantees of Origin]. The energy generator makes its money by either selling the renewable electricity it produces or selling the REGO certificate. Some energy suppliers will only buy the actual renewable electricity; others will buy the REGO to make it appear the power they supply to you is greener than it actually is.

The following suppliers clearly list the source of their renewable electricity and are considered to be 100% green

Good Energy (<https://www.goodenergy.co.uk/our-energy/>)

Green Energy UK (<https://www.greenenergyuk.com/OurEnergy>)

Ecotricity (<https://www.ecotricity.co.uk/about-ecotricity/our-eco-credentials/our-environmental-footprint>)

Some suppliers however who appear to offer a “green” tariff are actually supplying only a % of electricity from a truly renewable source and make up the rest by buying the REGO certificates created by the renewable generators. They source the rest of the actual electricity from fossil fuel generation.

Suppliers should clearly list the mix of the electricity they supply Some tariffs are greener than others and that green element of the supply can also include electricity from nuclear generation. This is a good example of “greenwash.”

By following the link below it is possible to see in real time the % of coal, gas, oil, nuclear and renewable energy generation for each energy supplier. This is useful to enable customers to see just how “green” their supplier really is.

<http://electricityinfo.org/real-time-fuel-mix-and-carbon-intensity-methodology/>

