



Memorandum

TO: Vail Town Council

FROM: Community Development Department

DATE: May 21, 2019

SUBJECT: Resolution No. 23, Series of 2019, a Resolution Pledging 100% Renewable Energy for Town of Vail Electricity

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this memorandum and presentation is to present for adoption Resolution No. 23, Series of 2019, pledging to purchase renewable energy through the Holy Cross Energy PuRE program, *Powered by 100% Renewable Energy*, for all Town of Vail electric accounts.

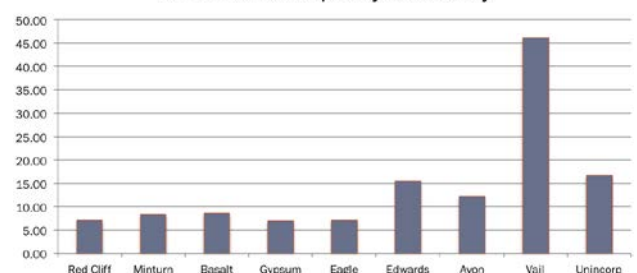
II. BACKGROUND

The Town of Vail's Environmental Sustainability Strategic Plan, adopted by the Vail Town Council in 2009, includes Goal #2, *"Reduce the Town of Vail municipal and community energy use by 20% below 2006 levels by 2020, in order to effectively reduce the Town's contribution to greenhouse gas emissions and impact on global climate change.* In 2006, the town's total carbon emissions were approximately 12,000 lbs. CO₂e, and today are approximately 10,440 lbs CO₂e, a 13% reduction due to the town's facility-wide energy efficiency project, despite significant increases in snowmelted areas. However, in order to reach the 20% by 2020 and 80% by 2050 carbon emissions reduction goal, a large-scale renewable energy purchase is required. In order to achieve a full emissions offset of town operations including the snowmelt system, staff will return to the Vail Town Council with additional options for consideration later this summer.

Vail Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory

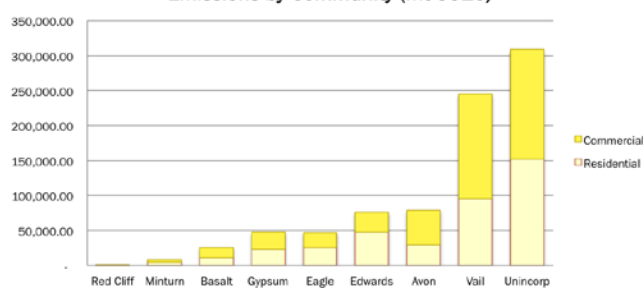
CLEER further broke down the County inventory by community. Vail's greenhouse gas emissions are comparably higher than other communities, due to high impact from the ski industry, guests, snowmelt and transportation. With a low population but high guest attendance, per capita emissions are skewed.

Emissions Per Capita by Community



GHG emissions per capita

Emissions by Community (mt CO₂e)



Emissions by community - Buildings, Facilities, and Industry

III. HOLY CROSS PuRE PROGRAM

Holy Cross Energy will present the PuRE program, an energy offset program where members may purchase renewable energy for a premium at a rate of \$.00076/kWh for wind, \$.0107/kWh for hydroelectric power, and \$.01222/kWh for solar. Since HCE is currently supplied by 39% renewable energy, members are only responsible for the remaining 61% to offset their bills with renewable energy. Members may choose the renewable energy source which tracks with electricity bills.

Town Electric Offset Options

kWh 2018	100% Wind	100% Hydro	100% Solar
4,643,782	\$35,293	\$49,688.47	\$56,654.14

So far, other communities and organizations in the Climate Action Collaborative including Basalt, Eagle County, Eagle River Water and Sanitation District, Snowmass Village, and Carbondale have adopted to select either 100% solar, 100% wind, or a combination of the sources. The premium purchase prices are based upon the wholesale rate Holy Cross Energy pays for the power, and each has its advantages. Wind has a higher capacity factor and compliments daytime solar use. Wind is also the least expensive product, but is not necessarily in the state of Colorado, where new solar contracts will include those developed in-state. Hydro Power is purchased through Wester Area Power Association (WAPA), made up of 19 different hydro-electric projects in the state.

IV. STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Vail Town Council adopt Resolution No. 23, Series of 2019 pledging to purchase 100% renewable energy, and adding \$36,000 (estimated based on last 12 months kWh usage) to the supplemental budget for wind power for all electric accounts associated with Town of Vail municipal operations.

V. ATTACHMENTS

- A. Resolution No. 23, Series of 2019