

## Ridgway Commits to 100% Renewable Electricity at all Town Operations and Facilities

Ridgway, CO – On March 11<sup>th</sup>, the Ridgway Town Council committed to 100% renewable electricity at all Town operations and facilities. The Town was able to reach 100% renewable energy through participation in San Miguel Power Association's (SMPA) Totally Green Program.

Through the Totally Green Program, the Town will pay a premium for 100% renewable electricity, which is accounted for by retiring Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) from solar, wind and hydroelectric projects. Many of these renewable projects are local, like the Norwood IQ Solar Array, or the Coal Creek Hydroelectric plant. The Program uses RECs to provide account holders who opt in the program 100% renewably sourced electricity. RECs are the legally recognized method of accounting for renewable power generation. When account holders participate in the Totally Green Program, they own the RECs, which represent the clean environmental attributes from those renewable power sources. They are essentially the certificates that prove a given quantity of power SMPA supplies comes from 100% renewable sources.



The cost to participate in the Totally Green Program is \$0.01 per kilowatt-hour and the bill adjustment automatically tracks electricity use and makes the appropriate investment in renewable energy each month. The net proceeds from the Totally Green Program are exclusively used by SMPA to support new, local renewable power generation.

The Town of Ridgway encourages all SMPA account holders to learn more about the Totally Green Program, which is an easy way to go 100% renewable. Participation in the program can help meet established statewide goals to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. The reduction targets set forth in House Bill 19-1261 are a 26 percent cut in GHG emissions by 2025, as well as a 50 percent cut by 2030 and a 90 percent cut by 2050. These statewide goals are based on the levels of GHG emissions that existed in 2005.

For more information on the Totally Green Program, visit [www.smpa.com/content/sign-totally-green](http://www.smpa.com/content/sign-totally-green) or contact SMPA at [memberservice@smpa.com](mailto:memberservice@smpa.com) or 970-626-5549.

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