



Intel wins EPA Green Power Award, Installing Solar Power at Intel Oregon

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced on Oct. 27 that Intel has been awarded the 2008 Green Power Leadership Award and named Intel Green Power Partner of the Year. The EPA recognized the company's voluntary efforts to address climate change through green power purchases and its impact in advancing the renewable energy market.

The EPA award is largely based on the multi-year commitment Intel signed earlier this year to purchase more than 1.3 billion kilowatt hours of renewable energy certificates (REC) per year - enough power to meet approximately 47 percent of its purchased electricity use - and putting the company at the No. 1 spot on the [EPA Fortune 500 Green Power Partners List](#). The EPA estimates that Intel's record purchase has the equivalent environmental impact of taking more than 185,000 cars off the road, or avoiding the amount of electricity needed to power more than 130,000 average American homes annually.

Meanwhile Intel has decided to install its first solar power project in the United States, a 100Kw electric PV system, at Intel's Jones Farm Campus in Hillsboro. The project will be operational later this year. Over 25 years, the Jones Farm solar system is estimated to offset 4,069,441 lbs of CO₂, the leading greenhouse gas and 6,621,386 miles driven in an average car, or 264,855 miles a year.

While not a large solar installation by some standards, it will be a big step for Intel and potentially lead the way for a more aggressive solar program. Already, for example, Intel is also committed to completing a solar demonstration project at its New Mexico site highlighting PV uses and benefits in data centers.