## Direct Procurement of New Renewable Energy Projects

**Achieving Clean Energy Use** 



Wiregrass Solar Project 2 & 3

November 10, 2011



## Sterling Planet - Leading the Way

#### Only provider of all three environmental products:



**Small Hydro** 

Renewable Energy



Geothermal



Solar



**Biomass** 





Nation's leading retail provider of renewable energy 45.2 billion renewable kilowatt-hours sold since 2000



## **Project Development**



Joint Development of Renewable Energy and Carbon Reduction Projects



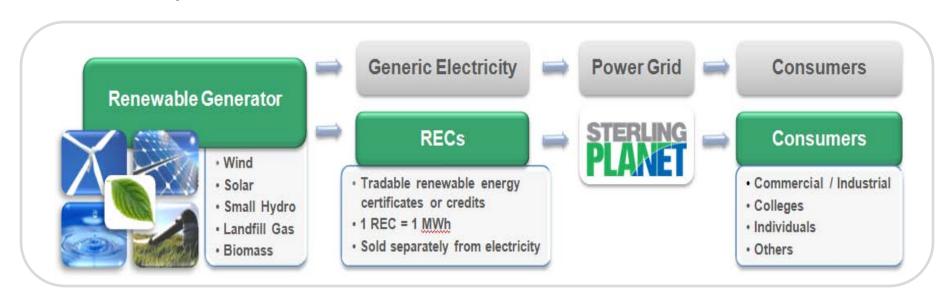
Leverages knowledge & relationships generated by core REC and carbon offset marketing business





## Renewable Energy Certificates

- A key piece of project cashflows are the Renewable Energy Certificates ("RECs"), or Green Attributes
  - ► The standard method for buyers seeking to achieve renewable electric usage
  - RECs represent all environmental attributes of a power generation facility

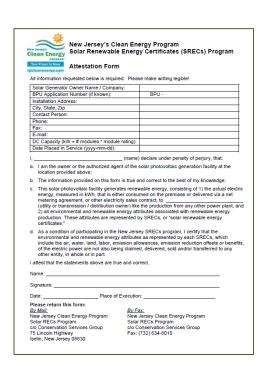




#### How RECs Are Created and Sold

#### RECs from a renewable project can be sold:

- "Un-Bundled" (sold separately from electricity)
  - Achieves flexibility in buyer's procurement and in project's offtake agreements
  - Allows ability to be sold more widely
- Bundled" (with the sale of electricity)
  - Involves physical electricity deliveries
  - Captures an additional hedge of electricity costs for buyers
- **→** Both require attestation and tracking





#### **Renewable Certification**

#### Independent Verification and Certification

- Voluntary purchases of RECs sold by Sterling Planet are all independently verified, then Green-e® Energy certified
  - ► This means that the RECs meet stringent environmental and consumer protection standards

⇒ Commercial buyers can achieve a tailored, cost-effective REC product to meet their exact needs







## Wiregrass Solar – Project Overview

- Development is a project expansion of SEA's existing solar array that began commercial operation in April, 2011
  - ▶ Wiregrass II project: 840KW photovoltaic solar
  - Wiregrass III project: 7MW photovoltaic solar
  - ► Location: Near Valdosta, GA
- Next phases of development online December 2012 2013





#### Wiregrass Solar - Status

• **Interconnection:** Ph II – Studies complete, Agreement pending

Ph III – Applied for/expansion of Phases

• **Permitting:** Ph II – Permitted and ready for construction start

Ph III – Permits have been applied

• **EIS/EIA:** Not required for permitting

Project Site: Lease-to-purchase with Development Authority

• Electrical Energy: Supply to local utility under certain pre-qualified

tariffs for renewable electricity

Construction: Ph I EPC contractor ready to construct Ph II & III

• **Timeline:** Within 2 months of signed long-term renewable

energy purchase/sale and financing (next slide)



## Wiregrass Solar - Financing

#### SEA Wiregrass Solar LLC. ("SWS") is seeking:

- A) Forward purchase of RECs for a number of years. As RECs are produced, the counterparty makes payment and RECs are delivered to offset electric use
- B) Pre-paid REC purchaser to purchase all RECs for a number of years. As RECs are produced, they are delivered to offset electricity use
- C) Traditional project/tax investor whereby Sterling Planet markets all RECs and the investor receives its share in the P/L, including sale of RECs, tax arrangements



## Wiregrass Solar – Development Value

#### The Project achieves substantial value once constructed:

- Opportunity to support optimal scale solar technology in a region of deficit peaking electric generation
- Anchor revenue from AA-rated utility
- ► Key tie-in to local environmental energy initiative that aims to raise awareness in the regional community
- ▶ PR value from direct purchase and project support





## Other Long-Term Renewable Opportunities

# SEA's development portfolio of small renewable generation facilities also includes:

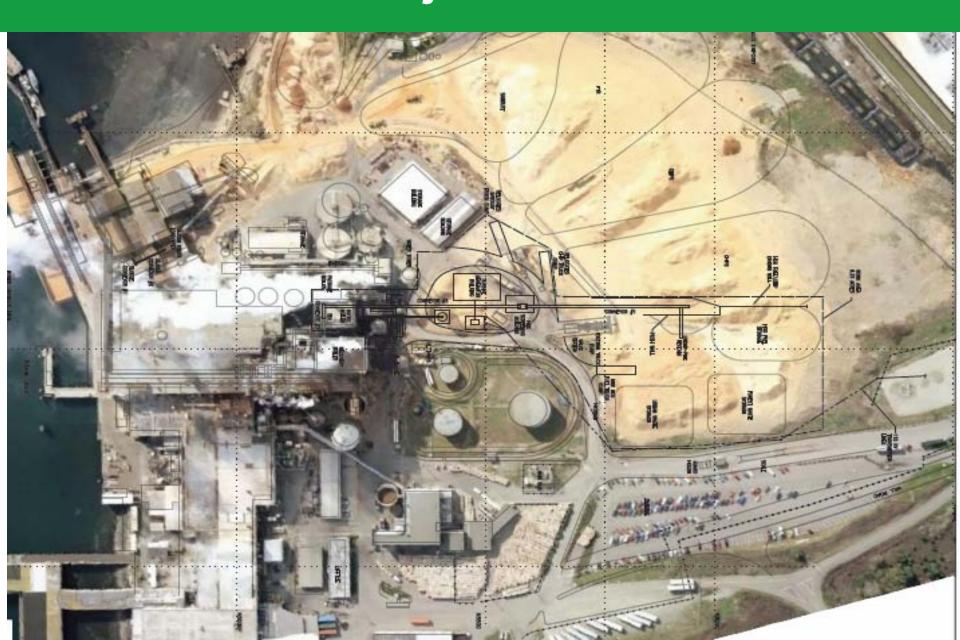
28 MW "Project Carl" – Permitted renewable project with 14 month construction schedule	22.5 MW "Port Townsend Project" – Permitted renewable project with 18 month construction schedule
Project located on 36 acre site in the heart of the Southeast US timber region	Project co-located with an operating paper mill in the Pacific Northwest
Also permitted for renewable fuel diversity  – up to 40% chicken litter fuel from the large regional poultry industry	Attractive economics from cogeneration with paper mill operations
Abuts a landfill / wood waste recycling center	Project is qualified to sell RECs in Washington, Oregon and California markets
Site expansion plans to add 2 x 10 MWs of solar	Achieves goal of eliminating use of fossil fuels at existing paper mill



# **Project Carl: 28.5 MW Biomass**



## Pt. Townsend Project: 22.5 MW Biomass



### **Summary**

- Sterling Energy Assets has a pipeline of renewable energy plants open for direct purchase
  - Current examples are Wiregrass Solar II, III and greenfield Biomass projects
  - → RECs from these projects can be sold on a bundled or unbundled basis
  - ► The unbundled basis to participate includes:
    - Forward REC purchase contracting
    - → Pre-paid REC purchase contracting
    - Equity/tax equity participation with REC sales managed by Sterling Planet

#### **Sterling Planet**

We look forward to further discussions around renewable project procurement strategies



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