

Understanding the Label on Your Electricity

Like a food can label, the State-required annual "Power Content Label" included with this newsletter is intended to explain how much of your electricity comes from "renewable" sources. Over 10% of our power is from a geothermal steam turbine project we partially own in Lake County. Including hydro-electric power from dams like Shasta, Biggs' power is more than 52% renewable – a very high score! California recently set a standard of 20% now and 33% by 2020, but this state doesn't count power from large hydro-electric dams as renewable. Thus, according to the state's current formula, Biggs is at 12%. This is still better than the average of all utilities in this state. In buying power and investing in new energy projects, low cost for our customers is our first priority, balanced by our interest in renewable sources where it makes economic sense.

POWER CONTENT LABEL		
ENERGY RESOURCES	Biggs 2010 Fuel Mix % of Load	"Total CA ** System Power" (for comparison)
Eligible Renewable	12.1%	11%
-- Biomass & waste	0.0%	2.1%
-- Geothermal	11.5%	4.5%
-- Small hydroelectric	0.6%	1.4%
-- Solar	0.0%	0.24%
-- Wind	0.0%	2.4%
Coal	0.0%	18%
Large hydroelectric	40.6%	11%
Natural Gas	0.0%	46%
Nuclear	0.0%	14%
Other	0.0%	
Unspecified	47.3%	
Annual Total	100.0%	100%
<p>** Percentages are based on the California Total System Power</p> <p>For specific information about this electricity product, contact City of Biggs at 530-868-5493.</p> <p>For general information about Power Content Labels, contact the California Energy Commission at 1-800-555-7794 or www.energy.ca.gov/consumer.</p>		