



# Green Electricity Watch 2006

## Which GreenPower products really make a difference?

Green Electricity Watch provides a ranking of GreenPower electricity products, by three leading Australian environment organisations: the Australian Conservation Foundation, Total Environment Centre and WWF Australia.

## The importance of new, renewable energy to help reduce global warming

Australians are the worst greenhouse polluters per capita in the industrialised world. This is largely due to our electricity consumption, which makes up 35% of Australian greenhouse emissions.

Our electricity doesn't have to be like this: Australia is rich in clean renewable energy sources like wind, solar, bioenergy and hydro, which could supply much more of our power. Instead we get only 8% from renewable sources, and 92% from polluting fossil fuels such as coal.

There is a small mandatory target in law, for a 2% increase in renewable electricity nationally by 2010, and Victoria and South Australia have introduced their own targets. But these won't reduce greenhouse emissions enough. We need to source at least 25% of electricity from renewable energy by 2020 to help avoid dangerous climate change. Your choice to buy accredited GreenPower will help.


## What is GreenPower?

GreenPower is government-accredited clean, renewable energy sourced from the sun, the wind, water and waste. By choosing accredited GreenPower you are driving the creation of new, renewable energy and reducing greenhouse emissions.

There are a lot of GreenPower products on offer. It's important that you have confidence in your choice of GreenPower products. To help you, we have carried out an independent survey of what's on the market.

## Only the accredited portion of GreenPower makes a difference

Many GreenPower products include only a small percentage of accredited GreenPower. Some products are sold as '100% renewable' but it is only the accredited portion that makes a difference. Even if the remainder is renewable, it consists of renewable energy that is already in the grid or already being counted towards mandatory targets. Therefore your purchase does not contribute to the growth of new, renewable energy or assist in reducing our current greenhouse gas emissions.

**Buy electricity with the highest ranking and amount of accredited  GreenPower**  
**Don't buy non-accredited 'green' electricity products**

## How accredited GreenPower products have been scored

This survey ranks Green Power products. These have been scored on their ability to reduce greenhouse emissions based on several criteria, including:

- What is the proportion of **accredited** GreenPower in the product?
- How much does the product support the growth of new, renewable energy in Australia?
- How much has the retailer succeeded in promoting the uptake of GreenPower?
- How clear and accurate is the information given by retailers about their products?



Information on the Government's GreenPower accreditation system: ph **1300 852 688** or [www.greenpower.gov.au](http://www.greenpower.gov.au)  
For an easy guide to the full results of the survey visit [www.greenelectricitywatch.org.au](http://www.greenelectricitywatch.org.au)

# GreenPower products for homes - how they score

★ ★ ★ ★ Very good   ★ ★ ★ Good   ★ ★ Fair   ★ Poor   ✖ Very poor

GreenEarth Solar	Origin	NSW, SA, Vic	★ ★ ★ ★
GreenEarth Wind	Origin	NSW, SA, Vic	★ ★ ★ ★
TRUenergy Wind Power	TRUenergy	ACT, NSW, SA, Vic	★ ★ ★ ★
AGL Green Energy	AGL	NSW, SA, Vic	★ ★ ★
NaturalPower 100% <sup>1</sup>	Synergy	WA	★ ★ ★
Countrygreen foreverGREEN	Country Energy	NSW, Vic, SA, ACT	★ ★ ★
GreenEarthExtra	Origin	NSW, SA, Vic	★ ★ ★
Climate Neutral – Emerald	Climate Friendly	All states	★ ★ ★
GreenChoice 15 kWh/day <sup>1</sup>	ACTEWAGL	ACT, NSW, QLD, SA, Vic	★ ★ ★
earth's choice \$60 for 1990 kWh <sup>1</sup>	Energex	QLD	★ ★ ★
GreenSwitch (100%) <sup>1</sup>	Greenswitch	All states	★ ★ ★
earth's choice \$40 for 1330 kWh <sup>1</sup>	Energex	QLD	★ ★
GreenChoice 10 kWh/day <sup>1</sup>	ActewAGL	ACT, NSW, QLD, SA, Vic, WA	★ ★
Countrygreen LivingGREEN	Country Energy	NSW, Vic, SA, ACT	★ ★
Clean Energy from Ergon \$120 <sup>1</sup>	Ergon	QLD	★ ★
TRUenergy Planet Plus	TRUenergy	ACT, NSW, SA, Vic	★ ★
Climate Neutral – Green	Climate Friendly	All states	★ ★
NaturalPower 50% <sup>1</sup>	Synergy	WA	★ ★
GreenEarth (Vic and SA)	Origin	SA, Vic	★ ★
Climate Neutral – Economy	Climate Friendly	All states	★ ★
INgreen Pure	Integral	NSW	★ ★
GreenEarth (NSW)	Origin	NSW	★ ★
GreenChoice 5 kWh/day <sup>1</sup>	ACTEWAGL	ACT, NSW, QLD, SA, Vic	★ ★
GreenSaver Premium	Energy Australia	SA, Vic	★ ★
PureEnergy	Energy Australia	NSW	★ ★
Countrygreen LiteGREEN	Country Energy	NSW, Vic, SA, ACT	★ ★
NaturalPower 25% <sup>1</sup>	Synergy	WA	★ ★
TRUenergy Planet	TRUenergy	ACT, NSW, SA, Vic	★
earth's choice \$10 for 330 kWh <sup>1</sup>	Energex	QLD	★
TRUenergy Go Green	TRUenergy	ACT, NSW, SA, Vic	★
TRUenergy Planet Starter	TRUenergy	ACT, NSW, SA, Vic	★
AGL Green Living	AGL	NSW, SA, Vic	★
Clean Energy from Ergon \$30 <sup>1</sup>	Ergon	QLD	★
GreenSwitch (10%) <sup>1</sup>	Greenswitch	All states	★
Countrygreen energy residential	Country Energy	ACT, NSW, SA, Vic	★
Clean Energy from Ergon \$10 <sup>1</sup>	Ergon	QLD	★
JackgreenPower™	Jackgreen Energy	NSW	✖
INgreen Home	Integral	NSW	✖
GreenSaver	Energy Australia	SA, Vic	✖

<sup>1</sup> Where the same product is sold at different levels, only the highest, lowest and one in the middle have been scored.

If you don't see your product it may be discontinued. See how it scored at [www.greenelectricitywatch.org.au](http://www.greenelectricitywatch.org.au)

## Don't buy these if you want your electricity to come from new clean energy!

ClearAir	Energy Australia	Discontinued products; existing customers should seek to be upgraded to an accredited GreenPower product.
GreenFuture	Energy Australia	
Green 100	Jackgreen Energy	
Red Energy	Red Energy	These are believed to come from renewable sources that have been part of our system for a very long time or are already part of legislated schemes – buying from them will not reduce Australia's greenhouse emissions or make more clean energy.
Victoria Electricity	Victoria Electricity	
Earth Friendly	Synergy	This is not an electricity product and has not been assessed by Green Electricity Watch. It is certified by the Australian Greenhouse Office's Greenhouse Friendly™ initiative and aims to reduce greenhouse emissions in other areas.